



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

A member of the Fosse Learning Alliance

Glen Hills Newsletter – September 2018

Don't forget

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And! The GH app – available on the Google and Apple app stores!



STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 2019?

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 **15th January 2019**. Parents can return the paper application form to Admissions at County Hall or apply online at www.leics.gov.uk/admissions.

Places will be at a premium so please act quickly if you need to.

Dear Parents,

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 say goodbye to one.

Mrs Demetriou will be leaving us in September to undertake a new role and we'd like to say many thanks to Caroline for her work for Glen Hills over the past 12 years.

We welcome Mrs Blackwell and Miss Whitham to our teaching staff this year and are looking forward to working with them both. Mrs Mitchell and Miss Hutchings join us as trainee teachers in year 5 and the 4+ respectively.

We also welcome Miss Randall to our midday supervisor team.

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. All of our 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 the school 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!**

Glen Hills Primary School, Featherby Drive, Glen Parva, Leicester, LE2 9NY
Tel: 0116 2782535 Fax: 0116 2788208
Email: office@glen-hills.leics.sch.uk
www.glen-hills.leics.sch.uk

@GlenHillsSchool

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PUPIL PREMIUM AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS – EXTRA MONEY FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD!

All 4+ - year 2 pupils are automatically entitled to a free school meal. **But! Don't wait until your child is in year 3 before you register for free school meals!!!** If you are eligible for any of the following, please contact the school and we can assist you in making sure your child gets the additional support and benefits that the pupil premium funding will provide for you

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

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 entering Reception/4 + are also entitled to a free school uniform.**

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)

PE KIT REMINDER

Just a quick reminder that for PE kit, we expect pupils to have a white t-shirt and dark shorts from the start of this school year. For outdoor PE, dark joggers, tracksuits or leggings are fine to wear.

NUTS!!!!

Can we please remind you that we are a nut free school here at Glen Hills, both tree nuts and peanuts. **These must not be bought into school in any form as a playtime snack or in children's packed lunches. This please includes the use of chocolate hazelnut spread, peanut butter in sandwiches etc and biscuit bars/cakes with nut in.**

PARENTS' EVENING

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 AND PARKING

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 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 cannot take any responsibility for the security and safety of the bike/scooter.

ATTENDANCE AND HOLIDAY ABSENCE

From September 2015, 'persistent absentees' thresholds have changed. Children are now classed as 'persistent absentees' if their 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; this situation has not changed. We are unable to authorise holidays in term time if your child has an attendance of below 95%

REMINDER OF TERM DATE FOR END OF THIS YEAR!

Quick reminder that this year, we finish on **Friday 12th July 2019**, not on the Thursday as in previous years. Next year's term dates will be available very soon on our website.

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!

CALENDAR COMING SOON...

Very soon, we will be sending out our annual calendar of events throughout the year. Occasionally, we may have to move one or two events around due to unforeseen circumstances but we will always try to let parents know well in advance.

WHAT AN ACHIEVEMENT!

Yesterday, we received confirmation that Glen Hills has won the Platinum Sport Award for dedication and participation in a huge range of school sports. This is the highest award a school can get with school sport and, to our knowledge, we are one of very few to have achieved this award in the country! No other school in Leicestershire has this award. A special 'well-done' to **Mr Bolsover** and **Mr Storey** who lead our PE but also to the staff and parents who volunteer their time to make Team GH sport so successful!

YEAR GROUP PLANS

To save on paper, we will be publishing each year group's annual overview plans on our website within the next week. So, if you want to look at the topics your little one will be studying this year, head over to the website in a week or so!

Many thanks for your continued support!

Mr T Sutcliffe
Executive Headteacher

Mrs R Wesley
Head of School

