

NEWSLETTER 4/10/24

Dear Families,

What another exciting and action-packed couple of weeks we have had.

The Year 6 students had a visitor in to talk about digital design linked to their current unit of inquiry. Carston from Rakoon Design, the company working on our new lower playground, demonstrated how he transforms ideas from paper to digital and then to real life. The students then created their own digital promotions for the new playground and will share them after the holidays. They also had the opportunity to visit Island School to attend a dress rehearsal for "Stars In Their Eyes," which is the IS annual singing competition. The reflections from the students included being inspired to join the orchestra in high school and to building their confidence in performing for others. The experience of attending the performance links with their How We Express Ourselves work and their exhibition later in the academic year. We are very proud of the student's achievements so far and the inspiration they have found in these experiences.

Year 4 and 5 students and parents met this week to discuss their upcoming class camps and learn about all the exciting activities they will experience. Year 3, on returning from their successful camp to St Stephen's Beach, also had a visit from the Living Oceans team to discuss habitats linked to their Sharing The Planet unit. Year 1 and 2 are excited about the new cycling unit work in PE; the new bikes have arrived today. The lower school students have also been exploring the new equipment they have to play with on the patio.

Our staff have also had a busy couple of weeks. We attended the ESF Conference, where several Glenealy Staff facilitated workshops for our colleagues from across the Foundation. We also updated our First Aid training in preparation for outdoor learning camps and excursions. Some of our staff also gave up their weekend to attend the Weaving Threads of Thinking and Play conference at Discovery College. These professional development opportunities ensure our staff know the latest, most up-to-date practices to support our students.

The PTA also ran another successful community event at the Take Out Comedy Club in SOHO. It was a night filled with laughter and joy, with the highlight being David Benzie's debut Stand-up performance, which had us all in stitches. It was a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and share some light-hearted moments.

As we head off on the mid-term break, let me take this opportunity to thank everyone for a great start to the year and wish everyone a happy and safe holiday.

Have a lovely week,

Best wishes

Christopher Coyle

Principal

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

- **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 (There will be no school-run ECAs on these days)
- **1 November** - Y6 Bake Sale
- **1 - 7 November** - Box Of Hope Collection in Lower Playground
- **6 - 8 November** - Year 5 Camp
- **7 - 8 November** - Year 4 Camp
- **08 November** - Parent Workshop - Early Years
- **12 November** - Year 3 & 4 Athletics Meet, Causeway Bay Sports ground
- **12 - 15 November** - Year 6 China Trip/Camp
- **28 November** - Term 1 ECAs End
- **29 November** - Glenealy School Winter Fair
- **03 December** - Year 5 & 6 Athletics Meet, Causeway Bay Sports ground
- **06 December** - Term 2 ECA sign-up opens
- **06 December** - Christmas Carols and Y5 Bake Sale
- **12 December** - Year 6 Panto am performance for parents
- **13 December** - End of Term - Noon dismissal

STUDENT CONFERENCES: 22 & 24 October 2024

Our Student Conferences are scheduled to take place on 22 & 24 of October from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm. This year's conferences will take place in school, giving parents an opportunity to visit our school environment and view some displays of children's learning.

Conference with the Class Teacher

Every family is provided with a 10 minute face-to-face conference with each child's class teacher. The conference is designed to give children, parents and teachers an opportunity to reflect on student learning, achievements and progress.

Conference with Specialist Teachers

In addition to the conference with your child's class teacher, we have also made arrangements for parents to discuss learning with our specialist teachers as follows:

- **Chinese:** Every family has the opportunity to schedule a 5 minute conference with each child's Chinese teacher. Conferences will be either face-to-face on 22 & 24 October or held by Zoom at a later date. Please refer to the schedule on the Gateway.
- **Music:** Families may visit the music room for an open discussion with Mr Benzie on 22 or 24 October
- **Physical Education:** Families may visit the Learning Commons for an open discussion with Ms Farry on 22 or 24 October
- **Visual Arts:** Families may visit the art room for an open discussion with Ms Lavery on 22 or 24 October

Booking an Appointment

Appointments with class teachers and Chinese teachers should be made via the Gateway from Monday, 14 October at 3:00 pm. To book a conference, please log into the Gateway and click on 'Parent Consultation'.

There is no appointment schedule for Music, PE and Visual Arts but teachers will be available for open discussion in the locations mentioned above on a first come, first served basis.

If you have any questions about our student conferences or how to make an appointment, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (ECAs)

Please be reminded that the purpose of ECAs is not only to ignite and nurture the students' passions and skills, but they also serve to develop commitment, perseverance, resilience, and a sense of team and community, as such once the sign-up closes changes to ECA choices and withdrawals will not be accommodated. ECA pick-up is at 4.15 pm on the lower playground, we can not arrange individualised pick-up times.

BOX OF HOPE

Glenealy is pleased to support the Box of Hope charity again this year. The completed boxes will need to be dropped off in the first week of November. A collection point will be set up in the lower playground before school (8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.).


A particular label distributed after the mid-term break details the items and how to pack the box (see attached picture of the label). Please attach this label to the top of the box. Extra labels will also be available at the collection point in the playground when we set them up.

If you want to start collecting your gifts for the boxes during the break, please ensure the following:

- A bar of soap
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Notepad and Pen/Pencil
- Something small and fun (e.g. - card games, puzzles)
- Something Active (e.g. - small ball, skipping rope)
- Something to love (e.g. - a small toy)

The Box of Hope website - www.boxofhope.org - is full of information, hints, and tips on creating your gift and information on the children they support. Please do look out for their social media pages too - Box of Hope YouTube . The festive season is traditionally a time for kindness, generosity and thoughtfulness of children and families less fortunate. We appreciate your support in helping our school sharing kindness with others.

FILL AND STICK ON YOUR BOX OF HOPE



BOX OF HOPE

WHERE SMALL GIFTS MAKE A BIG IMPACT

NAME: _____

SCHOOL/COMPANY: _____

☐ BOY
☐ GIRL
☐ NEUTRAL

☐ 3-6 YRS
☐ 7-10 YRS

Please include a notecard with a message for the child who will receive your gift:

HYGIENE (must include)

☐ bar of soap
☐ toothbrush & toothpaste

STATIONERY (must include)

☐ A5 notepad
☐ pens/pencils
☐ eraser & sharpener

ACTIVE e.g.

☐ ball (and pump) *OR*
☐ skipping rope *OR*
☐ yo yo

FUN e.g.


☐ UNO card game *OR*
☐ mini board game *OR*
☐ puzzle

SOMETHING TO LOVE e.g.

☐ plushie/cuddly animal *OR*
☐ toy *OR*


STILL HAVE ROOM IN YOUR BOX? PLEASE FILL IT UP WITH SOME EXTRA ITEMS:
 colouring pens and book, stickers, maths set, sunglasses, calculator, hairbrush, diary, cap, cans, fashion jewellery

FILL AND STICK ON YOUR BOX OF HOPE




BOX OF HOPE

Please donate \$30hkd to fund the delivery of your gift to a child in need. Thank you.



Scan our QR code to learn how to make your Box of Hope



LOVE YOUR BOX?

We will select four of the most beautifully decorated boxes to win our box design competition

@boxofhopehk

@boxofhopehk

@boxofhope

www.boxofhope.org

PTA - NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY HUB

Comedy Night

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our first Parent Social-Comedy Night! Your enthusiasm and support made the event a roaring success!

We laughed, we connected, and we even discovered that Mr. Benzie is not just our beloved teacher but also a comedy superstar! His hilarious performance was the highlight of the night, leaving us all in stitches.

Thanks to your participation, we created unforgettable memories and strengthened our school community. We can't wait for the next event—who knows what talents we might uncover next time?

Stay tuned for more fun gatherings, and keep those smiles coming!

[Click here for pics of the night.](#)

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.