

## **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 linked to our ongoing school development, ensuring we continue to provide the very best experience for children.

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). Our Students & Parent website 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:

- Anne Davidson, 1R Class Teacher (maternity cover August 2025 - December 2025)
- Ciara Quealy, 4Q Class Teacher (maternity cover October 2025 - June 2026)
- Emma Dodd, Education Assistant (Learning Diversity Team)

## **Y1 STARTING ARRANGEMENTS**

On Wednesday, 13 August we will be welcoming Year 1 students from Bowen and Robinson House to school and on Thursday 14 August we will welcome Caine and Kennedy House to school. Please bring your child to school for an 8:40 am start and finish at 2:40pm. Members of the Year 1 team will be ready to meet your child on the lower playground, please look out for Y1 signs.

Further arrangements for Y1 staggered start from 15th August to 25th August can be found on the school website [HERE >](#)

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

## ARRIVAL & 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 8:10am 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.

## 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 our school website at [https://glenealy.esf.edu.hk/parent/school\\_information/school\\_calendar/](https://glenealy.esf.edu.hk/parent/school_information/school_calendar/)

Please make a note of the following events that will take place in Term 1:

### KEY DATES Term 1 - 2025/2026

- **13 August** - Term 1 Begins
- **15 August** - T1 ECA Sign-up opens
- **27 August** - Meet the Team Meeting
- **2 September** - Parent Workshop - Understanding the PYP and Inquiry Walkthrough
- **4 September** - Open Day for Prospective Parents 1:30 - 2:30 PM
- **9 September** - T1 ECA start
- **10 September** - Parent Volunteer Workshop 08:30 AM - 09:30 AM
- **12 September** - Y1 to Y6 Coffee Morning & PTA Annual General Meeting
- **16 September** - Language Workshop and Walkthrough
- **17 September** - Chinese Language Workshop
- **25 September** - Y1 to Y6 RSE Parent Question and Answer Session
- **01 October** - Public Holiday (National Day)
- **02 October** - Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration
- **06 to 10 October** - ESF Mid-term break
- **13 October** - CPD - No school
- **14 October** - DTap Vaccination Day
- **15 & 16 October** - Student Conference
- **20 October** - Flu Vaccine Date for Students
- **23 & 24 October** - Student Photo Days
- **28 October** - Y3 Camp
- **29 October** - Public Holiday (Chung Yeung Festival)
- **30-31 October** - Y4 Camp
- **4-7 November** - Y6 Camp
- **10 November** - CPD - No school
- **13 November** - Parent Workshop: Early Years
- **17 November** - Flu Vaccination - 2nd dose
- **21 November** - Winter Fair 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM
- **26-28 November** - Y5 Camp
- **27 November** - T1 ECA Ends
- **05 December** - Christmas Carols  
- T2 ECA sign up opens
- **08 December** - HK Election Holiday (School Closed)
- **11 December** - Y6 Panto AM
- **12 December** - Term 1 ends: Half-day

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR 2025/2026**

Please find a copy of the School Calendar for 2025/2026 at the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aNKtK0vOwJTzPPsAH6jldhF9eIkndlu/view?usp=sharing>

## **STUDENT HEALTH**

Student health and welfare information can be found on the Glenealy School Parent & Student Website

(<https://glenealy.esf.edu.hk/parent/>) under School Information.

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 School Health Professional, Jacqueline Bensfield at [nurse@glenealy.edu.hk](mailto:nurse@glenealy.edu.hk) with any questions or queries.

## **MOSQUITO PREVENTION MEASURES: Chikungunya Fever (CF)**

We would like to inform you that the school has been actively maintaining mosquito prevention efforts. Our site staff have worked diligently throughout the holidays to ensure that drains and other water collection areas are regularly cleaned and sanitised.

Additionally, we have engaged Rentokil to implement mosquito control measures across the campus, including spraying and installing mosquito traps in key locations. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has also been spraying the surrounding area near Hornsey Road weekly and is in regular contact with the school to provide ongoing guidance on mosquito eradication and sanitation.

To help prevent the spread of Chikungunya Fever (CF), the Education Bureau (EDB) and the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) have issued the following recommendations:

- Students and staff returning from affected areas should apply mosquito repellent daily for at least 14 days.
- Anyone returning from an affected area who begins to feel unwell should seek professional medical advice immediately and avoid self-medicating.
- All students and staff are encouraged to apply mosquito repellent containing DEET before leaving for school each morning.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping to keep our school community safe and healthy.

## **SEVERE WEATHER ARRANGEMENTS**

Please be reminded about arrangements in the event of severe weather by clicking [HERE >](#)

Should school operations be affected, we will notify parents as soon as possible via the ESF App.

The Hong Kong Observatory has indicated that weather conditions may deteriorate in the latter half of this week, so please keep a check on the latest weather forecast.

## **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 15 August.

- Year 1: Tuesday & Friday

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

### **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (ECAs)**

The sign-up for the Term 1 ECAs will open on Friday 15th August. Y1 & 2 sign-up opens at 3.30pm and Years 3- 6 sign-up opens at 3.45pm. It will remain open until Monday 25th 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 that 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 suggest that parents set the App to receive 'Immediate' notifications, to ensure timely access to messages.

If you have any questions about school organisation for the forthcoming year, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We look forward to welcoming everyone to the 2025/2026 school year!

Best wishes,  
Christopher Coyle  
Principal