



Glenfall News

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

Friday 22nd December 2023



A word from the head.....

This will be my last newsletter of the year and I would like to wish all parents and friends of the school a very Merry Christmas and a great start to 2024. I would also like to thank all of the parents and volunteers who have supported the school over the last year in the many projects and activities that have enriched the children's learning experiences.

I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas performances this year. The KS1 Nativity was a real treat and I just loved all of the re-worked songs to fit the Nativity Story; with 'Bethlehemian Rhapsody' being my favourite. The KS2 Christmas Celebration with music from the orchestra and each class performing an eclectic selection of drama pieces made it a very special event. Thank you to the children, staff and parents for working so hard to ensure that the performances were such a success. Also, a big thank you to Mr King and all of the peripatetic music teachers for leading the orchestra and all of the instrumental tuition groups throughout the year.

The school Christmas lunch was once again an extravaganza with superb food from the school kitchen and excellent entertainment for the children from Cotswold Children's Parties and a Christmas quiz with Mrs Newdeck. Thank you Lisa, Lynne and Karen for a fantastic meal and for all of your hard work throughout the year.

The whole school pantomime visit to the 'The Everyman Theatre' was also a great success enjoyed by all. The children were incredibly well behaved and we received many positive comments from members of the public who were also in the theatre.

It has been an exhausting term and both staff and pupils deserve a well earned rest over the Christmas Holidays. Don't forget that the term starts again on Monday 8th January 2024.

Have a fantastic Christmas,
Anthony Mitchell



Top tips for supporting children during the festive season

The run up to Christmas can be a busy time and it is possible that you may notice changes in your child's behaviour as their excitement builds! Below are some ideas for supporting them (and you) to survive the festive season...

- Maintain a routine**- routines provide a sense of stability and security for children (e.g. stick to regular mealtimes and bedtimes)
- Promote physical activity**- physical activity is crucial for health and can be a great stress reliever (e.g. family walks)
- Foster creativity**- creative activities support cognitive and emotional development (e.g. arts and crafts, baking)
- Consider limiting screen time**- research suggests excessive screen time can impact sleep and attention (e.g. set clear boundaries, offer alternatives)
- Teach gratitude and giving**- builds their empathy and understanding (e.g. donate old toys, visit elderly relatives)
- Incorporate relaxation and downtime**- helps with stress management and overall wellbeing (e.g. read a story, mindfulness activities)
- Provide emotional support**- holidays can be emotionally challenging for some children (e.g. regular check ins, model talking about how you feel)

For ideas to support your own mental health at Christmas, visit www.mind.org.uk

E P S
Educational Psychology Service

Here for children all year round

In partnership with **NHS**

Because fears and worries don't take time off for the holidays

Lumi Nova - A fun digital therapy for child anxiety (7-12 years)*

Download the free app today

LUMI NOVA
TALES OF COURAGE

Not recommended for use with children who have severe anxiety, are in crisis, have suicidal thoughts or are at risk of self harming without clinical supervision. See instructions for use: bit.ly/luminova-ifu



December

- 21st December - Whole School Christmas Lunch
- 22nd December - School closes for Christmas at 2pm

January

- 8th January - Term starts
- 9th January - Swimming starts again for Y3
- 10th January - Final tour of school for Reception intake 2024
- 23rd January - Height, Weight checks Reception and Y6



February

- 1st February - Full Governors Meeting
- 9th February - Term ends for Half Term

Advanced notice of a few dates:

- 19th March - Parent/Teacher meetings 3.30pm - 6pm (Face2Face)
- 21st March - Parent/Teacher meetings 3.30pm - 6pm (Online)
- 28th June - Sports Day at 9.15am
- 5th July - Annual Reports
- FrOGS Lido Family Evening



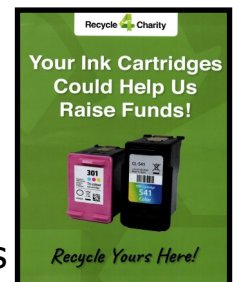
Battery Recycling

We now have a battery recycling point at the school. You are welcome to bring your old batteries to school to be recycled. You will find the battery recycling point in the entrance hall opposite the office.



Printer Ink Cartridge Recycling

We are now able to recycle your old printer ink cartridges. Please deposit your cartridges into the box in the Reception area, next to the battery recycling. By donating your empty cartridges for recycling you will help to raise funds for the school as well as helping to save the planet.





FrOGS Christmas Fair

Thank you to all parents and friends of the school who turned out and supported the Christmas Fair. It was a fantastic event full of festive cheer and a great atmosphere. The event raised a record breaking **£3440** which is a great achievement. I would like to thank the FrOGS team for organising such a successful event.

Twas the day of the Christmas Fair

It was a few nights before Christmas,
but all through the school,
a few creatures were stirring,
though the weather was cool.

The tinsel and lights were hung up with care,
in hope that the fun of Christmas soon would be there.

The FrOGS had set up their stalls in the hall,
the tombola and traders were there one and all.

A Silent Auction, without bidding aloud!
with mistletoe, a tree, we would welcome the crowd.

In through the doors came friends with a shout,
to find face paint and hoopla & hook a duck - no doubt.

The mince pies warmed in the Year 5 Class,
while mulled wine was poured for us to share a glass.

Happiness and merriment filled up the air,
"Ten more tombola tickets!" a child did declare.

Sweets in the jar we were asked to gauge,
and the cakes all went before they could age.

Thanks to the mums, dads, grans and pops,
who came with such joy, it really was tops.

Thanks to all who helped to make the fair fun,
who served up the treats till nearly all done.

Thanks to the helpers who cleared up at the end,
and yes, we made quite a bit of money to spend.

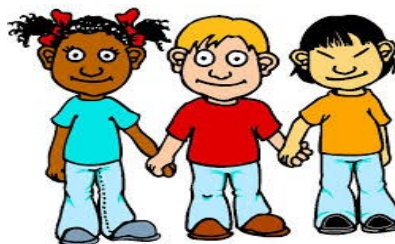
Over **3000** pounds, that is certain good cheer,
Merry Christmas everyone and a Happy New Year

Look out for more FrOGS events in 2024

Infant and Primary School Admission September 2024

Please remember to complete your online application by 15th January 2024 this applies to all parents (even those with siblings at the school) with children due to start in Reception in September 2024

school.admissions@gloucestershire.gov.uk



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:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closures/>

You can also sign up to the Gloucestershire County Council Twitter feed @Glos_schools

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.





Christmas Crackers

Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?

A mince spy!



Activity Village .co.uk
© 2000-2019

What do you sing at a snowman's birthday party?

Freeze a jolly good fellow!



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Who gives puppies Christmas presents?

Santa Paws



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MOVE MORE

EVERY CHILD ACTIVE

CAMPS
★★★★★

NEW YEAR'S CAMP 2 Jan - 5 Jan

BOOK & PAY BEFORE THE 10TH DECEMBER
AND GET A BONUS 10% DISCOUNT
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JCK469 2024

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

VENUES: BALCARRAS SPORTS CENTRE
BISHOPS CLEEVE PRIMARY ACADEMY

- Activity Camps For Age 5-12 Years
- 10% Sibling Discount
- Run By School PE Specialists
- Childcare Vouchers Accepted
- Non-Profit, Charity Organisation
- Early Drop-Off And Late Collection Options Available
- OFSTED Registered






MOVE-MORE.ORG/CAMPS





Apply online for

FREE SCHOOL MEALS



Check to see if your child is eligible using the confidential online portal available on our website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

You can secure a tasty free meal for your child and save yourself up to £437 per year.

Plus your child's school receives extra funding for each eligible child registered.

Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL

If you receive a qualifying benefit, your child's school is entitled to extra funding.

So even if you don't want your child to take a free meal, you should still apply to make sure that their school receives all the government funding to which it is entitled - helping them provide your child with the best education and support.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 already receiving an Universal Infant Free School Meal arranged by their school will still have to apply to enable their school to get any extra funding.

If you do not have access to a computer or the internet, speak to your child's school.

For further information, including a list of qualifying benefits, visit our website or speak to your child's school today.

Travel Assistance and Free School Meals Team
Access to Learning
Gloucestershire County Council, Shire Hall,
Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2TP

Gloucestershire COUNTY COUNCIL





Glenfall Preschool

Places available for 2, 3 and 4 year olds

"Staff are kind and welcoming"

"Staff provide good support for children with special educational needs"

"Children are happy... and are keen to go in and play at preschool"



email: glenfallpreschool@gmail.com

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 effectively.

Your most up to date email and phone number is the most important.





Don't be late!
Applications must be submitted by
15 January 2024

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

Was your child born between
1 September 2019 and
31 August 2020?



Any child born between the above dates can start school in the school year starting from **1 September 2024**. Gloucestershire County Council co-ordinates the admission of children to primary or infant school therefore you must apply to us to receive a school place for your child by the closing date **15 January 2024**

If you have not heard from us by 1st December, you must contact us so we can send you the information you will need to apply for a school place. If you do not apply on time, you may not get a place at the school you want.

Key dates

November 2023 – You should receive a letter from us advising you how to apply for a school place.

15 January 2024 – Deadline for making your application.

16 April 2024 – Allocation Day (find out which school we can offer your child).

If you have any queries about applying for a place at primary or infant school for your child, please contact Co-ordinated Admissions.

Email: school.admissions@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Web: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/

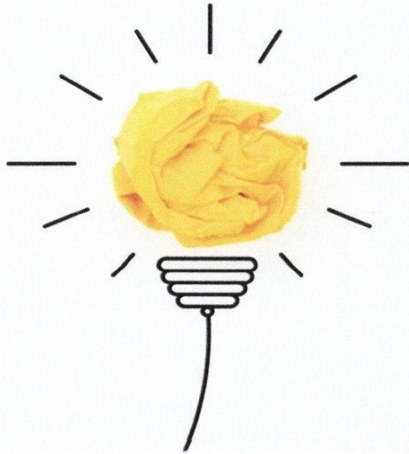


Apply Online!

- It's quick and easy to use.
- Confirmation when your application is received.
- You will see the school allocated on 16 April.
- Environmentally friendly



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL



Invent It!

Calling all **inventors**, **scientests**, and **makers** ...

Invent It! Is a brand new **STEM** club in Cheltenham for years 4/5/6 aiming to help kids explore Science, Technology, Engineering (maybe some Maths!)

Expect inventions, experiments and challenges with electronics, mechanics, computers, robots and more ...

Every Monday Afternoon

3:30pm to 4:45pm

Charlton Kings Library

Church St, GL53 8AR

Starts Monday Jan 8th

Reserve your place now!

Visit our website or contact **Rich Gray** directly on **07506043467** for more information.

www.invent-it.co.uk



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