



'Strive to Achieve'



7th April 2011

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students,

Although it has been a short week this week, we have lots going on. Today our very excited Year 4 students headed to Macau for their 2-day excursion to further their understanding of human migration. Our Year 3 students travelled on a ferry, train and bus today as part of their study of systems and transport and also interviewed many Discovery Bay residents as part of their inquiry. Many of us are also looking forward to the Year 6 ESF Choir Concert this evening, which is sure to be a fabulous event!

The staff CPD day on Monday was a huge success. The purpose of this day was to align our vision, mission and values. We made great progress with this and really enjoyed the collegiality of all working together to articulate what it is that make Glenealy special, unique and extraordinary. I'd be interested to hear your views too? I will get the draft documents out to you once they have been compiled.

Maths learning

This year many of our teachers have attended MLATS training (Mathematics Learning and Teaching for Success). This is an excellent teacher development programme fully endorsed by IB and represents best practise from around the world. The chart below is from their resource book and is an interesting insight as to how mathematics learning is changing.

How are Mathematics Practices Changing?	
Increased emphasis on:	Decreased emphasis on:
Connecting maths concepts and applications to learning	Treating maths as isolated concepts and facts
Manipulatives (equipment) are used to make maths able to be understood by children	Rote learning, memorization and symbol manipulation
Real-life problem solving using mathematics	Word problems as problem solving
Instruction built on what children know, what they want to know and how they might best find this out	Instruction focussed on what children don't know
A variety of strategies – emphasis on process	One answer, one method, emphasis on the answer
Students being encouraged to speculate and pursue hunches	The teacher as the sole authority for right answers
A broad range of topics regardless of computational skills	Computational mastery before moving on to other topics
Mathematics as a means to an end	Teaching maths disconnected from the other
The use of calculators and computers for appropriate purposes	A primary emphasis on pencil and paper computations
Programme of inquiry as context for learning	Textbooks the context for learning
Students investigating, questioning, discussing, justifying and journaling their maths	The use of worksheets
Students and teachers engaged in maths conversations	Teacher telling about mathematics

Change is never easy, however we must continue to be committed to prepare the children for their future not ours. I hope you find this chart a useful reference point for how maths teaching and learning is changing in our school and most other schools around the world.

Kind Regards
Brenda
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TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS – Monday 11th April, 8:30am

Would all team members of Football, Netball, Mixed Netball, Tag Rugby, Cricket and Rounders wear their kit on Monday otherwise they will not be able to be in the team photo.

All kit will be handed in on Monday after the photos so please wear your PE Kit to school & bring your Sports Kit with you

GLENEALY'S GOT TALENT



Don't forget the next GGT Assembly will take place on the last day of term, Friday April 15th at 11:20am. School closes at 12:00 on this day as it is the last day of term.

Save the date and come and support Glenealy's talent!

MOVING ON



If you will be withdrawing your child/ren from Glenealy at the end of the academic year Thursday 30th June 2011 or before please notify Jane in the school office in writing as soon as possible.

PTA NEWS

Student Directory March 2011

Our revised Directory has been produced and will have come home with the youngest student in the family on Wednesday. Please check your children's bags and let us know if yours is missing.

International Spring Food and Fun Fair

Mark your calendars for our Annual Food & Fun Fair coming up on Friday, May 27th!

Glenealy takes pride in the many nationalities represented at our school and this Fair is a great opportunity to share the wonderful culinary delights from each nation.

This year we would like to encourage participation by not only the largely represented nations, but also those nations represented by even one or two families. These smaller groups will be put together at tables to reduce any pressure so even one favourite family dish will be enough!

Please email Scarlett Mattoli at scarlett@mattolibuckley.com if you are interested in sharing a dish or hosting a whole table to show how proud you are of your nationality's edible traditions! Be sure to include your nationality so we can be sure to cover all the nations of our school!



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Glenealy Basketball

Due to the recent day of wet weather on 30th March, the Year 6 Mixed Basketball Tournament was cancelled.

Representing Glenealy was: Camelot Beatson, Matteo Poma, George Lok, Euan Rogers, Kate Donowho, Bhaskar Saxena, Gary Yip, Kiara Jim and Matthew Ha.

While the group did not have the chance to play against the other ESF teams, Coach JJ would like to thank everyone for their efforts and also a big thank you for the assistance all the parents provided.

EASTER BASKETBALL

ESF Spring Break Basketball Clinics will be held on Tuesday 26th – Saturday 30th April for those who are interested in developing their basketball skills, make new friends, and have fun!

Bring a Friend along for only *Half Price!!* Double your FUN in basketball this Easter.

In this 5 day clinic you will learn all the basics in half court drills, shooting competitions, and enjoy full court games.

Clinic Venues:

Bradbury School 9am – 12pm for ages 7-11

South Island School 1pm – 4 pm for ages 12 -17

[Click here](#) for more details.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please note the following activities taking place in our school are provide by independent organisations and therefore cannot be endorse by Glenealy School

Information coming home today:

Chess Lessons - Summer Term

Hong Kong Institute of Languages – (Summer Programme at other venues)