



# Glyne Gap School

Newsletter — Term 1 2023

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends,

Every Friday afternoon we come together in our hall for assembly. We share stories that help us understand our values of respect, kindness and teamwork..... and then we find out who is 'Worker of the Week'!

This award goes to the pupil who has excelled in their learning and has been a role model to others in some of our key skills such as communication, friendship and independence. Pupils (and staff) thoroughly enjoy this part of assembly as excitement grows in finding out who it might be and what they've specifically done that week to merit this award. This term our Workers of the Week have included Ava (Skylarks) for using her new talker to comment and asks questions and Jelano for listening to and following instructions and using his Communication book. Sometimes we have two Workers of the Week and this is a reflection of how very hard your children work and what they achieve.

Governors have just completed their analysis of the Quality of Education at Glyne Gap over 2022/23. This includes looking at pupil progress. Pupil progress at Glyne Gap is measured in a variety of ways including how well the pupil has been achieving within their termly goals, the school's view of progress and the view of parents/carers. The headline I want to share is:

**59% of pupils at Glyne Gap School are making outstanding progress with a further 39% making good progress.**

The learning this progress represents is certainly something to celebrate and I am extremely proud of all pupils' achievements. I hope you are proud of your child's achievements.

We continue to work in partnership with parents and carers to support pupils to work towards and achieve their 'Supergoal'. **I am delighted to advise that last year 26 pupils made transformational progress through achieving their Supergoal.** If you do not know your child's 'Supergoal', or want to discuss how to support your child to achieve it, please talk to your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support this term, I do hope you enjoy the October break and I look forward to seeing pupils back in school on Monday, 30th October ready for the challenges, opportunities and fun of term 2.

Kirsty



Armani and Lilly (J2) enjoying a visit from the owls this term.

## Dates for your Diary

### Staff Training Days

Friday, 24th November

Tuesday, 2nd January

Wednesday, 3rd  
January.

(Pupils return after  
Christmas break on  
4th Jan)

### Christmas Carol Service

Tuesday, 12th December  
at 10am

### End of term 2

Friday, 15th Dec. at 1pm

## Skylarks—Communication Champs!

We work super hard in Skylarks on our communication skills throughout the day. It is very important to teach pupils to transfer their communication skills to different environments and practice their skills with less familiar people to ensure these skills become embedded. We are so proud of Skylarks because this term we are seeing so much progress in communication.

Lydia is transferring her PECS skills (requesting using pictures) from the classroom to the dinner hall.....Jayden and Ava are using their talkers at McDonalds to ask for their lunch and to socialise.....Elda and Edward are using their facial expression and vocalisation to express their enjoyment during a less familiar activity (when Alan and Maggie (therapy dog) visit. Dantae has transferred his communication skills from nursery to Skylarks and Harlie and Lawan are starting to use choice boards in different places - soft play, the playground and trampoline.

A fantastic term, well done Skylarks!



## Seagulls—Working on Culinary Delights

This term Seagulls have had fun learning about and exploring a range of different food and drink items within activities.

In our 'Fun with Food' sessions we have explored different fruits and made fruit smoothies using a switch adapted food blender. Pupils enjoyed mixing ingredients together to make banana and oat biscuits, they got very sticky and a little bit messy!

We have had such fun in our sensory food play sessions. Pupils have been independent in choosing their utensils to mix and create wonderful recipes....we have some little chefs in the making!



Mario , Reggie and Rodi enjoying their Fun With Food Lessons.



## Nursery - It's not all fun and games!



Noah has been working hard on using PECS, here he is exchanging a picture for some banana.

Ronnie has been learning to choose his snack by looking at his chosen one. He can also gain Olivia's attention by touching her arm to indicate he would like "more" snack.



Taylor is on the trampoline having fun but is also meeting his sensory needs. When the trampoline stops he can initiate he would like "more" by approaching, looking and touching the adult.



Beatrice is learning to walk, she can grip Sarah's hands to walk around the Nursery garden.

## Juniors - Keeping their Eye on the Ball!

This term we have been focusing on ball games. We have been learning about throwing, rolling and kicking, learning the skills for football, bowling and basketball. Through these skills we are becoming more aware of how our hands and feet are working with all the muscles in our bodies. This includes how we stand to kick a ball, how we bounce and throw, our hand-eye co-ordination and how to bend correctly for bowling. Although sometimes challenging, we can adapt our skills so we can all participate. Here you can see pupils from Infants, Juniors and Seniors working hard on their physical skills whilst having lots of fun!

Sally—PE teacher





## Parents and Carers Coffee Mornings

Hello! My name is Tina and I'm the Parent Governor at Glyne Gap School. My son is a pupil in Senior 2 and I've been involved with the school as a governor and a parent for quite a few years now.



This term I hosted a parent/carers coffee morning, which I hope to run every small term. It runs from 9am to 11am and is an opportunity to come and meet with other parents/carers in school over tea/coffee in a very welcoming environment.

The next coffee morning will take place in November, date to be advised after half term. Hope to see you there!

Best wishes,

Tina Newstead—Parent Governor

## College Life—New Beginnings

In FE3 our priority learning has been to start building and developing positive relationships as we started a new year at college. Over Term 1, we have engaged in a variety of mixed group sessions at college and out in the community. During these sessions we have begun to grow some wonderful relationships.

Ben has adjusted really well to these changes. He has quickly developed great relationships with new staff and is enjoying spending time and being around his new peer group.



## Junior 4—Learning Out and About

Junior 4 pupils are learning to transfer and develop the skills that they have gained in school to outside of the classroom, during weekly community based learning sessions.

Some pupils are practicing their communication, independence and organisational skills by learning to find the items on a symbolised shopping list and pay for them using a self-service checkout, or by requesting a snack in a café.

Other pupils are developing their personal safety skills during community learning sessions by practicing how to walk appropriately and safely with an adult and stopping at a road when asked.



Stuart is learning to listen to an adult and to walk safely outside of school. Harrison learning to independently organise himself during shopping trips. Jennifer is learning to independently locate items on her shopping list and Jakob is organising himself to request his lunch at McDonalds using his PECS. Great work Junior 4!

# COMMUNICATION TEAM

News and Information — October 2023

Hello Everyone,

I'd like to introduce the Communication Team to those of you who are new to our school. My name is Rebecca, I work alongside Pippa and Will and as a team we support classes and pupils to develop their communication skills. We also work with families so you have the skills, knowledge and confidence in supporting your child's communication at home however they communicate. Keep an eye out for our workshop newsletter with details of what is on offer. You will see a section from our team in every newsletter which we hope you enjoy and we hope you find our hints and tips useful!

## **Something for you to try at home!**

One of the most important things we do in school is celebrate pupil's achievements, the big ones and the little ones too. To reinforce our praise and to support pupils understanding, we use signs. Here are some signs for you to try when your child does something.....



.....good



.....very good



.....excellent!!

If you need to contact the Communication Team please email us at: [communication@glynegap.org](mailto:communication@glynegap.org)  
Rebecca - The Communication Team

We want to celebrate all pupils coming back after the summer; the team have seen fantastic persistence and determination in pupils using their communication for a range of functions and learning new skills....

This term we want to focus on our amazing infant pupils, who have all had a great start to the year, and particularly Edward and Reggie.



Reggie has just moved up from Nursery into Seagulls - not only has he maintained his skills over the holidays, he has since moved up a phase using his PECs and is amazing us with his progress! Next term this will be implemented at home and we can't wait to see how he gets on showing his family how clever he is.

**Super**

**Stars**



Edward has been making amazing progress with his choice making—when presented with 2 options using visual and sound cues he is reaching towards the one he wants consistently. Keep up the good work Edward!