

Glenfall News

...a newsletter to inform the school community about the day to day life of our school.

Friday 5th January 2016



A word from the head.....

Its been another busy couple of weeks at the school and I cant believe that we are only one week away from half term.

This week I have been conducting teacher observations around the school and it has been a pleasure to be in all of the classrooms seeing the children at work. I have been impressed by how hard all of the children are working and the buzz in the classrooms it is a delight to experience. It has also been great to see how many parents that we have in school helping out with readers and supporting the teachers in the classrooms. It was also fantastic to see the Y1 parents in school on Friday afternoon for the reading session. An exciting new Mandarin Club has started for some pupils in Y5 and I am extremely grateful to Mrs Lin for setting this up for the children. We are also looking forward to the new art club starting up on Friday lunchtimes soon.

Some of our staff have once again been out at meetings working with teachers across Cheltenham to promote the approach to maths that we have adopted at Glenfall. This is a great privilege and is further promoting the good work of the school. Some of the practice from Glenfall has also been used by the Primary Director of the NCETM in her National Presentations.

**Have a great weekend
Anthony Mitchell**



Winter Weather Closures

During these winter months it is a timely opportunity to remind parents of the procedure for school closures should we need to shut the school.

If the school is to be closed due to adverse weather conditions or heating failure, parents will be contacted using our text messaging system. Please make sure that we have your most up to date mobile number. We will also post a message on the Gloucestershire County Council school closure pages which can be accessed at:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/learning

We will also place a message on our own school website

www.glenfall.gloucs.sch.uk

Announcements will also be made on local radio stations.



We have got a huge amount of lost property building up again in school. Please check the lost property boxes in the hall as soon as possible. We will try and find owners for any items that are named and any left over items will be recycled through the clothing recycling scheme in February.



Late Arrivals and Collections

Parents are reminded that the start of the school day is 8.55am. It is important that your child arrives on time for the start of school. Arriving late is disruptive for the class and your child is missing part of their learning. Arrivals after the register have closed are marked as unauthorised absences. If you do arrive late please enter the school through the reception area sign your child in and order a lunch if required. There has also been an increasing number of late collections from school. Please ensure that you arrive on time for the end of the school day. Always phone the school if you are unavoidably detained and state how late you are going to be. It is distressing for your child if they are collected late and we are unable to explain where you are.



There will be a RaGS2Riches Collection on Thursday 11th February. Please get sorting out those wardrobes and cupboards. Bags can be brought to the school hall on the afternoon of the 10th February or at 9am on the day of the collection. This is always a good fund raiser for the school.



Diary Dates



January

25th January - Whole school D&T week.

February

4th February - Governors meeting at 7.30pm
 5th February - FrOGS Quiz and Chips
 8th February - Dance festival at Everyman Theatre
 11th February - KeySteps Gym Competition
 - FrOGS Cake Sale
 12th February - Term ends for half term
 15th February - SuperStars Holiday course running during half term break. Register on their website.
 22nd February - Term starts
 25th February - Governors meeting at 7.30pm
 29th February - Book Fair in school

March

1st March - Parent/Teacher Meetings 3.30pm - 6pm
 2nd March - Feet First dance festival
 3rd March - Parent/Teacher Meetings 3.30 - 5pm
 9th March - Rotary Quiz at Glenfall
 11th March - Football Tournament
 14th March - Quick Sticks Hockey Tournament
 24th March - Term ends at 2pm for Easter

Advanced notice of a few dates:

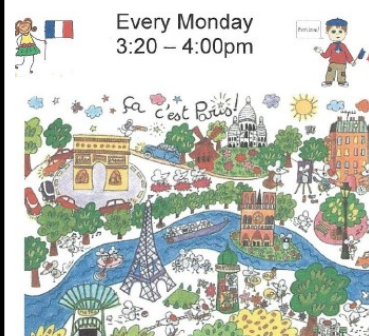
30th June - Sports Day at 1pm
 8th July - Reports out to parents
 21st July - Leaver's Assembly
 - School closes for Summer Holidays

Coats, Hats, Scarves and Gloves

Could you please make sure that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing for break times.



FRENCH CLUB



For more details please contact:
 Lina Carré Tel - 01242 242246



Pate's Theatre Festival

I recently emailed the programme for the festival to you. Check the events as there are lots of events suitable for primary aged pupils.

Chicken Rota

Mrs Whyte is looking for families to sign up for the chicken rota. This requires families to be available for one weekend in the year come into school on Saturday and Sunday to feed the school chickens and check that they are ok. This is a lovely thing to do as a family and any eggs that are laid are yours to take home. The freshest eggs in town! If you would like to help out, please sign up on the rota outside Mrs Whytes class.



Art Club

For those children who were disappointed when Mrs Dirken's Art Class stopped this term, I am pleased to inform you that there will be a new art club starting at the school on Friday lunchtimes. This is an exciting new project and we are hopeful that the children who went to the previous club will sign up again and maybe there will be some new recruits. Look out for the information leaflet coming soon.



Reminder

Y6 Enrichment Week

This is a reminder for Y6 Parents that the £30 deposit for the enrichment week needs to be paid by 12th February at the latest.



Sainsbury's

Active Kids

SuperStars
Developing Bright Futures

Holiday Courses

FUN Multi Sports: Banish Boredom with SuperStars!

Mini Stars (Age 4) £50/Week or £12/Day
9am - 1pm

SuperStars (Age 5+) £68/Week or £18/Day
8.45am - 3.30pm

Where GLENFALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

When FEB ' HALF TERM (15th-18th)

"Great value for money, wonderful staff and quality teaching. See you next time! 10/10!"

Football, Dance, Basketball, Dodgeball, Gaa Gaa Ball, Athletics, Ultimate Frisbee

And loads more ...

FOR MORE INFO AND TO BOOK:

super-stars.org.uk
or
08452413682

Mum launches scooter appeal to help daughter

By Lily Pattinson
lily.pattinson@localworld.co.uk

Picture: Kevin Fern Photography CHKF20160205

THE mum of a 13-year-old girl with cerebral palsy is raising funds to buy her a scooter which will give her the independence she needs.

Elicia Lyford, from Charlton Kings, was born with cerebral palsy and had an operation when she was eight to reset both of her legs.

She will have her second operation in March.

Although Elicia can walk, she finds it hard and can only travel short distances.

Her mum Samantha will not let her walk to and from Balcarres School alone because of her poor balance.

Samantha hopes to raise enough funds to buy her daughter a mobility scooter, so that she can have more freedom and a better social life. Samantha said: "I can't let her go anywhere alone because her balance is so poor."

"She sometimes gets knocked over at school."

"On a Saturday she wants to go into town with her friends but I can't let her go alone because it's not safe."

"I'm raising these funds to promote her independence and to maintain her social life."

The scooter looks like a bike and will have a seat and costs around £3,000, but Samantha hopes to raise £5,000 so she can maintain it.

"It would be particularly useful for her to have this scooter after her operation, because she's quite nervous about it and it would give her something to look forward to in a way."



Elicia Lyford is hoping to raise money to buy an electric scooter to help her mobility

Samantha's sister Trish Merryfield will be doing a sponsored bike ride from Bristol to Cheltenham on March 12 to raise money for the scooter.

Samantha said: "It would be brilliant if we could raise enough funds for the scooter. I just want the best for her, and it would improve her quality of life massively, because right now, the only place she goes is to school and then home again."

Elicia wants to become more independent and not have to rely on her mum.

"It would be amazing if I could get a scooter, because I'd have my independence."

"Although I have my mum taking me to and from school every day, it would make me feel better and would also mean I could do more with my friends."

If you would like to donate to this cause, go to crowdfunding.justgiving.com/patricia-merrifield

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Celebrating 150th Anniversary

2016 marks 150 years since Thomas Barnardo started this great charity. Last year saw the UK's leading charity work with 240,000 children, young people and families. They run over 960 vital services across the UK, including counselling for children who have been abused, fostering and adoption services and disability support.

Please support me in helping to raise as much money as possible for this amazing charity.

On April 24th 2016 I will be running the



To donate, please log onto

www.justgiving.com/kerry-smith/38

Or complete the sponsor form located at

RECEPTION.

CHELTENHAM Science GROUP

Inspiring a new generation to love Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

- Visit our Science Centre Event: explore some fantastic physics, sensational smells and more.
- February Half Term 9am-4pm from Saturday 13th to Friday 19th February 2016
- Regent Arcade, Cheltenham

Free

Contact us
Like us on Facebook
Follow us on Twitter
www.cheltenhamssciencegroup.co.uk
Cheltenham science group
@cheltscigrp

Supported By

PATE'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Open Mornings
Wednesday 23rd March 2016
Tuesday 26th April 2016
Monday 27th June 2016
Timings: either 9.15-10.45 or 9.45-11.15 am

Please click here to [BOOK YOUR PLACE](#) or book via the school website

Ofsted
Good

Pate's Grammar School, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 0HG
Tel: (01242) 523169
www.pates.org

Pate's is a state-funded grammar school for boys and girls aged 11-18 years. Students here achieve the highest academic standards while also benefiting from exceptional pastoral care and extra-curricular facilities. Families considering applying for entry to Pate's Grammar School in September 2017 are invited for a student guided tour of the school and a presentation by Mr Russell Elliott, Head Master. Students and staff will be happy to answer any questions you might have about the school and the admissions process.

Come along to meet our remarkable students and staff, and find out what it really means to be a Pate's student.

Kerry Smith is mum to Charlie Smith in Y1. If you would like to support Kerry's run please visit her just giving page