



# 'Strive to Achieve'



8<sup>th</sup> September 2011



## MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Mid-Autumn Festival is always celebrated on the 15th day of the eighth moon of the lunar calendar. This year it falls on Monday, September 12th. The festival originated more than two thousand years ago as a religious ceremony of paying tribute to the goddess of the moon. It was made a special day to celebrate a good harvest during the Tang Dynasty. Because the full moon is round and symbolizes reunion, the Mid-Autumn Festival is also known as the festival of reunion. All family members try to get together on this special day. They gather for dinner and afterwards all members of each family, both young and old, like to sit together outside to gaze at the moon and eat seasonal fruits and moon-cakes. Children run around with colourful candle-lit paper lanterns. Lantern riddles are a popular word game played after dinner. Thank you Ms Stohschein

## Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students

The term has started very smoothly and programmes are already in full swing. We look forward to seeing you at school next Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> for the Meet the Teacher evening and the PTA AGM. We hope you will enjoy meeting the staff and finding more about your child's routines and experiences in their new classroom.

Our Year One students have had their honeymoon period and now are feeling the demands of full days, learning a lot of new things and walking up and down lots of stairs! It takes most new children a little while to settle and to establish confidence, and it's important not to expect too much too soon.

## A warm welcome to our latest members of staff:

From left to right: Stephanie Mulvahill and Peta Prior who have joined the Individual Needs Team of EA's, and John Wan, who joins our site staff team.



## School Assemblies

School assemblies take place on Friday's from 2.20-3.00pm, except for celebration assemblies that begin at a different time. Parents are always welcome to attend. Assemblies take on a variety of formats including; informal 'sharing' assemblies, formal 'celebration' assemblies and entertaining 'GGT' (Glenealy's Got Talent) assemblies. Parents will be formally invited to the celebration assemblies if your child is receiving an award and you will receive notification if your child is performing in a GGT assembly. Sharing assemblies are impromptu and whilst classes or individuals may be performing, no formal notification will be given. The schedule is below for your reference.

Friday 9 September	Sharing Assembly - informal	2.20-3.00pm
Friday 16 September	Celebration Assembly	Parents will be informed of the timing if your child is receiving an award.
Friday 23 September	Sharing assembly- informal	2.20-3.00pm
Friday 30 September	School closed – no assembly	
Friday 7 October	GGT	2.20-3.00pm
Friday 14 September	Celebration Assembly	Parents will be informed of the timing if your child is receiving an award

### Assessments

At this time of the year children are involved in a number of assessments, which help the teacher to identify current levels and provide programmes suitable to each child's needs.

In terms of standardized tests, this year we have introduced the ISA (International Schools Assessment) for Year 4-6 children in maths, reading and writing. ISA tests are marked in Australia so it takes a little time to receive the feedback. Results will be sent to you with explanations of the results sometime in November.

Children from Year 3 - 6 will also be involved in INCAS testing which assesses in the core areas. Years 1 and 2 children are assessed with a computerized programme called PIPS, which gives scores in reading, maths and phonics. In terms of the PIPS and INCAS assessments, these results will be shared with you in the parent consultations in October.

It's important that these standardized tests are seen as a snap shot on the day of the child's performance and that they are used in conjunction with teacher assessment to get the full picture of a child's achievement and attainment.

See you all next week. Have a great weekend!

Kind Regards

Brenda

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### A few important dates for your diary:

Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> September	School Photographer
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> September	School Closed Public Holiday -The day following Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Meet the Teacher Evening and PTA AGM <u>Year 1</u> : The Meet the Teacher session will be held in your child's classroom from 6.00-7.10pm. During this extended session we will include information about Year baseline assessments and how these are used. <u>Year 2-6</u> - Meet the Teacher sessions will be held in your child's classroom from 6.30pm until 7.10pm.
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> – Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Year 5 Camp to Lantau
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Community Chest Dress Casual Day
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> September	School Closed – Staff CPD Day
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 Overnight Camp to Lantau
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> October	School Closed – Public Holiday Chung Yeung Festival
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Dress Pink Day – Support the Pink Revolution
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term Holiday



### **IMPORTANT REMINDER FROM THE MEDICAL ROOM**

We would just like to remind parents that Glenealy promotes a 'Nut Free' zone. We have several students with severe allergies to peanuts/nut based products. We seek your assistance in ensuring that your child's lunch box does not contain any nut based products.

**Thank you!**

### **YEAR ONE APPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN BORN IN 2007**

Application for children born in 2007 can be submitted online to the ESF Centre from 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011 and not to individual schools. Information on the admission procedure and online admission process can be found on the ESF website [www.esf.edu.hk](http://www.esf.edu.hk) under Admissions. There is a HK\$150 application fee payable online at the time of submission.

**This also applies to siblings of children already enrolled in any ESF School including Glenealy!**

Please pass this information on to any friends or colleagues that may want to apply as applications received after the 30<sup>th</sup> September will be waitlisted and only processed when the initial applications have been cleared.

### **YEAR SEVEN APPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN BORN IN 2001 WHO ARE NOT ATTENDING AN ESF PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Applications for children born in 2001 can also be submitted online to the ESF Centre from 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September.

### **FOOTBALL TRAINING**



Footballers please note there will be no football practice on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September as the Year 5's and Mr Sommerville will be on camp.

### **PTA NEWS - PTA AGM**

The PTA will hold its Annual General Meeting next Thursday evening 15<sup>th</sup> September from 7.15 to 7.35 in the school hall following the 'Meet the Teacher' session in the classrooms.

Please come and join us for a relaxing glass of wine while we give you a very quick run-down of all that the PTA has achieved for the children over the last year. Our Principal Brenda Cook will also share achievements from the past year and will highlight key aspects of focus for this academic year. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **CLASS PARENTS**

Class Parents have now been assigned to all classes and will be contacting you shortly to introduce themselves (if they have not done so already).

The PTA Committee would like to thank everyone who has volunteered.

### **PTA PART TIME SHOP MANAGER & COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR VACANCY**

The Glenealy School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is currently seeking a part time Shop Manager and Committee Administrator to join our team. The role would be reporting to the Chair and Co -Chair of the PTA Committee with primary attention being given to the Uniform Shop and the school directory. For more details in terms of specific duties and remuneration, please refer to the school website at <http://www.glenealy.edu.hk/about-us/employment-opportunities/pta-shop-manager>

We are pleased to inform you that enrollment for 2011/12 Term 1 sports programme is now open. There are some fantastic sporting activities to choose from for all ages and abilities that are sure to capture your child's interest and passion. Sports include Swimming, Football, Basketball, Tennis, Gymnastics, Trampolining, Kung Fu, Taekwondo and our newest addition Netball. Sports classes are open to children from 3 year upwards and are delivered by qualified coaches with experience in ensuring skills are learnt in a fun, interactive environment. Running for their 11th year are ESL's highly popular holiday sport camps (17th – 21st Oct). These camps are a great way of keeping children active and entertained so sign up now to secure your place. Up-to-date Term 1 and Mid Term Sports Camp schedules have been sent home with the children but can also be viewed on the website or you can download the [2011/12 Term One brochure](#) for the programme details. Should there be any queries regarding the programmes, please contact the office on 2711 1280.

### **Sports Section**

**ESF Educational Services Ltd** Tel: 2711 1280 Fax: 2711 8007  
[sports@esf.org.hk](mailto:sports@esf.org.hk) <http://www.esf.org.hk>

### **ESF Tennis**



This term you can expect more from our fantastic Junior Tennis Programme, delivered by ATA's highly qualified and experienced international team of coaches.

More opportunities to train on full size tennis courts: Bowen Rd, KGV, South Island, West Island and Renaissance College.

More fun, games, and progressive development within the junior programme, focused on the individuals within the group.

More competitive opportunities: ESL Inter-School competitions - ESL individual competitions- - School and Club Challenge Matches - Junior League

To find out more about this term's ESF Tennis programme and where your child will fit in [visit the tennis pages on the website](#).

Click [here](#) for the schedule and to enrol.

If you have any queries please contact us on 2711 1280 or email [sports@esf.org.hk](mailto:sports@esf.org.hk).

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

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

#### **The West Island Community School for Adult Education**

The West Island Community School for Adult Education offers a range of special interest courses to the wider community.

Commencing in the August - December 2011 term, the West Island Community School for Adult Education will begin to offer daytime courses on a Tuesday, Friday and Saturday in addition to our normal Tuesday evenings.

Courses are largely run at West Island School. The courses on offer this term are as follows and a full course programme and booking form is attached.

Please click on the link below for the course programme and booking forms:

<http://www.wis.edu.hk/west-island-community-evening-school>

OR Email [community@wis.edu.hk](mailto:community@wis.edu.hk) or Phone: 60177068 for more information.