

# Glyne Gap School

Newsletter — Term 5, 2023

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends...

Term 5 has been a busy one (and slightly shorter due to Bank Holidays and Staff Training days)...pupils and students seem to have fitted in the same amount of learning and activity as a longer term and this newsletter highlights what they have been up to. I am particularly proud of our pupils in Penguins class; taking responsibility for their personal care at a young age is a terrific achievement.

I often end my newsletter item by saying 'I look forward to seeing you in school soon' so I thought I would remind you of the opportunities available for you to be involved in school life.

- The Annual Review meeting for your child. This is an opportunity to share what is going well for your child at home and school and discuss how we can work together to build on that. We also review your child's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) at this meeting.
- Parents/Carers Evening. These are held twice a year and give you a time to talk to your child's teacher and visit the classroom. Our next one will be in September.
- Parent/Carer Forums. These happen 3 times a year and give you an opportunity to discuss key elements of school practice/development and give your valued feedback to me and key staff. The next Forum is on 27th June (note new date).
- Parent/Carer training led by the Communication Team. Many parents/carers enjoy and learn from these workshops which take place throughout the school year. The team will be hosting a drop in Resource Making Workshop on Wednesday, 28th June from 10—12noon. In September we will also be hosting a series of Triple P workshops focussed on positive parenting to support and manage behaviour - booking information for this will come out after half term.
- A number of parents/carers collect their children from school and on Fridays will often come earlier to join school assembly and celebrate the Worker of the Week. This is an open invite to any family members who would like to attend. Assembly starts at 2.20pm - just turn up!
- Offer to volunteer at the school. Mike (our site manager) always welcomes volunteers to support work on the grounds on a Tuesday morning between 9.30am — 11am. In addition, we welcome volunteers to support classroom life - do contact Veronique in the school office if you are interested.
- Join an out of school activity - Next term the School Office Team will be hosting Mums and Carers at Ashburnham Place for tea and cake at 10am on Tuesday, June 13th. Call the office to book your place.

We also have Family Day on Saturday, June 24th from 10am — 2 pm This an opportunity for families to come to school and benefit from school facilities - put the date in your diary.

So.... I look forward to seeing you in school soon! Enjoy the half term week!

Kivshy



Isobel enjoying celebrations!

## Dates for your Diary

### Parent Forum

27th June

'Developing Our School'

### Mums and Carers Coffee Morning

June 13th 10am—  
11.30am (Ashburnham)

### All pupils going home at 1pm to allow for Staff Training

14th June

### School Closure Day (staff INSET day)

30th June

### Sports Day

Wednesday, 12th July

### Achievers Assembly

Tuesday, 18th July

## Skylarks are Set for Summer!



Our topic this term is Summer. Our sensory story is Handa's Surprise. In this story Handa has lots of different fruits in her basket. We've started exploring a different fruit each week. We feel it, smell it, taste it and think about whether we like it or not. We've used our fruits to make fruity prints! In cooking we have been making banana and strawberry smoothies. We have to cut up our fruit and use the blender to make our smoothies! In PE we have played different games that you might find at a Summer Fayre.....our favourite game is a take on a coconut shy!

## Penguins—Learning Life Skills

Pupils in Penguins are always working hard to be as independent as possible. PSHE is a key element of our teaching and learning where pupils are given lots of opportunities to develop and practice new skills related to the areas of; Eating and Drinking, Personal Presentation, Hygiene and Safety. We are very proud of the progress our pupils are making and the determination they have shown to get there. Well done Penguins!



Arwen and Jennifer learning how to brush their own hair.



Larkin can put his own shoes on. Kellise can now drink from an open cup.



## Message from the Chair of Governors



The Board of Governors are always proactive in looking at ways we can support the school as well as monitor it's progress. Governors are responsible for holding the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team to account in making sure pupils are learning as well as they can in school.

I am delighted to advise that Governors have enlisted the support of an independent professional advisor to assist us in this role. Rachel Burstow is Headteacher of an Outstanding special school near Brighton. She has made three comprehensive visits to school this year to conduct Teaching and Learning monitoring visits. During these visits Rachel has gone into every class, observing and monitoring what she sees and reporting her observations back to Governors. Rachel's reports to Governors following these visits have been very complimentary, constructive and affirming of school practice.

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

Best wishes,

Sylvia Lamb

## Nursery—Small Steps—Big Impact!

Look what we've been learning in Nursery this term



Ronnie is able to sit on his chair at snack time and look to make his choice from two options .



Reggie has been working very hard on his PECS. Reggie can now exchange a photo with an adult to request an item at snack time.

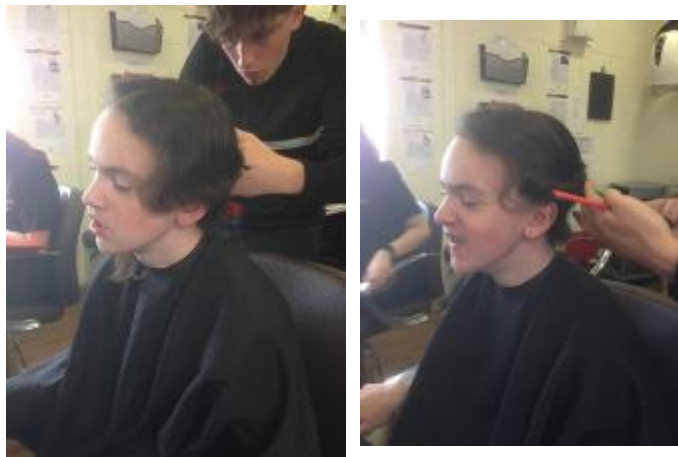


Ava has worked extremely hard on maintaining her balance and working her core muscles. Ava can problem solve and work out how to get around the gate and is independently walking around the nursery.



## Looking Good, Feeling Great at The Faculty

Since being at college, Harvey has worked hard on taking more responsibility for his personal care – something that he is really proud of. This week Harvey visited the hairdresser at college and had his hair cut and is getting used to not having his ponytail anymore!



## Growing Gardeners Senior 3

Senior 3 have been planting sunflower seeds and tracking their growth. We have explored the wild garden and re-potted some mint. We took some photos of flowers in our garden areas and explored different way of growing flowers, fruit and vegetables with or without a garden.



## The King's Coronation



What a wonderful day we had celebrating the King's Coronation. The school was decorated with vast amounts of bunting and flags. All classes gathered in the hall at lunch time and enjoyed lunch under a Union Jack in the hall. The national anthem was sung and after David had served 'take-away' style fish and chips followed by jelly and home made biscuits pupils went outside to enjoy a 'fete' style afternoon on the playground. The weather was kind and the music was great, all in all a really great celebration.









# COMMUNICATION TEAM

News and Information — May, 2023

Hello Everyone,

Since the start of term 5, the Communication Team have been busy bees working hard to support pupils and class teams with their communication. Pippa and myself have been making lots of resources to ensure that pupils have systems in place to enable them to express themselves and to understand what is happening. We are also working with some individual pupils and some small focused groups to develop their communication and independence skills further and we are excited to see great progress already.

This term's 'word of the week' focus has been around 'food'. We would like to share a few key food related places & meals with you, some of which are particularly relevant at this time of year.

	<p><u>BBQ</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Wiggle hands upwards</li><li>2. Make a 'V' shaped down-ward movement</li></ol>		<p><u>Cafe</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Sign holding a cup &amp; saucer</li><li>2. Make a down-ward movement with both hands</li></ol>	
 <b>Barbeque</b>	I	 <b>Cafe</b>	<p><u>Picnic</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Move both hands towards body in rotation</li><li>2. Move hand forwards, away from body</li></ol>	 <b>Picnic</b>

## *Something to remember.....*

Meal & snack times can be a great opportunity for your child to develop a number of key skills in their priority learning areas of communication and independence.

They provide opportunities for your child to practice some of the following skills:

Turn taking, social interactions, following instructions, waiting, life skills, choice making and use of their expressing and receptive language

## *Tips for creating opportunities at meal & snack times...*

- ◇ Encourage your child to ask for food/drink items where possible
- ◇ Encourage your child to ask for 'more' and to indicate when they have 'finished'
- ◇ Give them opportunities to be as independent as possible, i.e. feeding themselves and making choices
  - ◇ Include them in social 'chit chat'

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

Rebecca - The Communication Team

## **Our Super Star this term is Ezra from Seagulls class!**



A PECS book

Ezra has made great progress using his PECs book and has just picked up the new skill of travelling (which involves taking the picture of an item and giving it to a member of staff in exchange for the actual item) in less than 10 minutes! We will carry on working on this over the term to consolidate the new skill using different people, items and environments.



Well done Ezra!