

Glyne Gap School

Newsletter — Term 4, 2023

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends...

At school, pupils work exceptionally hard over terms and weeks to learn skills that may come more easily to other children. You'll see evidence of that in this newsletter. As a parent, I sometimes needed 'reminders' about what this hard work for my son (and me!) was leading to. If you sometimes find yourself in that position, read on...

Attending Prom has become a rite of passage for young people. Whether they do that on leaving school or leaving college, a fabulous venue, sophisticated suits and dazzling dresses are all part of it and it should to be an evening that students are going to remember long beyond their years at school. Glyne Gap Faculty holds a Prom every 3 years so all students have an opportunity to attend when they are part of the Facultyand the one held earlier this month was absolutely an evening to remember. The venue was spectacular - Herstmonceux Castle! - and students dressed to match the venue. I was so impressed by the maturity shown by all students; they planned outfits and accepted wearing different clothes, they ordered drinks at the bar and sat with friends to enjoy them, some organised flowers for Prom dates and all enjoyed the live music. Do see the photographs later in this newsletter... and start thinking about your child's Prom night now! Your expectation that they will ask for a drink/snack now may one day translate into ordering that drink at the bar!

In last term's newsletter, you will have read about Reece and his work (as part of his Supported Internship) with the charity Warming Up The Homeless where he has been working in the kitchen. I am exceptionally proud of Reece when I share that Reece has just signed a permanent contract with the charity who have offered him part-time paid work. Reece leaves Glyne Gap at the end of this school year and is our first student to have gone all the way through the school (Nursery to Faculty) and then leave to paid employment...what an achievement! We know this path won't be the path for all our pupils but we also wouldn't have predicted that this would have been Reece's path when he was in the infants. Reece's success reminds us of what can be possible over time given the highest expectations at school and home, hard work (from family, school staff and pupils)...and by aiming high/taking some risks. Well done Reece.

The Easter Holidays are upon us and I hope the sun comes out - particularly for those pupils and staff attending Holiday Club. Please do note down the diary dates as there are a number this term....and a couple to add including Sports Day!

I look forward to seeing you in school soon.

Kivshy



Finn enjoying the ducklings!

Dates for your Diary

**King's Coronation
Bank Holiday**
8th May

Half Term
29th May—2nd June

Parent Forum
6th June 10am —12pm
(subject TBC)

**All pupils going home at
1pm to allow for Staff
Training**
14th June

School Closure Day
30th June

Please note: The school has
1 further training day this
school year—TBA

Senior 2—Working Hard on Looking and Feeling Great!

Senior 2 have been working hard on their visits to the 'Class Spa' this term. Our Spa Story gives pupils the opportunity to use their skills that they have developed across the curriculum, particularly communication, ICT switch skills and PSHE (personal care, personal learning and personal autonomy). Although enjoying the pampering there has been lots of hard work happening during our sessions. Pupils have worked hard on their communication, choosing what treatment they would like and giving us their consent by telling us "yes" or "no" to treatments. Pupils have also been telling us if they would like "more" or "finished" and showing us a preference to activities. We have been using ICT within these sessions to practice our ICT and switch work, turning the foot warmer and vibrating mat on and turning the foot spas on and off. It's also a good time to practice skills like hair styling, washing our hands, having our nails done, having our faces cleaned and a face mask on. Well done Senior 2!



Diyar, Derry and Bailey
enjoying 'Class Spa'



Red Nose Day

We had some great outfits this year and defied the rain to go on a whole school conga around school. We had a visit from Red Nose itself, which always causes a lot of excitement, particularly with our younger pupils. A great day of activities and fun, raising money for some very good causes.



Pupils and Staff gathering in the hall for the Conga around school



Green Fingered Volunteers Needed!

Do you enjoy gardening? Could you spare an hour a week to spruce up our outdoor spaces?

We are looking for volunteers to tidy up our green spaces around school/ The Faculty. Please contact the school office if you would be interested. Thank you.



It's a Try!

This term Seniors and Juniors have been brushing up on their rugby skills. Senior 2 have really enjoyed learning to hold on to the ball while going fast, dropping the ball for a touch down and working on their kicking skills for a try. All pupils have really engaged with, and had so much fun, discovering this amazing game.



Junior 3—Learning About Our Bodies

Junior 3 have been learning about the human body as part of their 'My Body' topic this term. As part of their creative development, pupils have participated in weekly art sessions/ We've made hand printed mother's day cards, body parts made out of dried pasta and life-size silhouettes of pupils.

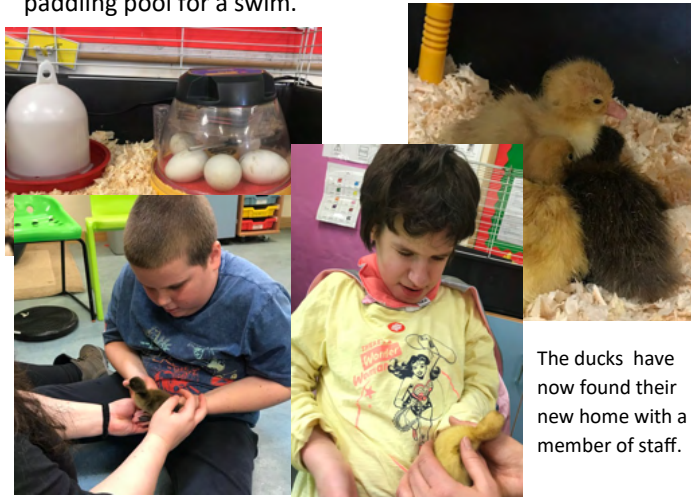
Here you can see some of the children creating portraits of a friend or teacher using a medium of their choice - including playdough, paint and coloured crayons and pens.



Jojo, Scarlett and Grace creating portraits

Lucky Ducks!

Senior 1 have really enjoyed learning about the life cycle of a duck, from observing eggs to watching them hatch and grow. Pupils have been cleaning them out, checking they have fresh water, handling them and taking them to the paddling pool for a swim.



The ducks have now found their new home with a member of staff.

A trip to the Communication Café for Seagulls and Penguins

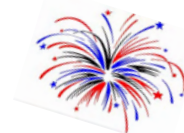
Our Communication Cafe gives pupils opportunities to build and consolidate their skills in an environment that has been created to reflect a café that you would see in the community. Pupils are able to see what snacks/treats and drinks are available by looking at the menu's or at the counter and are encouraged to make and communicate their choices using a range of methods available to them, e.g. choice boards/menu, communication and PECS books.

Our Café promotes independence and problem solving; pupils are expected to queue in the line, wait their turn and solve any issues that may occur, such as how to carry their bowl and book back to the table or who to ask for their snack/drink. Well done Seagulls (and Penguins!)



Oh What a Night!

The Faculty's Prom was the one to beat this year, what a location! Herstmonceaux Castle proved an amazing backdrop to a fabulous night of fun at this year's Prom. Faculty students danced the night away, Bexhill 100 arrived with some cars for added 'glamour' and students stole the night with their amazing outfits. There were two bands, Karaoke and DJ Coxy polished the night off and had everyone on the dance floor. Memories that will last a long time..... Thank you to all the parents and carers who dropped/picked up and soaked a bit of the atmosphere up, it was great to have you there too!



COMMUNICATION TEAM

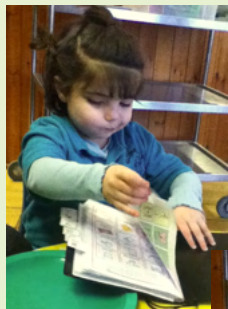
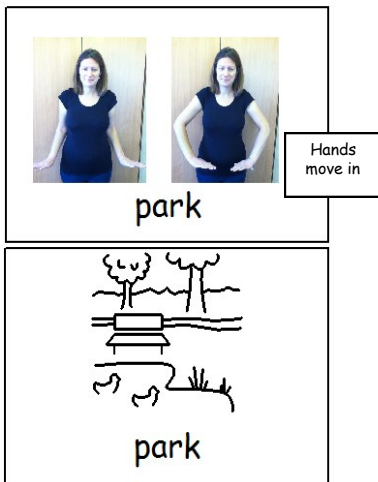
News and Information — March, 2023

Hello Everyone,

This term the Communication Team would like to share some signs & symbols that you may want to use with your child now & over the coming weeks. With the Easter Holidays just around the corner & the promise of Spring in the air it is a time of year that we can begin to really enjoy the outdoors again. These signs & symbols reflect some of the places you can go to with your family, come rain or shine!

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

These signs and symbols could be used to give your child a choice about where they would like to go or to give your child information about where you are going. To do this simply cut the symbols out and offer 2 options at a time or show them the place you are going to.



Communication Stars

The Communication Team would like to celebrate some of our pupils in the Nursery who have been working hard to become effective communicators. Reggie and Ava are all making great progress in their early communication skills such as gaining attention, social looking and persistence. They are both beginning to make choices using their communication systems



Fantastic work !