

WELCOME BACK

Dear Families,

I hope that you have had plenty of time to relax with your children and family during the summer break. We are all very excited to be welcoming children back to school on Wednesday and are looking forward to another inspiring and successful year together.

The Glenealy team is already back in school, preparing for the return of children and undertaking professional learning in a range of interesting areas including local and global inquiry strategies. This is just one area of our school improvement plan that will ensure we continue to provide the very best experience for children. We will be seeking to involve our families in this important work during the year.

In preparation for the beginning of the new school year, please find a note of some important information and events below.

WELCOME TO NEW FAMILIES

A very special welcome to children and families joining us for the first time this year! You will find information and resources at the links below to help your child and your family become familiar with our school and support a smooth transition.

[Welcome to ESF Glenealy School >](#)

Please use this link if you have recently enrolled at Glenealy School (Y2-Y6). The site contains general information about the school, and resources that will help you to prepare children and families for a smooth and successful start.

[Induction to Year 1 >](#)

Please use this link if you are joining Year 1. The site contains practical information about Year 1, including introductions to key members of staff that children will meet.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Welcome to the following colleagues who are joining us this year:

- Christine Ainsworth, Learning Diversity Leader
- Tilly Dunn, Class Teacher (2T)
- Anson Cheng, Education Assistant (LD)
- Edward Shum, Education Assistant (1T)
- Jacqueline Bensfield, School Health Professional
- Gladys Shek, Site Team Member

Y1 STARTING ARRANGEMENTS

On Wednesday, 14 August we will be welcoming Year 1 students in **Group A** to school. Please bring your child to school for an 8:45 am start and follow the signs to the Centre where class teams will be ready and waiting to receive them. Your child will be ready to be picked up at 12:15pm on the Lower Playground.

Group B will come into school for the first time on Thursday, following the same format as Group A.

Please ensure that your child comes to school prepared with the necessary supplies, including a backpack, water bottle, small snack, a change of clothing, and their school hat.

SCHOOL OFFICE & RECEPTION

Our Office Team have now fully moved into their new location on the ground floor. Our new reception area is now open and parents/visitors may now visit the school through the main door located within the school playground.

UPDATES TO ARRIVAL TIME & END OF DAY PICK UP TIMES

Arrival: A reminder that the school day begins at 8:30am. Each morning, the school gates will be open from 8:15am for all students. The first specialist teacher lessons begin at 8:35am and all late students must register with the office on the ground floor before going up to class.

End of Day: Children are dismissed from classrooms 2:55pm for all students and may be collected from the undercover area

ROAD WORKS OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL

During the summer holidays, the Waterworks and Highways Department have been carrying out emergency work on the pipes under Hornsey Rd. This work will be ongoing until at least the end of October. The school has been in communication and negotiations with the construction companies carrying out this essential work to ensure that the school site remains open and accessible. However, there may be some minor disruption to where students and parents assemble to enter the school, and one of the parking spaces may continue to be affected. The ESF Facilities team, Site Staff and Health and Safety team will continue to monitor this issue. We will do everything possible to help lessen the impact on our school community as this vital work progresses over the next few months.

DATES & EVENTS

An overview of the key dates and school events can be found in the calendar on the ESF App. You can also find the school calendar on the homepage of our school website at [\[Web Link\]](#). Please make a note of the following events that will take place early in Term 1:

KEY DATES Term 1 - 2024/2025

- **14 August** - First Day of School
- **16 August** - ECA sign-up opens
- **26 August** - ECA sign-up closes
- **28 August** - Meet the Team Evening
- **03 September** - Parent Workshop: Introducing the PYP
- **06 September** - Y1-Y6 Coffee Morning & PTA AGM
- **10 September** - Parent Volunteer Workshop
- **10 September** - Term 1 ECAs start
- **16 September** - Mid Autumn Festival Celebration
- **18 September** - PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Mid-Autumn Festival)
- **20 September** - Year 3 Camp
- **30 September** - CPD Day - school closed
- **01 October** - Public Holiday - no school
- **03 October** - Parent Workshop - Y1 to Y6 English Language Workshop

- **07 October to 11 October** - Half-Term Break
- **15 October** - Parent Workshop - Chinese Programme Y1 to Y6
- **22 & 24 October** - Student Conferences
- **08 November** - Parent Workshop - Early Years
- **21 November** - Term 1 ECAs End
- **29 November** - Glenealy School Winter Fair
- **12 December** - Year 6 Panto am performance for parents
- **13 December** - End of Term - Noon dismissal

STUDENT HEALTH

Student health information can be found on the VLE in the Induction to Y1 and the Yr 2 to Yr 6 School Induction Tab → Important Information → Student Welfare.

Please update all Medical Information on Gateway for the new school year. If students require the administration of medication at school please ensure the medication is promptly brought into the school nurse at the start of the school year with a completed [Medication Authorisation](#) form for each separate medication.

Please do not hesitate to contact our new School Health Professional, Jacqueline Bensfield at nurse@glenealy.edu.hk with any questions or queries.

PE SCHEDULE

Please note the following schedule for PE and ensure that children come to school dressed in their PE kit on these days. Please note that specialist lessons, including PE will begin on Friday 16 August.

- Year 1: Monday & Wednesday
- Year 2: Monday & Thursday
- Year 3: Tuesday & Thursday
- Year 4: Tuesday & Thursday
- Year 5: Wednesday & Friday
- Year 6: Tuesday & Friday

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (ECAs)

The sign-up for the Term 1 ECAs will open on Friday 16th August at 4.00pm. It will remain open until Monday 26th August at 11.55pm. A preview of the Term 1 ECAs is currently available on the VLE.

GATEWAY

As we start the new academic year, we would like to request parents update their Gateway accounts and complete all required prompts for information.

By using the 'After School Arrangements' field, you may keep us informed of the children's details of how they will go home every day. This will be valuable in keeping your children safe as the information will be visible to members of staff who may refer to it.

For students of Years 5 & 6, parents may give their permission on Gateway to allow them to leave school unaccompanied. Please access the 'After School Arrangements' tab and select the option of 'Walk Home Alone' for

your child. We will issue them a Walker's Pass which must be shown to the staff on duty at dismissal time to allow them to leave the school site alone. This does not allow them to take other siblings with them.

'Additional Contacts' should be people in Hong Kong who may be called if we cannot reach the primary guardians. These should be alternatives to the guardians' numbers e.g your helper, another family member or friend.

ESF APP

Our primary means of communication with families is the ESF App. Please ensure you have the App installed on your personal devices. For information on how to download and use the app, please see the Parent Guide [HERE >](#)

We look forward to welcoming everyone to the 2024/2025 school year!

Best wishes,
Christopher Coyle
Principal

PTA - NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY HUB



We are so excited to welcome the children back tomorrow as we begin a new academic year. We have many exciting events to look forward to this coming year. Watch this space for details.

Gently Used Uniform Sale & Uniform Donations - August 23. 2024

We wanted to draw your attention to our second-hand uniform sale taking place on Friday August 23rd at morning drop off (8.15am to 9am) and afternoon pick up (2.45pm to 3.15pm). We have gently used uniforms as well as sample pieces in all sizes available at bargain prices. Stop by with cash in small denominations and a shopping bag. Happy shopping!

Donations of washed, gently used uniforms in good condition for resale can be dropped off at the Community Hub anytime before 2pm on Thursday 22nd August.

Feel free to stop by the Community Hub or email pta@glenealy.net if you have any questions.

Find out about [upcoming events on the School Calendar here](#).