



Glyne Gap School

Newsletter Term 3, 2018

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends,

I hope the year has started positively, happily and healthily for all of you.

Term 2 ended with a real sense of celebration and community as we joined together for our Christmas church service and Christmas lunch. It was wonderful to see so many of you at church and I am sure that you, like me, were moved by pupils' contribution to the service and the Christmas Message delivered by Amy Buckley.

Term 3 has not been a long term... but that has not hindered pupils making gains in their learning. William moved into Seagulls class at the start of January and 2 weeks in was awarded Worker of the Week for coming out of pads and into big boy pants at school and home! Jacob has also been Worker of the Week this term for using his thinking and communication skills to support positive behaviour. The look of surprise on his face when his name was called out was a delight to see! The skills the boys are learning are skills that will impact significantly on their opportunities, independence...and ultimately happiness. Well done to both pupils.

In addition, we have had a number of pupils achieving their Supergoal and they are celebrated later in this newsletter. A Supergoal is only worth achieving if it opens up opportunities to a pupil... if it has the potential to change their life... and this is certainly the case for our Faculty students who can now travel independently! Please do get in touch with your child's teacher if you want to discuss how you can be working on a Supergoal at home.

I hope pupils and their families enjoy the holiday week and I look forward to seeing pupils back in school on Monday, 19th February.

Best wishes,
Kirsty



Luke getting to grips with housework during a functional learning lesson at The Flat.

Dates for your Diary

Half term—12th —16th Feb.
Family Day—10th March
Easter Holidays:
30th March - 13th April

Parent Café

Our next Parent Café will be held in school on Wednesday, March 21st from 10—12pm and will focus on:

'Transition at Year 11'
(pupils currently in Senior Department)

Senior 1—On a Mission

In Senior 1 we have been developing our shopping skills, all focusing on different aspects of our learning whilst out in the community. These skills have included; remaining calm whilst being in a busy, noisy environment, independently finding items on a shopping list and purchasing items using the self-service checkout. Senior 1 have worked hard developing their learning in this area and have had lots of success and, most importantly, have had fun together working as a team.



Xavier, Ben and Aaron all using their functional skills in a busy and noisy environment.



Supergoal Superstars!

Congratulations to the following pupils who have achieved their Supergoals this term:

Andrew Axworthy—for being able to cook a meal for his mum
Eleashia Webb—for taking responsibility for walking the dogs
Joshua Dale—for independently traveling from home to Hastings and back, on the bus, to buy his lunch
Phoebe Broad—for independent travel by bus from home to Morrisons and back, to buy lunch.

Great work, well done!

Independent Travel Training in FE2



Travel training has been going very well this term with students working very hard towards their Supergoals... and three Supergoals have been achieved!

Eleashia Webb now walks her dogs at home independently.



Phoebe travels by bus from her home to Morrison's in Hastings and back, to buy a packed lunch, independently.



Josh Dale also travels by bus independently from his home to Hastings and back to buy a packed lunch.

Amazing work, well done and congratulations to our Supergoal Superstars!



Parent Cafe



A successful first Parent Café means that parents and carers at this event now know more about the benefits their sons, daughters, grandchildren and looked after young people are entitled to and how to get them. If you couldn't come but would like to know more, please contact Teresa Andrews at HARC (teresa@harcuk.com).

Alexis Selby (Jared's mother) commented "It was a really informative, interesting and helpful talk and opened our eyes to what benefits are available".

Our next Parent Café will be on 21st March and focus on 'Transition at Year 11'. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

Mel and Jayne

Junior 2—Enjoying January Gym

Derry, Diyar and Omar have been visiting 1066 Gym to develop their independence, communicate their feelings about using different pieces of equipment and make choices about how to spend their time there. The bouncy castle and foam pit are particular favourites!



Glyne Gap School - Leading the Way

We are delighted to have been celebrated last week at an awards ceremony as an organisation leading the way in employing adults with learning disabilities. The school currently employs Holly and Robyn as Lunchtime Assistants and Jack as our Site Manager's Assistant, all through Little Gate Farm's Supported Employment Programme.



Our Site Manager, Paul (left) with Jack, our Site Manager's Assistant

Let's Get Physical

A strand of learning that we use with our pupils who have complex physical disabilities is called Essential Physical Skills for Learning & Life. This enables pupils to work through a range of physical activities which have a functional end point e.g. sitting on an ordinary chair for a short time, standing for transfers, taking part in everyday activities in a more purposeful way. Ibrahim has been working particularly hard in this area and is able to collect the dinner trolley for his class mates. He is now extending this and beginning to assist with pushing the trolley around the supermarket, so participating in and helping with a very useful everyday task of doing the shopping. Brilliant.



swiggle
.org.uk

Digital Safety

YouTube
KIDS

You'll remember that in the last piece we looked at how to prevent your child from accessing unsuitable content online by...

- Setting parental controls
- Supervising children when they are using the internet
- Using YouTube for kids

There are also some safer search engines, such as Swiggle and kidzsearch and you can set safer search settings on google. What is important is that we equip children with the skills to deal with a situation if it arises. Be open with your child, encourage them to tell you or show you if they find something that makes them feel uncomfortable.

There more information and some great advice visit: <https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/inappropriate-content/>

News from the Lower School

One of the things Lower School pupils have been doing this term is learning to transfer the skills they've learned in school into the community. A group of Seagulls pupils have been practising using their PECS to ask for things in McDonalds. They have all been walking down to McDonalds, carrying their own PECS books and then ordering from the counter. Lenny, Hollie and Jared have all learned that they can get what they want by using their PECS to communicate. Skylarks have been learning about their senses this term and had a very exciting visit to 'Lush' in Eastbourne. Lilly and David explored bath bombs and jelly bombs by smelling and touching them. They used their communication skills to tell the adults whether they liked them or not. Opportunities like this are made even better by super helpful people in the community who enable our pupils to learn at their own pace. We are so grateful to them for their support.



Jared, Hollie, Lenny and Lilly all working hard on their communication skills out in the community.

Hokey Cokey Fun in Nursery!

Our theme this term is 'Patterns' and we have been exploring how we can make patterns with slime and by printing. We used our fingers to make patterns in rice and made sound patterns using percussion instruments. We have also been learning new action songs and our favourite is the 'Hokey Cokey'.

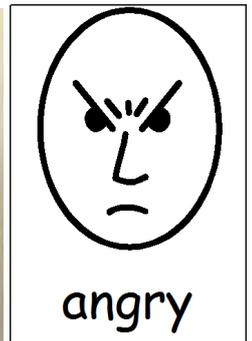
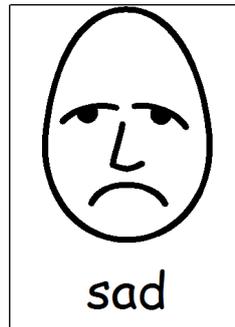
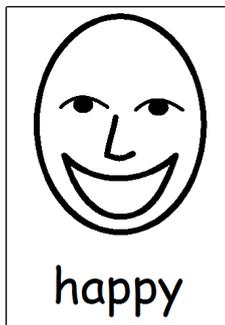


News from the Communication Team!

Hello Everyone,

This term we would like to show you some signs and symbols for feelings. We all need to express how we feel, whether that's being happy because we had a good day or sad because you've finished that bag of mini eggs (!!) or angry because something hasn't gone our way. Learning to label and express feelings appropriately can be really hard. We can start to teach pupils the names of feelings when we can clearly see that's how they're feeling. For example, if your child comes home with a beaming smile you could say/sign or say/show the symbol 'you're happy you got the certificate'. Or if they're angry because it's time to turn off the TV, you could say/sign/show symbol 'do you feel angry that TV has finished?'. If we teach pupils what these feelings are called they may learn to say/sign or use a symbol to tell us how they're feeling. In the next newsletter we'll look at 3 more feelings signs and symbols. You could cut these out and blutac them somewhere where they're easily accessible.

Good Luck!



To sign 'happy' - cup both your hands, your right hand does 2 short quick sweeps on the left.

Remember to smile and look hap-

To sign 'sad' - move your right hand slowly down to your chin.

Remember to make a sad face!

To sign 'angry' - both clawed hands make small forward circular movements with an angry expression!

What a Star!!!



Communication Star

Oliver Hemsley has learnt to tell his class team how he feels by looking at the adult and then the feelings board (see photo) which is on the classroom wall, he then selects the symbol he wants from up to 4 options by pointing at it. What a Superstar!

