



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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An Academy member of The Fosse Trust



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Glen Hills Newsletter – September 2014

Welcome back to another year at Glen Hills and a special welcome to all our new children and staff!

SO WHAT'S NEW?

A warm welcome to **Mrs Green** and **Mrs Walters** who have joined our teaching staff in year 2 and year 4/5 respectively. We also welcome **Mrs Mistry**, **Mrs Newcombe** and **Miss Small** to our teaching assistant team. We also welcome **Miss Brown** and **Mrs Bretherton** back from maternity leave. **Mrs Fraser** also joins **Mrs Leach's** class as a School Direct student for most of the year. Congratulations go to **Mrs James** and her husband on the birth of their baby daughter and to **Mr Bolsover** who got married during the summer break!

NEW BUILDING WORK!

Well, it's been a busy summer again with another phase of our toilet refurbishment completed and the finishing touches are being made to our year 4/5 maths room extension which adjoins the car park.

SCHOOL DINNERS

To help us collect dinner money efficiently can you please put the correct amount of money into an envelope (or film canister) and mark it with the name of the child and the amount of money enclosed. **It also helps us if you can ensure that dinners are paid for at the start of the week (£2.10 per day)**

The amount for a normal week of dinners is now £10.50

WELL DONE TO US!

In July, Glen Hills achieved the Sainsbury's School Games Gold Award which is testament to the unrivalled sporting opportunities we

provide. To my knowledge, only one other Leicestershire primary can boast this award.

THANK YOU!

Last year, you raised over £1,200 for the NSPCC – thanks to you all! This year, together with our support for Faraja, the orphanage in Tanzania, our school charity will be Soft Touch Arts, a Leicester based charity to help youngsters in Leicester, and also Uncle Fraser's World Cycle. This charity involves Kate Andrew's (in year 1) Uncle Fraser who is currently cycling around the world (yes, the world!) to raise money for the 'Room to Read' project. Fraser's aim is to cycle 40,000 miles and to raise enough money to build a new school or school library in Africa! The journey will take 4 years and year 1 has just been completed! His website is www.cyclehacker.com – check out where he's been and where to next!

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 2015?

If you have a child or you know someone who is due / would like their child to start in the 4+ next September, please pass this information on. Application forms are sent out to parents.

All parents must apply even if it is for the catchment area school. The deadline for applications to be returned to the Allocations Section is early in 2015. Parents can return the paper application form to Admissions at County Hall or apply online at www.leics.gov.uk/admissions. Parents will not be able to make a telephone application this year. As with the last ten years, places will be at a premium so please act quickly if you need to.

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www.glen-hills.leics.sch.uk



@GlenHillsSchool



SCHOOL UNIFORM

At the start of each year, I write to thank you for your excellent efforts in sending your children to Glen Hills in our distinctive school uniform. Virtually all children wear the uniform and I feel this shows immense support for the school from parents and children. The children are proud to wear it and **I feel it underlines our high standards of respect and discipline.**

As a reminder, all uniform is available from Reception and we also have a 'nearly new' section in the atrium next to the 4+ building.

Don't forget those 'extras' – book bags, school scarves etc! **Can all clothing please be named with a permanent pen please – it gives us (and you!) a sporting chance of identifying who owns a misplaced school jumper!**

WELL DONE TO GLENVILLE HOUSE!

... who won the 2013/14 House Trophy!

PARENTS EVENINGS...

The 4+ will have a separate letter organising their first parents' evening very soon... for all other year groups, this term's parents' evenings will be just before half term which gives more opportunity to discuss your child's progress. More details soon.

SAFETY

At the start of the year can I remind everyone about the importance of safety around the area when taking children to and from school and outside the school:

- Please remember to use the PSA suggested One-Way system if you have to come to school by car (for new parents, this would be driving down Featherby Drive with the school on your left).
- Please do not park in the school gateway.
- Please do not park on corners or blocking residents' driveways. There are now double-yellow lines in many areas surrounding the school and traffic wardens will be at school on a regular basis.
- Please do not block Bellamy Close, as this is needed for emergency access to Birch Court.
- Please do not walk or cycle down the school service road by the hall or through the car park.
- PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD NEAR TO YOU OUTSIDE SCHOOL OUTSIDE RECEPTION – WE SOMETIMES HAVE TAXIS COMING THROUGH THE SCHOOL GATES.
- As a healthier alternative why not walk or if you need your car why not try our **PARK AND STRIDE!** The Parish Council have very kindly agreed to let parents park in the **Memorial Hall Car Park** off Dorothy Avenue when dropping children off. This means that you can park there and then stride across the park to school! This way, Featherby Drive does not become blocked and you keep fit by walking part of the way to school! (This also means that at the end of the day you can let the children play on the park before going home!)

Cycling: - We have a cycle rack that can take a considerable number of bikes around the back of

the school. If you wish to be allocated one of the spaces then please call in and collect and return an application form from the office. A responsible adult must accompany your child into school with their bike, they must wear a helmet and the school can not take any responsibility for the security and safety of the bike.

CHANGES TO HOMEWORK...

At the end of last year, we decided to make some changes to our homework approach. Although we greatly value the creative approach and still wish to maintain this, we also feel that more of a focus on pure literacy and maths would be beneficial. So! As always, your fantastic support with homework is much appreciated and thank you for your support with our slightly modified approach.

ATTENDANCE AND HOLIDAY ABSENCE

Thanks to everybody's commitment, our attendance levels are continually rising! As an Academy, we have a private Attendance Company working for ourselves, Fairfield and South Wigston and they will be very proactive in chasing up parents of children who have less than **90%** attendance from now onwards.

Headteachers are now not permitted to authorise any holiday attendance unless there are exceptional circumstances. We are unable to authorise holidays in term time if price is given as the reason. **All term dates are on the back of this newsletter. SATs for year 6 pupils will be in week commencing Monday 11th May. It is essential that year 6 pupils are here for the SATs so a big polite please from me not to book any holidays for this week! Thanks! ☺**

BE PART OF GLEN HILLS!

Very soon, we will be sending out details of our next PSA (Parents and Staff Association) meeting. Basically, the PSA is there to raise money for the school and every penny raised helps your child. Money goes to cutting the costs of trips and visitors, resources for the playground, extra classroom resources etc. We always need new members to come along and it is a great way of being part of Glen Hills; there isn't a huge time commitment involved so don't worry! If you are interested, drop me a line via the office and I'll make sure you get the letters!

T J Sutcliffe
Headteacher

Our new maths teaching area... looks like it's always been there!



Glen Hills Term Dates Academic Year 2014 - 2015

Autumn Term	
Schools Open	Thursday morning 28th August 2014
Mid-Term Break	Monday 20th to Friday 24th October 2014
Schools Close	Friday evening 19th December 2014
Spring Term	
Schools Open	Tuesday morning 6th January 2015
Mid-Term Break	Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2015
Schools Close	Friday evening 27th March 2015
Summer Term	
Schools Open	Monday morning 13th April 2015
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May 2015
Mid-Term Break	Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2015
Schools Close	Friday evening 10th July 2015