



Glen Hills Primary School

Home of the Symphony Learning Trust

SLT Chief Executive Officer: Mr T Sutcliffe

Head Teacher and Advisory Head Teacher at Fairfield: Mrs R Wesley

Deputy Head: Miss A Smith

Assistant Head: Ms. Variava



Newsletter September 2025

HELLOS AND GOODBYES

Welcome back to Glen Hills Primary School after the summer break! We are pleased to welcome Mr Iliffe to our team as our new HLTA, who will be supporting and teaching classes across the school.

We are delighted to welcome our new School Business Manager, Mr. Costello, to the Glen Hills team. He joins us following the departure of Natalie Smith, to whom we said a fond farewell over the summer. Mr. Costello has already made a fantastic start, quickly settling in and offering great support to staff and pupils alike. We look forward to working with him and the positive impact he will bring to our school community.

At the same time, we say a fond farewell to Miss Wilcox, who left during the summer holidays. Miss Wilcox has been a hugely valued member of our school, particularly within the infant department, and she will be greatly missed. We wish her all the very best for the future and look forward to welcoming her back soon for a proper goodbye!

YEAR 5 RIVER TRIP

Year 5 had a fantastic trip to the River Soar as part of our Geography lessons! We had the chance to walk by and explore the river and see firsthand the different features we've been studying, like meanders, the riverbank and the flow of water. The children really enjoyed spotting these features and learning about how rivers shape the land. After all the exciting exploring, we made a stop at Jenno's for a well-deserved break. Everyone loved the yummy snacks and it was the perfect way to relax before heading back to school. Well done to our Year 5s, you showed fantastic focus and cooperation Character Muscles!



THANK YOU!

A **huge** thank you to the **Thandi family** for so generously supplying both the paint and the labour to completely transform our EYFS unit. With the support of lots of family members – and even **Miss Cunningham** – the whole space has been given a fresh, bright new look, which has made such a positive difference for our children. We would also like to thank **Miss Kirkland**, who kindly came into school during the summer break to repaint all the playground markings. They are now wonderfully

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bright and colourful, adding a real pop of fun and energy to our outdoor space. Everything looks fantastic – we are so grateful for the time, effort and kindness shown by everyone involved!

OUR SCHOOL PSA

The PSA (Parent and Staff Association) ran two very successful coffee mornings during our EYFS intake days, giving a warm welcome to our new parents—thank you to them for setting these up! The PSA works incredibly hard to support our school, organising events such as the summer fair, discos and bingo nights. Their next meeting of the year will be held on **Monday 27th October at 5.30pm in school**. New members are always welcome, so please do come along and support.

SUMMER WORK THANKS TO OUR TRUST

We're excited to share some brilliant improvements that have taken place around the school — all designed to make our environment safer, smarter, and more enjoyable for our children!

The junior toilets have had a full refresh, giving us a cleaner, more modern and upgraded space. Our new reception doors create a smarter and more welcoming entrance for families and visitors, whilst also improving security. Several key areas have been upgraded with new doors and double-glazed windows, helping to keep classrooms warmer in winter and cooler in summer. The junior corridor now features upgraded lighting and a new emergency alarm system. Outside, the 4+ play area has been topped up with fresh mulch, making it safer and more fun for our youngest children to explore and play.

These improvements have been funded by the Symphony Learning Trust, and we're incredibly grateful for their continued support.



MEDICAL UPDATES – KEY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Please see website for full Administration of Medications policy

- All medication must be handed in via the **school office** or **wraparound care**.
- **Do not send medication in with children** – they are not allowed to carry their own medication.
- A **green consent form** from the office must be completed by home before any medication can be given in school.



- Medication must be in its **original packaging** and **clearly labelled** with your child's name.
- It is the **responsibility of parents/carers** to ensure all medication is **in date and not past its expiration**.
- Staff who administer medication can only give it **as written on the packaging**.
- Children with medical conditions or emergency medication (e.g. inhalers, injectors) have an **Individual Health Care Plan**, sent home **annually** to be checked and signed by parents/carers. These need to be returned to school.

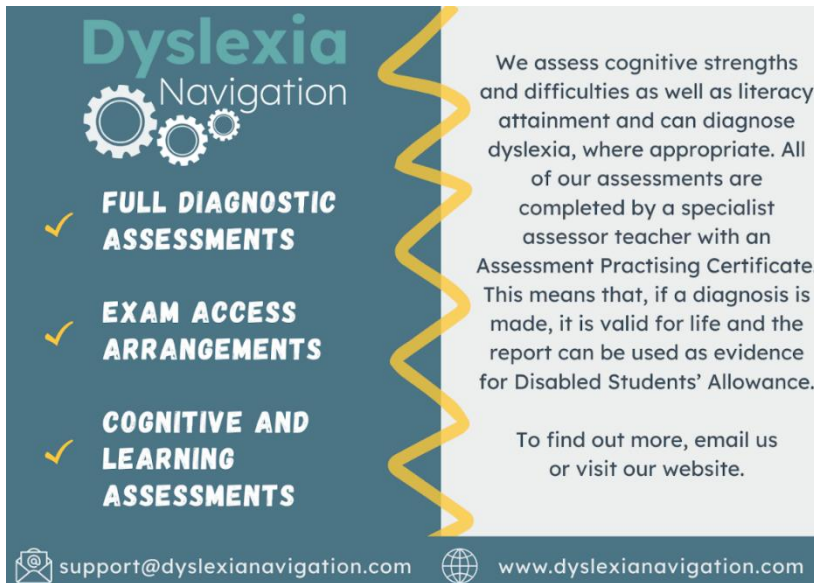
ECO TEAM

The Eco team at Glen Hills is up and running, and they've been absolutely buzzing with activity across the school! From ensuring paper, food and waste are disposed of correctly, to helping everyone else know where everything belongs, they're already making a real difference.

We were beyond excited to dive into Recycling Week from the 22nd to 28th September, with this year's theme, *Rescue Me! Recycle*. During this week, the children got creative by transforming recycling materials from home into something fun and fabulous!

Plus, we launched our Eco Club on the 22nd September—keep your eyes peeled for some brilliant Eco projects popping up all around the school. There's so much to look forward to!

DYSLEXIA NAVIGATION LEAFLET



Dyslexia Navigation

✓ **FULL DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENTS**

✓ **EXAM ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS**

✓ **COGNITIVE AND LEARNING ASSESSMENTS**

We assess cognitive strengths and difficulties as well as literacy attainment and can diagnose dyslexia, where appropriate. All of our assessments are completed by a specialist assessor teacher with an Assessment Practising Certificate. This means that, if a diagnosis is made, it is valid for life and the report can be used as evidence for Disabled Students' Allowance.

To find out more, email us or visit our website.

support@dyslexianavigation.com www.dyslexianavigation.com

This useful resource has been shared with our school from the Symphony Learning Trust. To find out more, please visit the www.dyslexianavigation.com website.

EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY

The children at Glen Hills Primary School had a great time celebrating European Languages Day. In class, they had fun learning about different countries in Europe, the languages people speak, and some interesting cultural facts. They also worked hard on their homework, where they showed off everything they'd learned, from famous landmarks to the languages of various European countries. Everyone was proud of what they'd discovered about the diverse cultures across Europe.

Well done everyone who took part and thank you to Mrs Lambden for organising the event.

YEAR 2 ASSEMBLY

On Friday 26th September, Year 2 children performed their assembly to parents and carers and then to the rest of the school. They linked it into European Languages day which was being celebrated on



the same day. The children found it interesting and particularly enjoyed waving their flags! They learnt lots of words and songs and spoke loudly and clearly. Well done Year 2!

SEVERN TRENT

We were lucky enough to have Severn Trent return to Glen Hills once again in September to deliver a fabulous and interactive assembly on our Wonderful World of Water. The key messages are always about saving water and what should and shouldn't be flushed down the loo! Leanne from Severn Trent also delivered some exciting workshops to our Year 5 classes that were enjoyed by all. Great fun all round!



LLANDUDNO 2025

We had a fantastic three days on our Year 6 residential! The hotel was brilliant, with stunning views and delicious food that everyone enjoyed. We were also very lucky that the weather stayed dry for us, which meant we could make the most of every activity and adventure.



One of the highlights was the tramway. The ride up was a great experience, and when we reached the top, the view was truly breathtaking. We also had the chance to explore the copper mines, which was fascinating. Going inside gave us a real sense of how a child miner would have felt – the tunnels were tight and cramped, with narrow spaces that made it hard to move. It was eye-opening to imagine what life must have been like for children working there.

We also visited Penrhyn Castle and Gardens, which was a lovely experience. Walking around gave us the chance to see how people lived in the past. We were able to look at the different rooms – the kitchen with its old-style equipment, the dining room and living room with their rich decorations, and the grand bedrooms. The castle was lavish, splendid, and far larger than any homes we are used to today.

Another highlight was our time at the beach. We had so much fun running around, playing in the sand, jumping in the waves, and simply enjoying being outdoors together. It was a brilliant way to relax and have fun as a group.



Finally, we enjoyed our trip to Trentham Monkey Forest. Watching the monkeys in their natural environment was amazing – we loved seeing the babies play together and the males leaping across the trees. On top of that, we also enjoyed the adventure play area, which gave us the chance to have even more fun before heading home.

Overall, it was an unforgettable experience.

Year 6

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Over the past couple of weeks Years 4, 5 and 6 have been holding Student Council elections to choose their class and year group representatives. Each candidate was asked to write and present a speech to their class on why they would be the best candidate. The class then voted.

Congratulations to Sophie, Faye, Betsy, Philip, Mia, Dawid, Madeleine, Logan, Tia, Henry, Khloe, George, Iris and Georgina, who have all been voted in by their peers.

The newly elected Student Council members are off to a fantastic start this year with weekly meetings underway! They've been working hard to come up with new ideas, plan events and raise money for the school community.

They're hosting a *Macmillan Coffee Morning* on *Friday 3rd October* in the *school hall*. It's a perfect chance to enjoy some tasty treats while supporting a great cause, as all funds raised will go to Macmillan Cancer Support. In addition to this event, the student council are brainstorming creative ideas for future fundraisers, with the goal of making a real impact at Glen Hills following on from last year.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events —they're sure to be both fun and meaningful !

IS YOUR CHILD INTERESTED?

Is your child interested in learning new skills and having fun?

The Glen Hills 62nd Scout group meets on Tuesdays (Beavers 6-8yrs) and Thursdays (Cubs 8-10yrs and Scouts 10-14yrs). All are welcome to come along to say hello and join in for a taster session by appointment.



Over the past few months, Beavers and Cubs have enjoyed activities including learning to cook on an open fire, pitching tents, planting seeds, making pancakes, learning simple first aid, district sleepovers at Conkers & Ullesthorpe, making fruit kebabs and celebrating Chinese New Year with a Chinese banquet.

Games and visits have included laser quest, slip and slide, 360, swimming at pebble beach, 10 pin bowling, Twin Lakes, capture the flag, cricket in the park to name just a few!

Scouting is a non-formal educational movement focused on helping young people develop their full potential by contributing to their education through a value system based on the Scout Promise and Law.

Scouts are encouraged to be active citizens who make a positive difference in their communities and the wider world.



The global movement teaches a variety of skills, including teamwork, leadership, communication and problem-solving, preparing young people for future challenges.

If you're interested, please contact Dennis Allen (dennis.allen5520s@ntlworld.com phone: 07971 057440) or visit the Scout hall behind Glen Hills Memorial Hall on Tuesdays or Thursdays, shortly after 7pm.

MUSIC EXTRAVEGANZA – THE NUTTER FAMILY

On Wednesday 24th September, Glen Hills was treated to a very special performance from the Nutter Family, who had come to perform some music as a family band for the children. What made it extra special was that both children were ex pupils of Glen Hills themselves! They had found their passion for music through the music lessons they took part in here at primary school. They performed lots of different genres of music with instruments such as violin, guitar, percussion and even harmonicas and they got all the children clapping and singing along with them. It was such a special morning and so many children came away inspired.



Thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Wesley
Head Teacher

Miss Smith
Deputy Head