



Education today for tomorrow...

Glen Hills Primary School

Home of the Symphony Learning Trust



SLT Chief Executive Officer: Mr T Sutcliffe
Head Teacher: Mrs R Wesley
Deputy Head: Miss A Smith
Assistant Head: Mr B Storey

October Newsletter 2019

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The Glen Hills app- available on



Dear Parents and Carers,

A FOND FARWELL!

During September, one of our cleaning staff, Judith left her position. She does though continue to work at Glen Hills in her role as Midday Supervisor. Thank you for all your hard work Judith!

ATTENDANCE AND PLACES

Attendance is really important! Please try your hardest to send your child into school when they are well enough and not take your child out of school in term time. Schools are monitored very closely on their attendance. If our attendance at Glen Hills does not improve, then the Local Authority will begin to monitor our school more closely and some parents may be fined as a result of holidays in term time for poor attendance. An attendance rate of **95% is generally considered good**; this allows for children to only miss 9.5 days across the school year.

We currently have places available in each year group, so if you know anyone who is interested, send them our way!

GLEN HILLS IS NUT FREE

Can we remind parents that Glen Hills is a completely **NUT FREE** school. **This includes all tree and peanuts and any products containing nuts, such as Peanut Butter Spread, Chocolate and Hazelnut spreads, cereal bars with nuts in etc.** We make no apologies for this as we have many children in school that are highly allergic to nuts and we need to minimise the risks to them when in school. Can we ask parents to be mindful of this if they send in birthday treats for their child's class as well please?

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 children look smart and well-dressed when they come to school each day. 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. School uniform can be currently purchased from the School Office (until Christmas).

All children from the 4+, up to Year 5 (and including 6DB) should have indoor shoes on whilst in school. We ask that children change shoes to help keep our school clean and hygienic. If your child does not have indoor shoes, please sort them as soon as possible. Plimsolls or sensible, rubber based slippers (preferably not massive character slippers or sandals) are most appropriate. Thank you!

PARENTS' EVENING

Apart from the 4+, parents' evenings for years 1-6 will be on **Monday 7th October and Wednesday 9th 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 and this will include English and Maths as well as Topic work. We will also be discussing homework and asking you and your child to sign the annual Home School Agreement.

MRS COLE

If any parents need to contact Mrs Cole (our Special Educational Needs Coordinator), please do so via the office email address.
office@glen-hills.leics.sch.uk

BOOK FAIR

We will be having our Travelling Book Fair the week beginning the 7th October which will contain the latest exciting books and stationery for the children to purchase. This is a huge money raiser for school as we earn commission on all money spent, which we use to update our Library with new and exciting texts. It will be open on Parents' Evening for you to visit with your child.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Festival is this week, on **Thursday 3rd October**.



@GlenHillsSchool

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We are busy harvesting our own home-grown produce from the school garden in preparation. Thank you in advance for all your Harvest donations – you are always very generous. Your superb support is always welcome and please remember that it will all go to Age UK.

SECURITY AND BICYCLES

Please be reminded that if you wish to meet teachers before or after school you must come in via the School 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. We would also like to ask parents to remind their children who cycle to school that they should be **wearing a helmet** and not to cycle through the car park. We have reminded them in assemblies but one or two children are still cycling through at the end of the day which causes a really worrying safety issue. Thanks.

PARKING REMINDER!

Can we please remind parents **NOT** to park on the pavements around school or to block any of our neighbours' driveways. It is unsafe for our children and causes a great deal of disruption. We know the school area is busy at drop off and pick up times, but we must consider the safety of our children as our utmost priority. This week a fire engine was unable to easily travel through the area due to inconsiderate parking during the morning school run.

HALF TERM

Just in case you had forgotten, half term is from **Monday 14th October to Friday 18th October**

PSA (Parents and Staff Association) NEWS...

This year, we held a meet and great afternoon tea on Thursday 19th September to welcome new parents to the school and share all the great work the PSA does.

The first PSA meeting for the year was on Tuesday 24th September and the next will be on 22nd October. All parents are welcome, we really need your support to help raise funds for the school.

We have a Halloween Disco for the older children on the 31st October, a Uniform and Cake Sale on Friday 11th October and a Christmas shopping night on the 28th November.

We won't mention Christmas parties *just yet!* More details soon.

In addition, if any parents work for companies that do Match Funding and they would be able to help by matching the money raised by the PSA that would be amazing for the school – please do get in touch.

ST JOHN'S FIRST AID TRAINING

From this year onwards, we are trying to train all our Key Stage 2 children in basic First Aid. On Friday 27th September, and on Friday 4th October, our children in years 3 to 5 have been learning about basic First Aid Training. These life skills are vital and we are really pleased to welcome St John's Ambulance into school to work with our children. Year 6 have their own First Aid Training session later in the year which is funded by our fabulous PSA.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND DATES THIS MONTH!

Thursday 24th October – We will celebrate United Nations Day with a special assembly and visitors to the school.

Friday 25th October – PINK DAY. A letter will come out about this later in the month. Do you dare to wear pink?!

Tuesday 29th October – INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOS. Children will have their individual and sibling photographs taken on this day.

STAR OF THE MONTH

Send in any details about 'Star of The Month' (i.e. something amazing your child has done out of school recently which links to our Character Muscles) to **Miss Smith** and they could be featured in the next newsletter!

SCHOOL OFFICE AND DINNERS

A reminder to parents that our School Dinners cost **£2.30** each now. Please note that all payments for clubs (football, multi sports, street dance etc) should be made directly to the club provider or in a named envelope with correct money via the School Office. The School Office is **no longer able to give any change** for clubs as we are moving towards becoming cashless.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Our school is part of Operation Encompass. This is a **police and education** early intervention safeguarding partnership which supports children and young people **who experience Domestic Abuse**. Operation Encompass means that the police will share information about Domestic Abuse incidents with our school PRIOR to the start of the next school day when they have been called to a domestic incident. Once one of our Key Adults (in regards to Child Protection) at Glen Hills has been spoken to by Operation Encompass, they will tell any relevant staff who may need to be aware for safeguarding reasons or in order to support the children at school. Our Key Adults are: Mrs Wesley (Head Teacher), Miss Smith (Deputy Head), Mr Storey (Assistant Head) and Mrs Cole (SENCO). The Operation Encompass information is stored with all other confidential safeguarding and child protection information. We are aware that we must do nothing that puts the child/ren or the victim at risk. If you have any further questions about this, please contact school or use <https://www.operationencompass.org/>.

ALDI VOUCHERS

Do you shop at Aldi? If so, please bring in your vouchers and pop them into the office. You have to spend £30 to get one on your shop, however if we complete the collection, the school would be entered into a prize draw to win £20,000!

CHARACTER MUSCLE FOCUS

We have just finished learning about **Curiosity** as our Character Muscle topic last month. Our new Character Muscle is **Optimism!** Mrs Wesley, Miss Smith and Mr Storey did their whole school assemblies on being Curious - why don't you take a look at one of the resources we used at home?

<https://scaleofuniverse.com/>

As always, thanks for your continued support!

Mrs Wesley
Head Teacher

Miss Smith
Deputy Head