



'Strive to Achieve'



9th December 2010



We are celebrating Christmas this year at Glenealy in a number of different ways. There are beautiful child-made decorations hanging in our hall, toy in the box presents were given to charity, Christmas Carols will drift off the roof-top, fantastic Christmas shows were performed and Christmas Parties are being organized as I write! It's a wonderful time of the year! Enjoy and have fun everybody!

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students

Farewell to Mrs Elaine Milton

Sadly Elaine will be leaving the school at the end of this term. This has been planned well in advance and Mrs McGuire will continue teaching 6M after Christmas. Mrs Milton is a highly respected teacher who has contributed greatly to Glenealy School in a variety of ways. She has taught many of the children in the school having been a Year 1 teacher for 3 years before making the jump to Year 6 this year. Elaine is a highly organized, systematic and reflective teacher who has high expectations and whom children respond positively to and do well under her guidance and leadership. Elaine will be missed both personally and professionally by colleagues and by the children whom she teaches. We wish Elaine and her husband all the best in the coming years and thank her tremendously for her huge contributions to Glenealy.

Xmas Shows

I'm sure you will agree the performances by years 1, 2 and 3 on Tuesday night were just stunning. Thanks so much to the talented Mr Benzie and the children for putting on such wonderful performances full of singing, acting and speaking parts. This was a super way to start our Christmas celebrations. We look forward to seeing you on Friday night on the rooftop for Christmas carols!

Interim Reports

In an increased effort to keep you more informed about your child's ongoing progress, we will be sending the reports for the first two units of inquiry out to you at an earlier stage this year. By doing this we believe the comments will be more relevant and pertinent rather than waiting to receive these at the end of the year. Full assessments in other areas will be shared at parent consultations next term. Years 4-6 children will also be bringing home their ISA writing results. These results are from the international writing assessment they did in October that was sent to Australia to be marked. We hope you find this information useful. Teachers will be able to follow up this information with you in consultations in February. Reports will be sent home with children on Wednesday, so please look out for them in your child's bag.

Homework Grid

The homework policy has now been distributed and we trust that expectations are now much clearer. Please talk with your classroom teacher directly if you have any questions or queries regarding your child's homework grid.

Tired Children

At this time of the year many children, especially the younger ones, struggle to get up in the mornings and can become reluctant to come to school. It has been a very long term and even very enthusiastic children are starting to look weary. Please don't be worried if your child is a little scratchy or grumpy and less keen to come to school. They are just exhausted and we have expected a lot from them over the term and they are ready for a holiday. Encourage them to get early nights in the lead up to the last week. Teachers are trying to do the same!!

Have a fabulous weekend and thanks for supporting the school with all the events we have organised this term. You are a fabulous community to work with.

Kind Regards

Brenda

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CAROLS ON THE ROOF – TOMORROW, Friday the 10th of December at 6:30pm, all welcome!

Come along and enjoy this festive event, safety candles will be on sale at \$20 each and Santa Hats \$5 each. All proceeds will go to charity!

Mulled wine and orange punch will be served on the second floor en route to the roof!

TERM TWO BAKE SALES!

We would like to start raising money for individual year groups to enable them to purchase additional items for their classrooms to help support children’s learning. We have decided that an effective way to do this is to hold a Bake Sale for each Year Group in Term 2.

We would be really grateful if you could help make this a success by baking or purchasing cakes to be sold during these specific times. We appreciate that many of you are busy and may not have time to bake so if you could provide any bought goods that would be great too. The types of things we need a selection of are cakes, cupcakes, brownies, biscuits, flapjack, chocolate krispies etc. These will only be required when your child’s class is involved in the Bake Sale. We will advertise these events and give plenty of notice to families in order for them to be prepared.

Thank you for all your support. - R Lumsden (Organizer)

MOVING ON

If you will be withdrawing your child/ren from Glenealy before the beginning of next term – Monday 3rd January 2011, please notify Jane in the school office in writing as soon as possible.

PURCHASING OF APPLE PRODUCTS

Please read attachment for further details on this excellent deal!

PTA NEWS

Popcorn Friday!



We look forward to our first Popcorn Friday of the year tomorrow, Friday December 10th run by Year 4 parents. Please remember to send a little pocket money with the children. Popcorn \$5 - Home made lemonade \$10 - Can drinks \$15

GLENEALY BROWNIE PACK



St. James’ Settlement - *Christmas Food Drive*

Glenealy School Brownie Pack is calling on the Glenealy Community to help spread love and joy to needy people in the local community this Christmas by participating in the People’s Food Bank Christmas Food Drive.

Between now and the end of term we will be collecting donations which can take the form of:

- non- perishable food such as rice, pasta, noodles and canned food;
- or
- cash or crossed cheque payable to “St. James’ Settlement”



Donations of food (in unopened packets with at least 8 weeks shelf-life remaining) can be placed in plastic containers in the school playground. Donations of money should be given in at the school office.

The People’s Food Bank, operated by St James’ Settlement, has provided short-term food assistance to the deprived families and individuals since 2003. Over 85,000 people have benefited from the service.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Congratulations to the children who were acknowledged at the celebration ceremony last Friday.

Years 1, 2 & 3



Years 4, 5 & 6



VIST BY NURY VITTACHI



Last Thursday the Year 3, 4 and 5 children were fortunate to spend some time with Nury Vittachi who came along to read some of his work. As you can see by the comments below he was an inspiration to all!

I thought that Nury Vittachi's presentation was full of comedy and inspiration like a cake full of icing. By Navya Lodha 5S

I was very entertained with his presentation because it was filled with comedy. He has very many funny ideas to make people happy. He also has creative ideas and his books are wonderful. By Peter Ko 5S

*I was very excited when he came because he told us funny stories. I like his books because they have very funny words and it is very interesting. I have only read *The Wicked Christmas* and *The Day It Rained Letters*.
By Marcus Khoo 5M*

*It was really exciting to see Nury Vittachi when he came to visit us. He really inspired me and taught me to write more interesting stories. I also got an autograph from him in my favourite books. *The History of Santa Claus* and *The Day It Rained Letters*. He made me laugh a lot and I was full of energy and joy. By Anika DeBlank 5M*

ESF Netball Tournament

This took place on Saturday 4th December at CIS and Quarry Bay Schools. 200 girls gathered to play netball and we had plenty of supporters! Glenealy had 2 teams in the competition and both teams did really well! The 'B' team were unlucky not to qualify for the quarter finals. They came equal second in their group with Discovery Bay 'A' team so the place was decided on goal difference. Meanwhile, the 'B' and 'C' teams have another tournament this Wednesday at Bradbury School.



The 'A' team won all their group games quite convincingly scoring 32 goals in 5 games with no goals scored against them! They then played F.I.S. in the quarter finals and won 7-1 which took them to the semi-finals against Clearwater Bay School. Glenealy won this game 6-2. The final was against G.S.I.S. and this was a very exciting match indeed! However, the final score was 4-2 to G.S.I.S. and Glenealy were very worthy runners-up.

Well done to all the players!

NETBALL - 'B' & 'C' TEAM TOURNAMENTS



Well, what a great week for Glenealy Netballers! All our teams reached the finals! The 'B' team won all their group games and the semi-finals but narrowly lost in the finals V GSIS 2-0.

Meanwhile our 'C' team won the 'C' team Tournament beating Peak School 4-2 in the final. A fantastic effort! Well done to all the girls.

ESF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES



Holiday Greetings

All the ESF Tigers Basketball Coaches want to take this time to wish all Tiger Basketball players, their parents, teachers and the staff at ESF schools a very Merry Christmas.

Our Winter Basketball Clinics will be available at two locations 1) South Island School and 2) Sha Tin College Tuesday 28th December – Friday 31st December from 1:00 pm – 3:00pm. Players 8–11 years and 12–15 years will learn the basic skills of the game and enjoy competing with their own age level. To find out more and enroll online, visit www.esf.org.hk.

Our Term 2 enrolment is also already available online at www.esf.org.hk and Basketball classes will begin Monday 3rd January of the New Year.

Keep your eyes open for the All Girls Classes we now offer and we will also be looking to expand the “Cubs” program for ages 3–4 and 5–6. The *Basketball Tiger's Cubs* program will offer the very young students a chance to not only learn to bounce a basketball but also enjoy a wider range of sporting movements and activities designed to work on eye hand coordination, balance, agility and social skills.

We recognize the benefits to young children who have early involvement with sporting activities. It is generally accepted that physical activity is directly related to and positive for the overall mental development in young children. Team sports have long been recognized as beneficial to the development of social skills in young people.

We look forward to seeing you after the break in January 2011!!

Information coming home today:

ESF Educational Services Sports Programme – Term Two and Winter Sports Camp

Chess Lessons – Term Two

Cecilia Ho's Art Club – Term Two

COMMUNITY NEWS

PEAK SCHOOL CENTENARY – 1911-2011

Peak School are keen to contact alumni, parents of alumni, former staff and former and current Peak residents to gain a greater insight into the history of Peak School and Peak-living over the last 100 years.

If you have any stories, photos, snippets of information, reports, and anecdotes to add to our collection and to include in the Commemorative Book we will be producing, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Vanessa at ps100@peakschool.net and do pass on the word to anyone else who may be able to help us.

SMALL WORLD'S 25th ANNIVERSARY

Small World is going to celebrate their 25th anniversary with a fun day on 14th January 2011 (Friday) on Small World Campus.

They are calling all alumni to join in the festivities, e.g. face-painting, carnival games, bouncy castle...and lots more!

They are also looking for volunteers who can help out on that day. To find out more details, please contact Ms Phoebe Cheung at phoebec@smallworld.hk.

LOST PROPERTY

Mrs. Barker of Read for Meaning is in possession of a Pokemon collection that was left on the playground this past Friday or Saturday. If you think it might belong to you, please contact her at marygbarker@hotmail.com or 9401 4559.