



Education today for tomorrow...

Glen Hills Primary School



Head Teacher: Mr T J Sutcliffe
Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs R L Wesley
Assistant Head Teachers: Mrs J de Voil and Miss A Smith

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Glen Hills Newsletter – October 2013

GOOD OLD MATHS!

This year, our big push will be on mental maths knowledge for all year groups. Our pupils do really well with maths but we want even better! Quite soon, I will be sending a free mental maths book to all year 5 and 6 pupils to tighten those upper KS2 skills ("How kind of Mr Sutcliffe!" cry the year 5 and 6 pupils!) and I will also be launching a multiplication tables activity for years 1 -6 which will be similar to the Big Read competition which Mrs Nutbrown runs. Don't worry 4+ - I've got my thinking cap on for an activity for you too!

Remember, those simple games involving loose change, quick fire maths questions in the car, an extra ten minutes on the iPad if you learn your 4 times table... they all help!

PARENTS' EVENING

Apart from the 4+, parents' evenings for years 1-6 will be on **Monday 14th October and Wednesday 16th October**. This gives us a chance to update the pupil information sheets and discuss how your children are settling in. We will also talk about the work we will be doing during the coming year, this will include English and Maths as well as Topic work. We will also be discussing homework and asking you to sign the annual Home School Agreement. **On the back of this newsletter (for all year 1-6 children) is the parents evening reply sheet.**

UNIFORM

As you know, we are very proud of our distinctive school uniform at Glen Hills. I am really pleased that so many of our year 5 and 6 pupils are proudly wearing the school tie (just need to make sure they tuck their shirts in now!) We are however noticing more and

more children coming in grey, cream and black cardigans and jumpers. Can I politely remind parents that this is not part of our uniform as we are very keen to maintain the high standards of uniform we have. Thank you!

HARVEST FESTIVAL

You will be getting a separate letter very soon but **Friday 18th October** sees our harvest festival once again. Any foods are welcome (even better if you can get your little ones to decorate a shoe box and put the food in!) and please remember that it will all go to Age Concern. We will also be presenting some of our own 'harvest' from the school vegetable garden!

SECURITY

Can I remind you that if you wish to meet teachers before or after school you must come in via the office where we can contact the member of staff. In the morning staff are rushing to get ready for the school day so meetings are very difficult. Obviously in real emergencies we can make alternative arrangements. This particularly applies to infant parents dropping their children off at the atrium door (where year 1 and 2 pupils enter). Security is our utmost priority.

MORRISONS GARDEN VOUCHERS!

If you do the weekly shop at Morrisons, please bring us in the gardening vouchers that they are currently giving out! Apparently, they aren't always necessarily handed out; you may need to ask for them when you pay. **Mrs Cambers**, our Environmental Leader will certainly put them to good use for our school vegetable garden!

Also, in late October, we will need your help as we have purchased a fantastic PolyTunnel so our Glen Hills Gardening Club can work throughout the year! We may need parents to help us set it up – more details soon!

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@GlenHillsSchool



Another piece of interesting garden news... over the past two years, we have been able to locate the long lost Blaby tomato seeds which were (I believe) kept in a store at Durham University (obviously!). Well, Mrs Cambers, Audrey and our gardening team have grown the first crop of Blaby tomatoes in many years – fantastic! They were very nice too!

PSA (Parents and Staff Association) NEWS...

We have a Halloween Disco for the older children and a Christmas shopping night all planned before the end of November... I won't mention Christmas parties *just yet!* More details soon.

POLICE DAY!



During September, most of GH were involved with a super police day which involved a host of activities including meeting police dogs, looking at peer pressure and also how to deal with cyber-bullying. All the pupils and staff enjoyed a very informative and fun day.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS!

Very soon, we will be electing our new student council members (a boy and girl from each year 4, 5 and 6 class) so if they would like to represent their class, please give them a hand with their election speech! **Mr Storey** is taking the reigns with our Student Council now.

SPORTS UPDATE

October will see a number of boys' and girls' football matches with cup and league games starting. Cross country racers will be hot-footing it around the Prestwold Hall course on Saturday 5th October. With Tag Rugby, multi-sports, cricket and dance clubs also on the go, it's a busy old time for TeamGH yet again! **Myself, Mr Bolsover, Miss Walker, Mrs Cole, Mrs Brinkley, Mr Robertson, Mr Storey, Miss Crowther, Mr Ellis and our resident rugby expert, Mr Beedham,** are all volunteering their time to ensure these sports are running smoothly so thanks to them all!

OUR JUNIOR 'JOB CENTRE'

Just in case you didn't know, **Mrs Wesley** runs our Job Centre for the juniors! This involves staff posting 'jobs' onto the board ranging from our Glen Hills Museum curator role to litter picking squad! Children have to apply for the positions and then

have the responsibility to make sure the job is done really well! Great training for the future!

THE GH BANK!

We are excited to be launching an HSBC branch at School, all thanks to **Mrs Fisher!** This will function as a proper bank, being run by the Junior children but open for all children at school to have their own account to access. At present, we are interviewing potential candidates for the various roles within the bank, including Bank Manager, cashiers and customer service to name a few. The children have written an application form and are now undergoing 1:1 interviews. HSBC Blaby are heavily involved in the process and will act as mentors for their counterparts at the Glen Hills HSBC branch once it is up and running. The idea behind the bank is to host a real life opportunity for children to learn more about managing their own money at an early age. We will encourage and educate children to save; not just at HSBC but at whichever bank they choose as they move on through their lives. We hope it will be an exciting way to aid children to maximise their own money whilst enabling them to apply the maths skills that they are learning in class time.

Next, the team of 30 children will undertake extensive training and will send home more information about the details of the bank accounts. The bank will open for business (with a bang ☺) on Tuesday 5th November!

HALF TERM

Just in case you had forgotten, half term is from **Monday 21st October to Friday 25th October.**

HOUSE POINTS SO FAR...



Glenville – 409
Cork – 385
West View – 410
Howard - 363

T J Sutcliffe
Head Teacher