



Glyne Gap School

Newsletter Term 3—2023—2024



Eight chicks hatched in school this term. This term's topic has been 'Growing and Changing' and pupils have really engaged in watching the development from eggs to very chirpy chicks! Here you can see Harlie (Skylarks) enjoying the experience.

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

World Book Day took place on 7th March and pupils joined in by wearing PJs to school for the day and snuggling down with a book! Activities around school included storytelling and sensory stories, book buddy time and yoga stories. Enjoying a book or a story is for everyone and some of our school favourites are listed overleaf - perhaps you might like to snuggle down with your child and one of these?

On May 15th, Sarah (Assistant Head) will be leading our Parent Forum meeting and talking about the bridge between communication and reading, what reading looks like for pupils at Glyne Gap and how we support those pupils who have emerging phonic and word recognition skills. The forum starts at 10am - do let Veronique know if you plan to come.

The Communication Team continue to deliver a number of parent/carer workshops with a focus on understanding and supporting your child's communication skills at home. Next term we will be holding 3 workshops;

- Creating opportunities Workshop—24th April 10—12noon
- Receptive 2 Workshop—8th May 10—12 noon
- Drop in Resources making workshop—22nd May 10—12noon

Full details of the workshops can be found on the Home page of our web-site (click-through). Do come if you can - there is always a cuppa and a treat from David in the kitchen on offer.

We are days away from the Easter break and (hopefully) some Spring sunshine....enjoy both.

I look forward to seeing pupils back in school on Tuesday, 16th April.

Kirsty

Dates for your Diary

Pupils return to school on Tuesday, 16th April

15th May
Parent's Forum 10am

4th June (am)
Mums/Carers Tea Party
More info. to follow

11th June
School (all sites) closed at 1pm to allow for staff training

28th June—School closure day—to enable staff training

Seagulls—Soaring High!

Pupils in Seagulls are always working hard to be as independent as possible. Pupils are given lots of opportunities to practice and build on skills related to the areas of; Eating and Drinking, Problem solving and Personal Autonomy. Rodi and Mario have both become independent in feeding themselves this term and Reggie can remember to take his bowl when requesting another snack. Koa has learnt to scrape his plate when finished eating and to transition independently around school. Lola is self-occupying in her play and showing anticipation! We are very proud of the progress our pupils are making, Well done Seagulls!



Busy Hands in Wrens!

Wrens have been taking part in a new session in class over the past couple of terms to support our readiness for learning and sensory regulation. Every day after circle time we have our Busy Hands session to help us prepare for our snack time. We take part in a variety of activities including playdough, peg boards, wooden puzzle toys and cutting skills. These activities help us to feel calm, develop our fine motor skills and gives some of us the sensory exploration and feedback we need before using our hands to eat our snacks.



Lexi-Rose uses her pincer grip to pinch and roll playdough



Lara loves to thread the beads over the loops.



Kayden's favourite activity is pushing the wooden cylinders through the holes, he even matches the colours independently!



As we know, children are now more digitally savvy than ever before. Research shows that children are moving away from watching TV, opting for video-on-demand content on video-sharing platforms to watch cartoons, mini movies and songs. It can be a worrying area for parents/carers to manage and to know what their child has access to when they are on their tablets or phones. You may find the following link useful in keeping your child safe online:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe/>

Visiting the Barbers

Harvey in FE3 visited the barbers in Bexhill College this term. Before his appointment he looked at male hairstyle images and selected some pictures to take with him. Harvey used his communication systems really well with his barber and tolerated having his hair cut without needing to take a break. Well done Harvey, we love your new hairdo.



Junior 4—Learning Key Skills through their Café

Junior 4 pupils have been working hard in their new 'Snack-time Café' this term.

We have set up our classroom to 'reflect' a café environment. This promotes opportunities for pupils to experience and practice ordering snacks and drinks in the same way they would in a real café or restaurant.

Pupils are learning to organise themselves, to make and express choices, to be independent, to take turns in a queue and to problem solve, e.g. how do we carry our bowl and book back to the table.

This is a great way of preparing pupils for community learning and transferring the skills they have learnt, now and in the future.



World Book Day

The school celebrated World Book Day by dressing down in pyjamas and dedicating a whole day to books! Teachers highlighted their favourite books for pupils:
 Aliens Love Smelly Jelly by Tony Mitton
 Kitchen Disco and Bathroom Boogie by Clare Foges
 You Choose by Pippa Goodhart
 Dinosaur Poo by Diane and Christyan Fox



Visitors to School!

This term's topic in the Junior department is 'Growing and Changing'. Pupils have been observing eggs that have now hatched into chicks(8). Pupils have really engaged in all aspects of this experience from watching the hatching process, to cleaning, feeding and making sure the chicks have fresh water very day. The chicks have had lots of visits from different classes. Here you can see Tiger, Ava and Violet enjoying their time with our visitors.



Celebrating Mums and Carers

This term, the Junior department organised a special Mother's Day event, inviting parents and carers into school for an afternoon of tea and cake. Pupils in Junior 3 prepared a shopping list and then visited the community to shop for the event. As a 'thank you' gift for mums/carers, we decorated plant pots and planted some seeds in them. The event was a huge success and allowed an opportunity for pupils to see their parents/carers in school, develop friendships with pupils in other classes and help to organise and participate in an event!



Senior 2—Working Hard to Succeed!

Pupils in Senior 2 have been working really hard on their goals this term and have been making some excellent progress:



Oliver (left) can independently drive the platform, using 4 switches, forward, left, right and reverse.



Elliott can collect the dinner trolley and plates from the hall every day.



Billy (left) can get Kerry's attention by tapping her arm when he wants more pudding, and then sign 'more'.

Hello Everyone,

We all have things that we really like doing, such as watching sport, putting your feet up with a cuppa or reading your favourite book. But there's also things we're not so keen to do like the ironing, cleaning the oven or emptying the dishwasher! We understand that this is part of everyday life but this can be tricky for our children and young people to accept!

Something for you to try at home.....

If your child appears reluctant to do something they're not so keen on you can support them by breaking the activity down and interspersing it with something they really like, telling them using simple language. For example if your child wants to play in the bath and really doesn't want to wash, you could say "now wash, next bath toys" You can use this strategy for all sorts of tasks, here's a few examples:

Meal times — "Now dinner, next play"

Getting ready ~ "Now getting dressed, next iPad"

Going out ~ "Now Tesco's, next park"

Sharing/taking turns ~ "Now Dad's turn, next your turn"

Hands move down
in short sharp
movement



now

Hand faces
down with
thumb out
then turns



next

You could use these signs to support your speech as well as pointing to objects or pictures. For example, you could say "Now (sign) lunch" (point to their plate) "next (sign) garden" (point outside).

Good Luck!



What stars you are...
This term we are celebrating our amazing
Nursery pupils



Noah started off using PECs and has flown with it and has now moved on to a communication book to support his amazing receptive and expressive communication.



Jude has been showing off some amazing skills at nursery with communication and his friendship skills, earning himself the Worker of the Week award earlier this term!

