

Glyne Gap School

Newsletter Term 3—2023—2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We always like to celebrate pupils' achievements in and outside of school. One of the ways we do this is through our Worker of the Week. Each week at our Friday morning staff briefing, teachers are asked to nominate a pupil who has achieved exceedingly well during the week and talk about their accomplishments. Sometimes there may be more than one nomination which can make the nominations very competitive! The Worker of the Week is then awarded their certificate by the Headteacher in Friday afternoon's assembly – much to the delight of all pupils. This term we have celebrated;

Harrison—for completing his jobs in class and his communication with peers

Oscar— for great transitioning back to school after the Christmas break

Kayden—for his positive attitude to learning

Koa—for initiating communication and beginning to sign without a prompt

Our pupils' learning is always better when we work in partnership with parents and carers. On March 25th, we will be holding our second parents/carers evening of the school year between 5.00pm and 7pm. I know many of you enjoyed meeting with your child's class teacher in September and letters will come out after half term so you can book an appointment for the 25th. These appointments are 10 minutes long and a double appointment could be offered if requested. The Communication Team will also be at the evening to offer support/answer questions. Do have a look at the parent/carers training they offer - it is popular and incredibly helpful.

My most special moment of the term was leading our Celebration of Life assembly for Hollie who passed away in December. Pupils were able to show their care of and love for Hollie and each other. Hollie's presence in school is sorely missed and Finnlay expressed on behalf of all of us at the assembly when he said 'Hollie was my best friend and she will be in my heart forever'.

I hope you stay well in the February half term.

Warm regards,

Kivshy



Violet (J2) using her walking to post Friendship cards in the Valentine's post box.

Dates for your Diary

Pupils return to school

Monday, 19th February

Parent/Carer Coffee

Morning (Café)

Friday, 23rd Feb at 9am

DLWP Cinema Trip

Wednesday, 13th March

Parents/Carers Evening

Monday, March 25th

School will close at 1pm

on the following dates

to facilitate staff

training:

Tuesday, March 12th

Thursday, June 11th

School will close on the

following days (all day)

to enable staff training

Monday, 15th April

Friday, 28th June

Junior 2 - 'Who's afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?'

This term the junior department have been exploring the topic 'Buildings'. Pupils have experienced different materials to build including: Lego, blocks, bricks, straw, mud and boxes. A favourite activity was building a large tower of blocks and knocking it down.

Junior 2 participated in a drama lesson about 'The three little pigs'. They have had the opportunity to play the different pigs in the story and choose materials to build a house. Pupils all enjoyed playing the big bad wolf, exploring different ways to create a big 'puff' to blow the house down!

Junior 2 visited different structures in the community including the De La Warr, Manor Barn and buildings at Ravenside. Pupils' favourite place was under the railway bridge listening to the echoes and the trains passing by.



S3—Learning the Importance of Hobbies

This term, Senior 3 have been looking at Hobbies. We have been able to experience a range of different activities including aqua aerobics, weaving and boccia. As its been a cold term we have also been making our friends hot chocolate—following symbolised instructions and then having a chat with each other about all the things we like to do during our free time. We have also been thinking about Chinese New Year and learning some traditional Chinese dancing, Chinese food at the Senior Banquet and creating some Chinese calligraphy of our animal within the Chinese zodiac.



Ella-May and Finn expressing what they like in the playground and thinking about what they wanted more of at playtime.



School Council— Speaking Up for Pupils

School Council met this term to discuss 'How to make playtime better'. Pupils expressed they liked the slide, stage, playing with sticks and the 'Butlins' game. They also requested more chalks for the playground (which have been purchased). This was productive and engaging session for pupils who really had strong opinions of what they liked/ didn't like. Thank you Finn, Ella-May, Niamh and Rogan for your valued contribution to this term's Council.

Message from the Chair of Governors



I meet with Kirsty termly, and as required, to discuss strategic issues. Our current focus has been the possibility of Glyne Gap School joining a multi-academy trust – Torfield and Saxon Mount Academy Trust (TaSMAT). Kirsty and I are meeting termly with TaSMAT to investigate possibilities and governors continue to explore the strategic path ahead for Glyne Gap School.

As always, if you need to get in touch please email me at: Sylvia.lamb@glynegap.org.

Best wishes,

Sylvia Lamb

No Problem too big for Senior 1!

Senior 1 have been thinking about the Key Skills of Independence, and Thinking and Problem Solving as they complete a range of functional jobs in school and in the community.

Functional jobs have included shopping for cooking ingredients, tidying the classroom, sorting clothes into different categories and putting the dinner tables away.



Howzat! Seniors 1,2 and 3 Not Out!

Seniors have been working on key skills to play a game of cricket this term. The focus started with target practice, fielding and bowling. Pupils are learning to stand correctly, working on hand to eye co-ordination, anticipating when to strike the ball and to bowl at the stumps to get the opposing team out! Pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the game and really embraced this team sport.



Go Evie! (FE2)

Since September Evie has been learning the route to walk to College from home and back again at the end of the day (approximate distance of 0.4 miles). To do this Mum and staff have shared the responsibility to support and then shadowed this learning. Last week Evie progressed to walking this route independently. Evie is very proud of this achievement, as are we!



Evie walking independently to college

Super Strong Skylarks

We are working hard on our physical skills at school. From using a walker, to being in a new stander, practicing hand function skills to building stamina....it's all going on in Skylarks!

Across our week, pupils are building up various physical skills in order to be as independent and healthy as possible. Edward has been making superb progress in his walker, working on taking reciprocal steps to move along. Elda has a new stander which she is very motivated by. Jayden uses his mobile stander to participate in a range of activities and has achieved his goal of independently controlling his descent on particular ramps inside school. Ava, Lawan, Lydia and Harlie are working hard to build up their stamina and balance in soft play, PE, activities in the MUGA and during our playground session. Dantae has excelled in his physio sessions and is showing great determination with his walking in the MUGA when playing with the ball.



Nursery - Discovering, Exploring and Sharing



Beatrice is having fun with friends learning to use tools to scoop sand and fill her bucket to make 'potions'!



Jude can focus for a period of time—he is working out how to make the scales balance

Noah can independently get himself in the tyre swing and work out how to push with his feet to make himself swing.



Ronnie shows interest in the environment and notices when there are new things.

Here's something
for you to try at
home.....

Hello Everyone!

Key Vocabulary for Play

Whether you are in Nursery playing in the mud kitchen, on the playground sharing some toys or at the faculty sharing the Xbox, it's really important to learn what the following key words mean in order to play with your friends and family successfully. You could try using these signs at home when your child is playing, to help them to understand sharing and turn taking - which can be tricky concepts to learn!



The sign for 'play'
flat hands move in a
spiral movement up
and out'

The sign for 'share'
flat hands move back-
wards and forwards
alternately



The sign for 'turn taking'.

Photo 1 shows how you start the sign. Then turn one hand over to indicate someone's turn whilst saying for example 'it's my turn' move your hand back. Do the same movement with the other hand whilst saying 'then your turn' move your hand back again.

What stars you are...

This term we are celebrating our amazing Seniors



Harvey in Senior 3 has been doing brilliant work recently; he has been problem solving - trying to complete his timetable, searching his symbols pots to find the correct one and making sure it said the right thing. He has been using his voice more to express his wants and needs and to share his thoughts.

He has also been working hard on his receptive communication - acting on independent jobs within the school community.



Well done Harvey—we are all proud of you!