



Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends,

What a wonderful time of year this is! It is an absolute delight to see our pupils' excitement as they take full part in the Christmas preparations and events. Many of our older pupils have been out Christmas shopping for family and friends, the infants have a Christmas party to attend this afternoon organised by the pupils of St Richard's Catholic College and Junior 2 class had a truly special visit to the Christmas illuminations at Bedgebury Pinetum last week that really excited Diyar and Kara - so much so that Kara's family told us she was too excited to sleep that night!

Two highlights of this term are always the Nursery Nativity and the Infant Christmas Story as performed by the pupils in Seagulls, Skylarks and Wrens. Their performances, as well as bringing a tear to the eye of the assembled parents, grandparents and staff, highlight the learning that our youngest pupils are achieving. Ella - May was a king in the Nursery Nativity and managed to undertake her part independently. Historically, Mia has found it quite difficult to be part of big groups in our school hall and would use her ipad to support her. During the Infant Christmas Story Mia didn't need to use her ipad, she took her part and shared an exchange with a member of staff when the presents were going under the tree. Well done Ella-May and Mia.

Evaluated termly goals will be coming home this week showing your child's learning over the term. Do talk to your child's class teacher with your thoughts for next steps.

It is our Christmas Service at St Michael's Church on Wednesday. It starts at 10am and all are welcome - hope to see you there.

Christmas love to you all and very best wishes for a peaceful New Year.

Kirsty



Sean and Jesse enjoying a visit from Father Christmas who visited school on his sleigh with his elves and other helpers. Many thanks to Bexhill 100 Motoring Club for organising this very popular annual event.

Dates for your Diary

19th December
Christmas Carol Service
10am start at:

St Michael's Church
20 Glassenbury Drive
Bexhill-on-Sea
TN40 2NY



Thank you to everyone who supported our Children in Need danceathon. We raised a very impressive £428.38! Thank you for all your support.



Elly receiving her award from Councillor Abul Azad

Elly—Our First Pupil to Leave School for Paid Employment!

Elly Frost was invited to Bexhill Town Hall on November 9th to receive an award from Bexhill mayor, Councillor Abul Azad, for her achievement in gaining paid employment on leaving Glyne Gap School.

During her time at The Faculty, Elly volunteered regularly at Hazelmere Nursing Home. Elly now works as an event co-ordinator at the home. Elly is the first pupil to gain paid employment on leaving Glyne Gap School. We are immensely proud of Elly's achievements and wish her well in her new job. Congratulations Elly! Our school development plan details our intent to ensure other pupils aspire to and move into work after Glyne Gap.



Supergoal Superstars!

This term we congratulate the following pupils for achieving their Supergoals;

Jack Sukazi (J3)— I can use my communication book to spontaneously request my needs and wants at leisure time throughout the school day.

Jacob Horsler (J3)— I can spontaneously communicate my needs and wants to an adult before acting on them independently.

Liam Weeks (J3)— I can drive my chair independently.

Danny Woolger (FE2) — I can cook a meal for my family at home.

Well done to all our Superstars!



'Quiet Time' Christmas Grotto and 'Relaxed' day on steam train

Blackbrooks Garden Centre have introduced a 'quiet time' grotto experience'. The music is low and the twinkling lights are turned off. All exits are left open so you can experience the grotto at your own pace. It's also wheelchair friendly. It costs £10.95 and this includes 2 adults, a present from Father Christmas and a baby Christmas tree. Details can be found at; <http://blackbrooks.co.uk/santas-grotto-date/>

Also, on the 21st December, Kent and East Sussex Railway will be operating a less intensive timetable to welcome individuals, groups and families with children who would benefit from a more relaxed environment. For more information please visit; <http://www.kesr.org.uk/events/santa-18>



Parent Café



Due to parent and family illness we were not able to run the 'Essential Physical Skills' Café this term, however the power-point that Frances prepared will be put on the school website in the Home Learning section. Please see below for The Parent Café dates for next year:

6th February	Learning and Life Year 9 and Beyond - Introducing our new 'Transition' support for Families Mel/Kirsty
27th March	'Systems' Receptive Language – Julie and Team
15th May	Glyne Gap Signs and Symbols (Core) - Julie and Team
10th July	Benefits Health Check (Y9-Adulthood) Teresa from HARC

As you can see the school are going to be offering additional 'Transition' support for families and pupils from Year 9 and upwards. I will be contacting you in the new year about this, but in the meantime do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries or suggestions about the Cafes, the aim of them is to educate and empower Parents and Carers.

Happy Christmas!

Mel

(melanie.juckes@glynegap.org)

Junior 1—Art Attack!



What a creative term we have had in Junior 1 this Autumn. Every week we have discovered the magical Creative Arts room with Jackie and have loved exploring using our senses in there. When we were learning about the Ancient Egyptians we worked with each other to be wrapped like a mummy, have our face painted and followed instructions to decorate masks and make salt dough jewellery to bury in the sand. In the lead up to Christmas, we have been changing the colour of paint and have made our Christmas decorations by following instructions and choosing what resources and equipment we needed which was glittery fun!



Wrens—making the most of Creative Arts

This term we have been taking part in Jackie's Creative Art sessions where we have had the opportunity to listen to a range of musical instruments and see how they are played. Everyone has had lots of fun exploring the instruments and experimenting with the sounds they can make – some liking loud and fast while others preferring quiet and slow!



Junior 3—Community Learning

Junior 3 pupils have a range of opportunities throughout the school day to develop their skills within the priority areas of learning, which are Communication and PSHE. We recognise how important it is for pupils to transfer the skills that they have acquired in school and home and to develop these further in and across a range of environments and contexts.

Our class has regular community learning sessions to enable pupils to develop their independence, organisational and problem solving skills and to develop their understanding and awareness of keeping themselves safe.

These skills are particularly important for preparing our pupils for later on in life and we believe that teaching them how to use these skills now in real life contexts and situations will enable them to become as independent as possible in the future.



Jack independently packing the shopping away at a self service check-out.



Jacob using a zebra crossing to safely cross the road.

Sean following a check list to buy and pay for shopping independently.

School Council



This term School council have been working hard to update their board. They have all had to work as a team and problem solve when the information on the board didn't stick on. School Council will continue to work on their board and are working on ways to make it accessible to everyone.

School council chose a dressing up theme for children in need. The students had to think about what everyone might like to wear. The students then made posters independently to advertise the theme to all.

Lastly school council students lead a meeting with the Head teacher to talk about what they have been working on since it began and what projects they will be working on in the New Year. There are lots of exciting things to come to continue to make the school better. Watch this space!



Children in Need poster designed by pupils



News from The Faculty

This term we welcomed Joel, Jade, Josh, Leo and Harvey who joined the Faculty community after a period of transition in Term 6. We would like to celebrate Rhiannon for transferring her communication systems home, Harvey for appropriately initiating communication with staff, Eleashia for her work placements, Josh Smith for developing his leadership skills and maturely chairing student council meetings.

We would like to congratulate Danny our Supergoal Superstar! Danny now cooks dinner for his family. Well done Danny you are a role model at The Faculty! We wonder who will be our next Supergoal Superstar.....



Josh Smith and Leo have done superbly well, contributing to their families by baking cakes. They are in the process of transferring this learning home.



Cristian and Brendan have been working hard at Friary Gardeners making mosaic door numbers to sell. Here is the beautiful sign they made for The Faculty.



News from the Communication Team!

Hello Everyone,

Christmas is fast approaching and for most children it can't come soon enough! Here are some signs for you to try with your children to help them understand how long it is until Christmas Day.



3

(Indicate the number of days on your fingers)



more



sleeps until



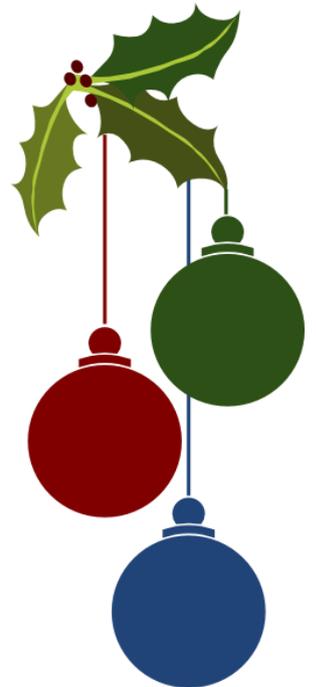
Christmas



On behalf of everyone in the Communication Team, I'd like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Evie Cordell from Senior 3 has made outstanding progress in her communication this term. Evie uses her voice, signs, symbols and the environment to express herself. It takes a lot of hard work to learn to communicate in different ways. Evie has put all this together this term with some social skills too! She has been initiating conversations with her peers and staff, asking for help when needed, using the photos and symbols in the classroom to support her expression and used her voice and signing more effectively too. You should be so proud of yourself Evie. Well done!



And finally...

Happy 2019! We look forward to seeing pupils back in school on Thursday, January 3rd.