



'Strive to Achieve'



26th August 2010

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students

It's been a great week back!

The children and staff have settled very quickly and our Year One children have already graduated to full days! Our new teachers and educational assistants are enjoying being here and we are gelling quickly as a new team.

Our new staff includes:

From left to right: Miranda Smith EA in 4H, Robyn Lumsden 4L class teacher, Helena Harrison EA with 3S, Trish Oliver 2-O class teacher, Kristy Muehlbauer 5M class teacher and Chris Angelosante 2A class teacher.



Julie McGuire 6M joint class teacher with Elaine Milton



School Nurse Vacancy and Temporary Cover

Many thanks for your offers to help fill the temporary position. Mrs Jo Clark (a parent and registered Australian nurse) will do this job for the next couple of weeks. Jo has been working all week and is doing a great job. Please contact Jo if your child has any medical concerns. She is also available in the playground each morning.

****School Sun Hats****

There are still a significant number of children not wearing school hats during play and lunch breaks. From September 1st, children will be asked to sit in the shade if they are not wearing a school hat. It is important to note that this is a measure to ensure children are sun-smart and do not risk being sun burnt during these very hot months. It is recommended that hats be left at school.

Sun hats can be purchased from the school shop which is open Mondays and Thursday mornings, 8:15 - 8:45 and Monday and Thursday afternoons, 2:45 - 3:15. Hats are available in small, medium and large sizes at \$90 each.

Road Safety

We were very pleased to see that the road safety markings outside the school have been completed by the gate area and around the sharp bend. Please take note of the 'no stopping' zone directly in front of the school gate.

Meet the Teacher Evening

We look forward to seeing you at this event. Unlike other years, the PTA will not be having their AGM on this evening. Therefore we will use this opportunity to share our; 3 Year Strategic Plan, feedback from our IB Authorization visit and key aspects from the recent Stakeholders Survey. I'm sure you will find this interesting.

Please note that the timing and format has changed slightly from previous years – note below.

	1st session 6.15-7.00pm	2nd session 7.00-7.45pm
Years 1,2,5	In classrooms with teachers	In hall
Years 3,4,6	In hall	In classrooms with teachers

Hopefully by dividing the sessions into 2 timeframes, some of you may be able to attend more than one of your children's 'Meet the Teacher' sessions, (obviously you can choose to do this instead of coming to the hall).

Homework

As a school we will be implementing a different style of homework this year. One of our new teachers has shared a very successful model with us that has gained high praise from parents and students in her previous two schools. The staff will share the model with you at the Meet the Teacher Evening. The official homework for Years 3 – 6 will then begin in the new format from September 13th.

School Diary and Term Invoices for Excursions

- The new diary has been well received by staff, children and parents.
- Price is now confirmed at \$70.00
- Teachers will outline the use of these and expectations at the Meet the Teacher Evening.
- Term invoices are being prepared at the moment – parents will receive an invoice each term listing the excursions etc. with a lump sum payment. Overnight camps will be separate from this. Where an excursion has not been set, an estimated cost will be invoiced – the following term this will be readjusted if necessary.

In Summary

It has been wonderful reconnecting with you all in the mornings and after school and to see our new families settle so quickly into the Glenealy School community. We have a great term ahead!

Please feel free to contact me if you believe the school can improve what we do. We are striving for open honest communication and want you to feel that your opinions and ideas are valued.

Enjoy your weekend.

Kind Regards,

Brenda

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MUSIC NEWS

Choir

Choir Rehearsals will start next week during Thursday Lunchtime. All students from Years 4, 5 and 6 are welcome to join. Our term one events include performances at school assemblies, 'Carols on The Roof' and 'Singing at Disneyland'.

Orchestra

The school orchestra starts rehearsals next week. Rehearsals are held on Monday lunch times in the music room. Admission to the orchestra is open to all students in Years 5 and 6 who have been learning an instrument for at least 2 years. (Piano students will need to see Mr Benzie as there are a large number of students who play the piano and some piano players will need to share parts or play the tuned percussion instruments).

Students in Years 3 and 4 (who have learnt an orchestral instrument for at least 2 years) will need to see Mr. Benzie to arrange an audition time.

Performances this term include the 'ESF Primary Orchestra Jam', school assemblies, fairs and 'Carols on The Roof'.

School Musical

This year we will be putting on a Musical. The auditions to the musical will be held in the music room on Tuesday the 5th October. Students in Years 5 and 6 are invited to audition. Please note that year 6 students will be given priority. More information about auditions and available parts will be distributed closer to the 5th October. We are aiming for a performance dates of the 22nd and 23rd of February.

Instrumental Lessons

Glenealy has connections with several very talented instrumental music teachers. If you are interested in enrolling in music lessons please pick up an 'Instrumental Enrolment Form' from the office. Lessons are available in Violin, Guitar and Drums at school and I am happy to arrange lessons on a wide variety of instruments including clarinet, flute, saxophone, cello and piano.

If you would like advice on the right instrument for your child please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would strongly encourage all students to take instrumental lessons so that they can join the school orchestras and bands.

With lots of great events this term I am looking forward to some wonderful performance opportunities for our talented students.

Thank you for your continued support of music at Glenealy.

Best Wishes,
David Benzie

International Schools' Assessment

On Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th September the Year 4, 5 and 6 students will be completing the International Schools' Assessment (ISA) for Writing. The ISA is designed especially for students in international schools and is an ESF initiative that will be implemented in all its primary schools. The writing assessments take 50 minutes and will be conducted during the morning sessions.

The ISA program has been developed by the Australian Council for Education Research (ACER) and is being used by many international schools around the world.

Under Australian privacy legislation ACER is obligated to comply with Australian law and must communicate with and provide information for the parents of students who are Australian nationals. Those parents will receive a letter from ACER surrounding their rights under the Australian Privacy Act.

If you have any queries please contact me directly.

Many thanks,
Katy Howes
English Co-ordinator - khowes@gs.esf.edu.hk

Glenealy School has the following employment opportunities:

Part time Educational Assistant

17.5 hours per week, term time only

Responsibilities will include supporting teachers in the classroom, supporting children, including those with individual needs and supervising children during their snack and lunch breaks

Applicants should be fluent in both spoken and written English, have previous experience working in a school setting and hold a valid visa permitting them to work in Hong Kong.

Applications should be submitted via the ESF's on line recruitment system by Sunday 5th September.

Please visit www.esf.edu.hk and click the 'Working with Us' tab to apply.

Thank you.

PTA News

The Glenealy School PTA sends a warm welcome to all the new and returning Glenealy Students and Staff! We hope you had a fantastic summer.

The PTA are ready for a fabulous new academic year and have some extra events on the calendar, please have a look at the year ahead on <http://www.glenealy.edu.hk/news-events/calendar>

We have a **WELCOME BACK COFFEE MORNING** for parents on **FRIDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER** from **8:30 to 9:30 in the playground**. Please come and chat over a cup of coffee or tea and meet some other parents.

The **PTA Uniform Shop** is currently looking for volunteers for the Monday and Thursday morning shifts. Opening times are from 8:15 - 8:45am and full training will be provided. Your commitment of around half an hour a week will help keep this essential service for parents and students running - and it's a great way to meet other families and get to know the school community! Please contact Stephanie Mulvahill (email: smulvahill@hotmail.com; mobile: 5190 7797) for more information and to volunteer.

PTA STUDENT DIRECTORY

The **new** PTA Student Directory will be published at the end of September. The Glenealy School PTA Student Directory lists contact details of all participating families at Glenealy. To ensure your child/ren's details are included in this important source of information, please:

- (1) return your \$400 subscription payment **directly to ESF** if you have not done so already, and
- (2) complete your PTA Directory Update Form.

PTA Directory Update Forms were sent home on Tuesday. Please return this form in your child's schoolbag before next **Friday (3rd September 2010)**.

CLASS PARENT VOLUNTEERS

The PTA is currently recruiting class parents for this school year. If you would like to continue/return as a class parent please contact wendy.mahbubani@hotmail.com

If you are considering volunteering as a class parent for the first time, please take a look at the Class Parents web page for more details <http://www.glenealy.edu.hk/news-events/pta/class-parents>. Please send a volunteer form available on the class parents' page, or contact Wendy for more information.

We need two class parents per class.

EYES DOWN FOR BINGO NIGHT

Calling any parents who would be willing to volunteer at the PTA Bingo Night on Thursday 16th September. We need help between 4.30 and 7.30pm with pizza and drinks sales.

No experience needed! As always all PTA events and services are run entirely by volunteers, so all help is warmly welcomed. Please contact wendy.mahbubani@hotmail.com for more details.

We are always recruiting volunteers and would love to know if you have a moment or more to spare in assisting with any of our events this year. Please fill out the form that should be coming home soon, print one off the volunteering page at <http://www.glenealy.edu.hk/news-events/pta/volunteering> or just catch one of the committee in the playground and let us know. We hope to see you soon!

Enjoy your weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on the playground.

The Glenealy School Parent Teacher Association

COMMUNITY NEWS

Primary Matters Writing Workshops

Due to the high demand for spaces in these classes, a second class will now take place at Glenealy from 3.00 - 4.15; this class will cater for the Y4 students who have been unable to secure a space in Ms. McNally's 3.00 class. Please contact Ms. McNally on 2526 1153/9465 4468 or e-mail primarymattershk@gmail.com as soon as possible. The new class will start on Wednesday 8th September.



Term 1 enrolment now open!

Get ready for an action packed TLC Kids experience full of interesting new projects with **Maths/ Science & ICT Club!**

FREE TRIAL: The first week of class is a free trial lesson... come and see what TLC is all about! (Please call to register)

SAVE UP TO \$300!! Introduce **NEW** friend/s and save \$100 per friend

Call **2606 2770** or visit www.tlcglobal.net for more information.

Information on the following clubs came home with the children on Monday:

- ESF Educational Services Term 1 Programme including Mid-Term Sports Camp
- ESF Language Programme for years 1 & 2 only
- Primary Matters – Writers Workshops for Years 4 – 6 only
- TLC Kids
- Chameleon Workshop

Information coming home today:

- Chess Lessons – Autumn Term
- Moks Taekwondo Self-Defence Academy
- Active Kids – After School Clubs
- Cecilia Ho's Art Club
- Sanskriti – Hindi language classes (pdf. attachment)