

# Glenfall News

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

Friday 23rd February 2024



## A word from the head.....

I hope that you all had a good half term, whatever you got up. The weather certainly kept us on our toes with lots of rain and some unseasonably warm days too. The Glenfall daffodils are out which is usually a good sign that spring is on the way but it does seem 2 or 3 weeks earlier than normal.

Over half term we had some amazing new playground equipment installed in the Key Stage 1 Playground. The equipment was paid for with funds raised by the FrOGS and also money raised by the children last year through the Glenfall@50 Sponsored Event.



Costing close to £20,000 this is something that as a school we would never be able to afford from our budget. I am therefore hugely grateful to the efforts of FrOGS in their relentless fundraising, the children for their amazing sponsored events that they completed last year and of course to you the family and friends who have supported these events. Your generosity and continued support of the school through these events is really appreciated - Thank you. The children were so excited to use the new equipment on Monday and it has really added another dimension to their play.



We are really pleased to be able to support WS Trenhaille on the London Road who asked if we would be able to display some of the children's artwork in their premises. Mrs Newdeck has taken some artwork from Year 4 to display this term and hopefully we will be able to display artwork from other classes as the year progresses. This is a great community link and hopefully it will bring some joy to those who see the work



Whatever you've got planned, have a great weekend.

**Anthony Mitchell**



We are taking part in the 15<sup>th</sup> year celebration of Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 11-22 March 2024. It's free to take part and we would love everyone to be involved. **More information will follow next week.**

### What do you need to do?

Encourage your child(ren) to walk, use a wheelchair, scooter or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the event.

### Why we are taking part

Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing.

Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. [A 2021 YouGov study](#) showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school. And that children thought active travel was the best way to bring down these pollution levels. Plus there are some great prizes to be won every day if we get enough children taking part!

### Useful resources

To help you prepare, Sustrans has developed a handy free guide to walking, cycling or scooting to school. It is packed with advice to help you have hassle-free journey to school.

Download your free family guide using this link: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/sign-up-to-receive-your-free-school-run-guide/>

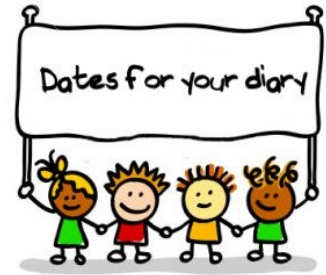


## February

- 28th February - Languages Day
- 29th February - FrOGS Disco

## March

- 11th March - Big Walk and Wheel Week
- 12th March - Spring Music Evening 6.30pm
- 14th March - Full Governors Meeting
- 15th March - Red Nose Day
- 19<sup>th</sup> March - Parent/Teacher meetings 3.30pm - 6pm (Face2Face)
- 20th March - KS1 Easter Celebration at 2.30pm followed by Open Classrooms
- 21<sup>st</sup> March - KS2 Easter Celebration at 2.30pm followed by Open Classrooms
- FrOGS Easter Cake Sale
- Parent/Teacher meetings 3.30pm - 6pm (Online)
- 22nd March - School closes for Easter at 2pm



## Advanced notice of a few dates:

- 14th June - FrOGS Lido Family Evening
- 28th June - Sports Day at 9.15am
- 5th July - Annual Reports
- 19th July - Y6 Leaver's Assembly at 1pm



## 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.**



[UPDATE YOUR DETAILS](#)

## Requests for Leave of Absence

Should you need to request leave of absence for your child please call into the school office to collect a 'Request for Leave of Absence' form. This form must be completed and Returned to the school and your request will be considered by the Headteacher. Please do not make your requests direct with the class teachers. You may already be aware that the DfE are focussing on school attendance at the moment and they are asking school to pursue parental fines for poor attendance that is unauthorised.



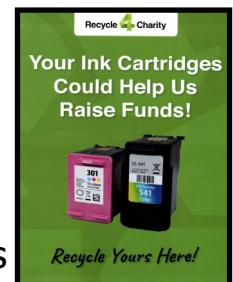
## Battery Recycling

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.






**Just Camps**  
kid's fun & fitness

**Welcome To The Just Camps Mini-Marathon**

This year, on April 13th, we're hosting our very own Just Camps Mini Marathon in Cheltenham, and we want you and your kids to be part of this fantastic event!

- What: Just Camps Mini Marathon
- When: April 13th 2024
- Where: Cheltenham - All Saints Academy

*Sue Ryder*

This is a wonderful opportunity for your family to embrace a healthy lifestyle, bond together, and kick-start a year of exciting challenges. The Mini Marathon covers a manageable 2.6 miles, making it perfect for participants of all ages and fitness levels.

But that's not all – we invite everyone to come dressed in their most creative fancy dress attire, adding a dash of fun to the event. All funds go to the Sue Ryder Charity so let's make it a weekend to remember!



**Scan Here**



**Glenfall Preschool**

**Places available for 2, 3 and 4 year olds**

"Staff are kind and welcoming"

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

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



email: [glenfallpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:glenfallpreschool@gmail.com)




**The next Rags2Riches collection will be on 22nd March. Last time we received £135 from the items that you donated.**

**You can drop off your bags of clothing from 08:40 on 22nd March. Please place your bags under the bike shelter at the front of the school.**

**Drama Adventures**  
learning journeys powered by imagination

**Starting soon!**  
**Saturday Drama Classes for ages 6+**  
**11.30-12.30 at the Stanton Suite, Charlton Kings**  
(9+ year group continues 10-11.30am)



self-expression      performance skills  
teamwork      communication skills  
creative exploration      confidence-building

**contact:** [gemma@dramaadventures.co.uk](mailto:gemma@dramaadventures.co.uk) 07889809132

Sessions cost £8 (payable termly in advance)  
One-off taster session bookable @ £8

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](http://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.



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



## 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](http://www.glenfall.gloucs.sch.uk)  
Announcements will also be made on local radio stations.

