

NEWSLETTER 20/09/24

Dear Families,

We hope this newsletter finds you well and that you have had a fantastic week.

The past two weeks have been filled with vibrant activities and creative endeavours. Students, staff and parent volunteers came together to learn about the traditions and significance of this festival and enjoyed various activities, including moon-cake making, lantern making and singing and storytelling. It was a time of sharing and learning as our school community came together to embrace the traditions and significance of this special occasion.

The highlight of our celebration was undoubtedly Monday night, when our campus was transformed into a spectacle of art and light, drawing families and friends to admire the stunning displays created by our talented students. It was lovely to see so many children and family members visiting the school campus to enjoy our beautiful art installations. This year, the children's work included lanterns, light panels and art installations, multimedia presentations, music and interactive exhibits including a green screen that was enjoyed by all. The school was a sensational sight for everyone who visited and we are grateful for all of your positive comments and feedback.

We would like to thank our dedicated staff for organising such a memorable celebration and for helping to foster cultural understanding among our students and community. A special thank you also goes out to our supportive PTA members for providing refreshments and adding to the festive spirit of the event.

Today Year Three students embark on a thrilling day camp adventure at St. Stephen's Beach. Their camp promises a blend of fun-filled activities that will not only challenge their skills but also foster teamwork and creativity.

Last week we hosted a visit from Cale Burk, who is helping our efforts to develop our Mathematics curriculum. His input has been very supportive in guiding our staff team through protocols that enable teacher reflection and professional dialogue around best practices in Mathematics. We also hosted Matt Glover, international language consultant for a day last week. Matt worked with some of our students and delivered professional learning to our whole staff team. We look forward to putting the learning into action in the coming weeks and months to support students in writing.

As always, we greatly appreciate your ongoing support and cooperation. Should you have any questions, suggestions, or feedback, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Have a lovely weekend,

Best wishes
Christopher Coyle
Principal

International Schools Assessment

This Thursday, our Year 4, 5 and 6 children began participating in the International Schools Assessment (ISA). ISAs are completed across ESF and by over 55,000 International students each year and the assessments provide our

teachers with some very useful standardised data that we use alongside all of the other ongoing assessments used in class.

The assessments include Mathematics, Reading and Writing in the areas of Narrative and Expository writing. There are in total five assessments and the children will continue completing the assessments next week and the week after. Any children absent over this period will be able to do "catch ups" the week beginning 29 September.

As we have to provide the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) with certain information about your child for registration, please see the attached letter ACER has written explaining what they do with the information.

ISA will provide us with a student profile for each student, focusing on how each student did on the assessment. We hope this will be available to share with you before the end of this term. It will be published on Gateway in the Assessments section.

The assessments will be administered by our classroom teams with support from the Learning Diversity team as needed.

[ISA Privacy Statement for Parents.](#)

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

- **20 September** - Year 3 Camp
- **23 September** - SHS/SDCS Enrolment Deadline
- **30 September** - CPD Day - school closed
- **01 October** - Public Holiday - no school
- **02 October** - Parent Workshop - Y1 to Y6 English Language Workshop
- **07 October to 11 October** - Half-Term Break
- **14 October** - Parent Workshop - Chinese Programme Y1 to Y6
- **17 October** - DTap-IVP Immunisation for Y1 and Y6
- **21 October** - Influenza Immunisation
- **22 & 24 October** - Student Conferences
- **08 November** - Parent Workshop - Early Years
- **12 November** - Year 3 & 4 Athletics Meet, Causeway Bay Sports ground
- **28 November** - Term 1 ECAs End
- **29 November** - Glenealy School Winter Fair
- **03 December** - Year 5 & 6 Athletics Meet, Causeway Bay Sports ground
- **12 December** - Year 6 Panto am performance for parents
- **13 December** - End of Term - Noon dismissal

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, ECAs

The Term 1 Glenealy run ECAs are off to a great start with the students enjoying 28 different ECAs. As well as the Glenealy run ECAs we also have an exciting range of ECA opportunities from our fabulous outside providers.

ESF Explore offers a number of language and sports programs here at Glenealy School. Their classes include; English writing, French, Football, Basketball, Gymnastics, Multi-sports and Tennis here at Glenealy School.

Read for Meaning programme starts at Glenealy School on Sept 28, with groups for pupils ages 5 – 16. These classes are designed to encourage reading in all genres. The approach used, increases vocabulary, deepens comprehension, builds confidence and creates enjoyment in reading.

Mindful Wing Chun [Wing Chun](#) Kung Fu is not just about physical movements but also about mental discipline, focus, self-awareness, compassion and life skills such as leadership and team skills. In these classes, they'll learn a variety of techniques, including punches, kicks, blocks, and grappling. They'll also learn how to use their body and mind together to create a powerful and effective martial art. [Full details, and sign-up for all these classes, and more, can be found on the VLE or by clicking this link.](#)

PTA - NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY HUB

Mid Autumn Festival

As the lanterns twinkled against the backdrop of the city skyline, the atmosphere buzzed with excitement at this year's Mid-Autumn Festival. The PTA delighted attendees with a selection of popular popcorn and refreshing drinks, adding to the festive spirit.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating this cherished tradition. Your support made the evening truly special!

[Click here for pictures of the evening.](#)

Comedy Night

The PTA extends its thanks to everyone who bought tickets for Comedy Night! We're super excited for a fun-filled evening. This night is all about kicking back, letting loose, and laughing the night away. We can't wait to share some great moments with you!

If you have any questions about comedy night please email pta@glenealy.net.

Save the date - Glenealy Winter Fair

Be sure to mark your calendar for the School Fair on **29 November 2024**. Join us for an evening of international food, carnival games and much more.

What is the Parent Teacher Association (PTA)?

The PTA plays an important role in the life of our school. It brings together parents, teachers, and other community members to work toward the following common goals:

- *Build a sense of community and belonging*
- *Enhance the student experience*
- *Advocate for student learning and the work of the school*

What do the PTA do?

Throughout the year the PTA organise activities and events where families can connect with one another and build relationships with teachers and staff, all while contributing towards the sense of community and belonging that is essential in ensuring everyone feels supported and valued. Overall, the PTA contributes widely to life at the school creating a positive and supportive environment where students can be the best that they can be.

Where do PTA funds go?

All funds raised by the PTA throughout the year are used to enhance the student experience by organising and funding various activities and initiatives and community building events for parents . These can include field trips, after-school programs, cultural experiences, Authors visit, coffee mornings and fundraising campaigns to support important school projects or initiatives. These efforts contribute to creating a vibrant and engaging learning environment where students can thrive and flourish.

If you are interested in learning more about the PTA [click here](#) to visit us on the VLE.