

Glenfall News

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

Friday 5th January 2018



A word from the head.....

Happy New Year !!!!

I hope that you all had a great Christmas Break and that 2018 has started positively for you all.

The children all appear to be well rested and have settled quickly back into the routines for school.

You should have now received a topic overview and letter from your child's teacher sharing with you the topic for the term and asking for your support with homework, reading, spelling and tables. Your support in helping your child with these tasks is greatly appreciated and does make a difference to the amount of progress that the children make. After February half term we will be holding Parent/Teacher meetings where you will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress. As always, if you have particular concerns relating to your child's learning that need addressing before the parents evening please arrange to meet your child's class teacher at your earliest convenience.

I have spent some time this week showing prospective parents around the school for the reception intake in September 2018. As always, I felt very proud of our school as I showed the parents around. The good manners and impeccable behaviour really shone out and the children were obviously enjoying their learning and the school had an amazing 'buzz' of excitement about it. I saw children explore Shackleton's journey to the South Pole, astronauts in a black hole (well children in The Black Hole Planetarium). There is even a giant beanstalk growing in Year 2 and the Giant appears to have come crashing through the ceiling in Year 1.

I know that there are lots of exciting things to come this term and hope the children continue to remain as engaged as they currently are.

I am looking forward to another great year at Glenfall and in seeing the school continue to go from strength to strength.

Have a great weekend !
Anthony Mitchell



• Have fun and learn creative techniques in a children's local art club •
• Nicky Millington, teacher and artist in Charlton Kings, Cheltenham •



The Art Studio activities include learning to draw, paint, print and collage, all in a relaxed environment, with the emphasis on fun and exploration. The classes will give your child the opportunity to discover their creativity and develop a deeper understanding of the world around them.

Nicky is a painter and qualified primary school teacher and has taught art for over twenty years. Having set up and run an art department in a large international school, she is now teaching art to children in her own home. Nicky is DBS-checked and fully insured.

Boys and girls of all abilities are very welcome. Classes take place on:
Fridays from 4.30pm to 6pm and Saturdays from 10.30am to 12pm.
Further sessions may be established on weekdays, after school.
Each class costs £10, payable in six or seven week blocks, in line with school terms. All materials are included.

Free trial class
The new term will start on Jan 5th 2018.

Please contact Nicky on **07901 318766** or email ncmillo@hotmail.com for further details.

DfE Performance Tables

Glenfall Pupils performed extremely well again this year, in fact being the highest performing school when compared to our closest neighbours.

Pupils reaching the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths

	Expected Standard	Higher Standard
Glenfall	- 87%	33%
Holy Apostles	- 73%	10%
Naunton Park	- 66%	14%
Charlton Kings	- 76%	14%
National	- 61%	9%

Pupils at Glenfall made above average progress in Reading, Writing and Maths; with the reading score for progress being in the top 10% nationally. We also had a significant number (33%) of pupils reaching the higher standard.

Full comparisons can be made at

www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk



Diary Dates



January

- 10th January - Swimming starts for Y3
- 26th January - Languages Day

February

- 8th February - Social Media Information Evening
- 9th February - School Closes for half term
- 19th February - School opens to pupils
- 22nd February - Book Fair

March

- 5th March - Y4 Residential to The Forest of Dean
- 13th March - Parent/Teacher meetings 3.40pm - 5pm
- 15th March - Parent/Teacher meetings 3.40pm - 6.30pm

Advanced notice of a few dates:

- 13th March - Parent/Teacher meetings 3.40pm - 5pm
- 15th March - Parent/Teacher meetings 3.40pm - 6.30pm
- 28th June - Sports Day at 1pm
- 6th July - Reports out to parents
- 20th July - Leaver's Assembly



Parent Pay

Please remember to keep your account in credit each week. Your child may be refused a lunch if your account is not in credit.



Winter Coats

As the weather is becoming wetter and colder could you please make sure that your child has a coat, hat, scarf and gloves. We will be asking them to put a coat on at breaktime and lunchtime and they may miss out if they do not have a coat.



Keep us up to date

If you have moved house, changed telephone numbers or set up a new email account please let the office know so that we can accurately maintain our records to ensure that we can contact you in case of an emergency and communicate with you



UPDATE YOUR DETAILS



French Club

French with Lena every Monday
3.20pm - 4pm.

The club caters for beginners and improvers. Please contact Lena directly if you would like your child to join the club.

Winter Weather Closures

As we head into the winter months it seems 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.





A few things.....



Emerging from the Black Hole.....

All of the children in the school enjoyed a session in The Black Hole Planetarium finding out about 'Space and the Universe.



Winner.....

Ava was the lucky winner of the magic prize organised by the entertainer who we had at the Christmas lunch. Well done Ava!

Social Media Information Evening 8th February 2018, 7pm – 9pm.

Do you know how your children are using social media? Are you aware of the impact Social Media can have on the developing brain?

I am delighted to invite all parents at the school to come along to an information evening on the impact Social Media can have on the developing brain. The evening will also give you an insight into how children are using Social Media and how you can protect them and create a safer Social Media experience.

This is a 2 hour event that will include presentations from two speakers, a short film depicting a teenager's personal experience as well as an opportunity for parents to share their concerns. I listened to this presentation at a local head teachers meeting and can fully recommend the event to you. I was so impressed by the presentation and the information that it gave me I felt compelled to book the two speakers to provide this opportunity for parents at Glenfall.

The Speakers...



Madeleine Stanimeros
Parenting Consultant

Madeleine shares effective tools to support parents in a digital age. This presentation has examples and strategies to reassure parents that they can help their children to manage their social media exposure without losing relationship.



Caroline Kelly
School Counsellor

Caroline gives a simple understanding of adolescent brain development and how social media is having a worrying impact on their mental health. The presentation is supported by developing research and her personal experience of working with young people.