



'Strive to Achieve'



24th February 2011

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students,



Saint David's Day: (Dydd Gŵyl Dewi Sant) is celebrated in Wales on March 1st every year. St David is the patron saint of Wales. The date of 1st March was chosen in remembrance of the death of Saint David on that day in 589, and has been celebrated by followers since then. To celebrate this day, people in Wales wear a symbol of either a leek, or daffodil. Celebrations will be taking place in Wales with Children in school concerts or eisteddfodau, where recitation and singing are the main activities. Younger girls sometimes wear traditional Welsh costumes to school. This costume consists of a long woollen skirt, white blouse, woollen shawl and a Welsh hat. Cawl – a special soup with lamb and leeks is often consumed on St. David's Day.

Thank you to the Heath Family – Thomas 3S & Ellen 2A

Student-Led Conferences

Thank you so much for dedicating the time to experience your child's learning journey. We have received superb feedback about the change of format and we are so thrilled it was a success. Many of you have had an opportunity to give feedback about the new style, if not please send your thoughts and suggestions to me so that we can continue to make improvements and refinements next year. Please email me at brenda.cook@gs.esf.edu.hk

We loved seeing the children really take the lead in showing you their world of school. Thanks for your enthusiasm and for the quality time you spent at school with your child.



Coffee Morning

We are organising two informal coffee mornings to give you the opportunity to find out more about learning and teaching within the school. This is a chance to ask a burning question and/or to post a question beforehand for discussion. Di our VP, Michaela our PYP coordinator and I will be present at the coffee mornings. We hope this will help to continue to open up dialogue about learning and teaching in a relaxed setting.

When: Friday 4th and 18th March – 8.45-9.30am. (max 20 places each)

Please rsvp to Jane in the office: enquiry@gs.esf.edu.hk

PTA

The PTA have some great events coming up. Please refer to the body of the newsletter for more details.

School Uniform

We have noticed a big improvement in the children's appearance in the last week since speaking to the children about wearing their uniform with pride. Please continue to help us by ensuring your child wears the appropriate clothing combinations to school.

Enjoy your weekend and extended discussions with your child/ren about what you have seen in their learning.

Kind Regards

Brenda

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EXECUTIVE SKILLS WORKSHOP – How to help your child get organized!

With: Jennine Harding, SENCO
When: Friday, March 11th at 8:35 – 10:00am approx
Where: Learning Centre
What: What are Executive Skills and how do they develop? How can parents help their children develop the skills that they will need to be successful at school and in life? During the workshop we will cover organizational skills, planning, and helping your child to manage their time more effectively. Small steps and changes can really make a difference!

Please rsvp to Jane in the office: enquiry@gs.esf.edu.hk



WORLD MATHS DAY - March 1st 2011

This is a truly unique world event and a fantastic way to promote numeracy within Glenealy. Past results show that students will make significant improvements in their mental arithmetic skills and have fun in the process.

Students can play at home and at school against other students around the world in live games of mental arithmetic. The students who answer the most questions correctly will appear on the Hall of Fame. There are 5 levels of play, 20 games on each level. It's linked to Mathletics so it is designed for all ages and ability levels. Each child will get a user name and a password stuck in their diary. The kids can play from the day they get the password including the official World Maths Day. No-one misses out. Log in and have fun! The children will love it!

Children can log on by clicking the World Maths day logo on our Glenealy School website. For further information visit www.worldmathsday.com

Have fun and be number smart!
Mrs Sexton
Acting Maths Coordinator

PTA EVENTS FOR MARCH

The PTA Kitchen Sample Sale will be taking place on the playground next Thursday 3rd March from 2:30 - 3:30pm.

The stall will be selling all sorts of kitchen utensils and small equipment at great prices. All proceeds from the stall will go towards funding both large and small projects for the benefit of our children. THINK GREEN - Please remember to bring a bag to take home any purchases!

Year 6 Second-Hand Book & DVD Sale

Year 6 will be fund-raising for their year group by running a Second Hand Book and DVD Stall alongside the PTA Kitchen Sample Sale next week on Thursday 3rd March from 2:30 - 3:30pm. Items will be sold at the bargain price of \$10.

Donations are welcome and can be delivered to the School Office from next Monday 28th February. As a reminder, we are looking for both adult and children's fiction and non-fiction books in good condition, DVDs, VCDs and CDs. We cannot accept pirated/copy discs and no longer accept VHS (video recorder) tapes.

This event will replace the Year 6 Bake Sale previously scheduled for April and proceeds will therefore go to projects to benefit the year group.

Glenealy School Disco



The Glenealy School Disco is coming up on Thursday 10th March. Details and notices for purchasing tickets were sent home with the children yesterday. The Years 1, 2 and 3 Disco will be held straight after school from 3.00 - 4.15pm and Years 4, 5 and 6 Disco from 4.30 - 6.00pm. Save the date and please look out for the application form!

Your PTA Committee has been working hard to organise events that can raise funds to purchase instruments for the new Strings Programme, to organise the new mural and many other such benefits for our children. We would like to thank all of you parent PTA members who volunteer your valuable time in helping make these events such a success. Please have a look at the PTA [webpages](#) to learn more about other benefits we aim to secure for our children.

MULAN TICKETS

Thank you to all who purchased tickets to see the schools performance of Mulan, we are now completely sold out! The rehearsals are going really well and we hope you all enjoy the show!



Glenealy's Got Talent

The next GGT Assembly will take place on Friday, March 4th!

Auditions took place this week and notices to those students who will be participating in next week's GGT Assembly will go home on Monday. Everyone is welcome to come out and support our amazing Glenealy talent!

See you next Friday at 2:20pm!

MEDICAL ROOM NEWS



Please be aware there has been a reported case of Chicken Pox this week in Year 1. Chicken Pox commonly manifests in the form of a low grade temperature, tiredness and itchy rash/lesions usually found on the trunk, armpits and scalp. These lesions change into a fluid filled vesicle around 5 days, then tend to crust and form a scab. It is the scratching of these vesicles that make the disease so contagious.

If your child shows any of these symptoms please seek medical advice for diagnosis and inform the school.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Joanne & Roisin

MOVING ON

If you will be withdrawing your child/ren from Glenealy anytime between now and the end of Term 2, Friday 15th April or the end of the academic year Thursday 30th June 2011 please notify Jane in the school office in writing as soon as possible.



VISITING AUTHOR – PETER CAINE

Author of *Tommy Tan and the Bowl of Time*

On Tuesday Peter Caine visited Glenealy and shared his writing with Year 6 students, here a few of their comments.

- I enjoyed listening about how he came up with his first book and his life. I learnt that it takes a long time to get a book published. Julia 6M
- I learnt that story writing can take a long time to finally get published. It really made me want to never give up my dream even if it does not work first time. Lindie 6M
- I learnt that it is hard to think of a good story that people will like and it takes a really long time to publish a book. Hamish 6B
- We learnt how books get published and I had fun learning a lot of other things from Mr Cain. Aisha 6B
- I really enjoyed having an opportunity to talk with Peter Cain. I really liked listening to how he finally got his book published and it was great to see his editor and publisher. It was a lot of fun. Thank you Peter. Melodie 6B