

# **Glenfall News**

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

Friday 22nd March 2024



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

Well that's another half term gone whizzing by and it has certainly been a very busy one. There has been so much going on it's mind boggling.

We recently had a 'Languages Day' in school and the children had a great opportunity to try out some new languages. We had students from Balcarras join us and also some parents. The children were able to try out some German, Russian, Spanish and Arabic by playing games and singing songs.

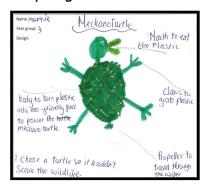




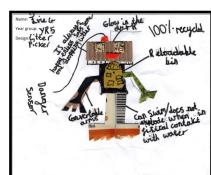
Year 3 & 4 welcomed their parents into school to watch a drama called Eddie and the Penguins. The parents were also able to go into the classrooms to look at the children's topic work on Antarctica.

The school's Science Ambassadors have also been busy this term. Following their very successful stall at the Christmas Fair, the Science Ambassadors decided to run a competition over the half term holiday. They invited the children to think like inventors and to design a machine to help save the world. There were some amazing designs and the judging was very difficult.

However, 3 worthy winners were identified and they received a sustainable prize. There were also tokens of appreciation for all of the children who took part. Have a look at the winning designs, they're great!







Last week we were delighted to welcome Raffa, the Therapy Dog into school with his owner, Steve. Raffa and Steve will be coming into school regularly to meet groups of children from across the school. Raffa is a specially trained dog and is very gentle and loves nothing more than lots of fuss - which the children are only too happy to oblige with. Raffa was last seen on Monday, rolling over onto his back and lifting his front paw so he could have his armpit tickled! I'm sure that you will agree from the photos that he's very cute!





World Book Day, The Spring Music Evening and Red Nose Day have also been highlights this term as have the Easter Celebrations which I hope you enjoyed this week. With Parents Evenings also been held this week you can see how busy the term has been.

Whatever you've got planned over the Easter break, I hope that you have a great time.







## **Phil's Memory Marathon**

## The training is nearly done for Mrs Woodman and Mrs Whyte - but there's still timé to donate.

In 2019, my husband Phil suffered a catastrophic stroke following heart surgery. This devastated his life and that of those who loved him, leaving him unable to speak and partially paralysed. He spent 5 months in hospital and in time and with a lot of hard work, he learned to walk again and managed to regain some of his speech. Phil was unable to work or drive



although he was desperate to do both, and this motivated him to work hard at his recovery. We knew he would never be back to where he was before the stroke but for over 3 years he pushed himself to keep getting better. It was a challenging time for us all but we were all incredibly proud of Phil and the support of those around him helped to push him further, and he made a much better recovery than anyone had predicted given the amount of damage caused to his brain.

Then in January 2023 he became ill. It transpired he had suffered another stroke - a spontaneous bleed this time damaging much of the healthy brain tissue he had left. And this time there was no chance of recovery and Phil died just 3 weeks after his 51st birthday.

His death was a tragedy. He leaves behind 3 children, a grandson, parents, sisters, in laws, nephews, nieces, cousins, aunties and uncles and countless friends who have all been devastated by his passing. And I have lost my husband, becoming widowed at just 37 years old.

I am honoured to be running the marathon in Phil's name. I am not a runner, and neither is Cat! But we're going to give it a good go! We massively appreciate the support shown by everyone we have told so far and hope to raise lots of money for a cause so close to my heart.

Phil would clearly think we were mad, but I like to think he'd be a bit proud too

Thanks everyone!

Polly Woodman





## **#YesUCan Run The London Marathon** On 21st April we will all be cheering you on.

Mr Mitchell will share the race numbers for Mrs Whyte and Mrs Woodman on Saturday 20th April. You can then track where they are and if you're in London for the Marathon find where they on the course and give them your support.



March

22nd March - School closes for Easter at 2pm

April

8th APRIL - Summer Term starts Bikeability starts for Y6

10th April - Y4 Residential meeting over Zoom at 6pm

16th April - Swimming starts for Year 2

21st April - Mrs Woodman and Mrs Whyte are running

the London Marathon.

24th April - Y3 & 4 Trip to Chedworth Roman Villa

25th April - Full Governors Meeting @7pm

May

6th May - Bank Holiday 13th May - KS2 SATs Week

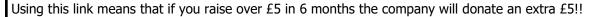
15th May - Y4 Residential to Forest of Dean 16th May - St Edwards Olympic Torch Athletics 23rd May - Full Governors Meeting @7pm 24th May - Term ends for Half Term



### **Easy Fundraising**

Make a difference to Friends of Glenfall School with every online shop!

Please sign up to Easy Fundraising. Fundraise for FrOGS just by doing your normal internet shopping. Just go through this site first. With only a handful of people doing it we have raised over £16. Just think what we could do if 50 people signed up!



Sign up to easyfundraising and watch as your online spending at over 8,000 brands turns into free funding for our cause. Sign up to easyfundraising and watch as your online spending at over 8,000 brands turns into free funding for our cause.

## 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.



#### **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 focusing 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.























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

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

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

But that's not all - we invite veryone 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 remember!



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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.





