



Education today for tomorrow...

# Glen Hills Primary School



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

fossetrust

An Academy member of The Fosse Trust

## Glen Hills Newsletter – September 2015

Dear Parents



Don't forget Twitter! @GlenHillsSchool

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

### SO WHAT'S NEW?

We welcome a number of new members of staff and some existing staff now have new roles.

**Mrs Knight** has joined our year 2 teaching team and **Mrs Variava** has joined us in year 5. We welcome **Miss Holdroyd** into our school office/reception.

**Mr Storey** has moved to our year 4 teaching team, and **Mr Bolsover** is working in year 6. We welcome back

**Mrs James** after her maternity leave into Year 2. **Mrs Onions** and **Mrs Davis** are now job sharing in year 3

Miss Pau has become **Mrs Patel** over the holidays and congratulations to her on her marriage.

**Mrs Cheetham** has joined year 1 on her graduate teaching placements for the year and **Mrs Hill**, **Mrs Crouch** and **Miss Sheehan** have joined our classroom support teams. In addition **Miss Smith** has joined our Breakfast Club team in addition to working as a Midday Manager. We have a truly fantastic staff ready to keep Glen Hills going from strength to strength and welcome to them all.

### NEW BUILDING WORK!

Well, it's been a busy summer for us! We have refurbished our year one toilet block. We have also created a new teaching area in the old clay area, to provide us

with more teaching areas. The Atrium area between the 4+ and the Year 1 classrooms has been fully refitted with new storage cupboards and work surface areas. So we are looking forward to our year ahead!

### 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 (**£2.15 per day now please**). As mentioned in a previous Newsletter we will be soon trialling Parent Pay an online way of paying for school dinners. Watch this space!

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Did you know that registering for free school meals brings more benefits than a free lunch for your child? Each year the school receives a "pupil premium" in respect of every child registered for free school meals. This additional funding enables us to invest in additional resources and learning opportunities which may otherwise be denied to children. Children who are registered for free school meals **are not obliged** to take the school lunches; you can still send a packed lunch every day / some days if you wish, without affecting the pupil premium. We would therefore like to encourage all eligible families to register their children for free school meals. More details about eligibility for free school meals and details of how to apply are available from the school office or from County Hall (0116 305 6588 / 7093 or [www.leics.gov.uk/free\\_school\\_lunches](http://www.leics.gov.uk/free_school_lunches))

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[www.glen-hills.leics.sch.uk](http://www.glen-hills.leics.sch.uk)



@GlenHillsSchool



### SUNFLOWER COMPETITION

Glen Hills V Little Hill Sunflower competition is currently underway. The Gardening Clubs have been in competition to grow the largest sunflower. Winners to be announced soon!



### THANK YOU!

Last year, you raised lots of money for various charity initiatives! The majority, £1,500 is being split between our two main 2014/15 school charities, thanks to you all! This year, together with our support for Faraja, the orphanage in Tanzania, our school charity will be World Child Cancer, which is obviously close to everyone's hearts. There is a collection tin at the office if you have any loose change to make it rattle, it would be most welcomed.

### STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 2016?

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 2016. Parents can return the paper application form to Admissions at County Hall or apply online at [www.leics.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.leics.gov.uk/admissions). Places will be at a premium so please act quickly if you need to.**

### 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/name labels please – it gives us (and you!) a sporting chance of identifying who owns a misplaced school jumper!**

### WELL DONE TO WESTFIELD HOUSE!

... who won the 2014/15 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 and Scooting:** - We have a cycle and a scooter rack that can take a considerable number of bikes/scooters 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, they *must* wear a helmet and the school can not take any responsibility for the security and safety of the bike/scooter.



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!

**Mr T Sutcliffe**  
**Executive Headteacher**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T Sutcliffe', written in a cursive style.

**Mrs R Wesley**  
**Head of School**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R Wesley', written in a cursive style.

#### **ATTENDANCE AND HOLIDAY ABSENCE**

Thanks to everybody's commitment, our attendance levels are continually rising!

From September 2015, 'persistent absentees' thresholds have changed. **Children are now classed as 'persistent absentees' if there attendance is 90% or below.**

As an Academy, we have a private Attendance Company working for ourselves and they will be very proactive in chasing up parents of children who have less than **90%** attendance.

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.

#### **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;

