



Glyne Gap School

Newsletter Term 1—2024—2025

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends,

Every Friday afternoon we come together in our hall for assembly. We share stories that help us understand our values of respect, kindness and teamwork..... and then we find out who is 'Worker of the Week'!

This award goes to the pupil who has excelled in their learning and has been a role model to others in some of our key skills such as communication, friendship and independence. Pupils (and staff) thoroughly enjoy this part of assembly as excitement grows in finding out who it might be and what they've specifically done that week to merit this award. This term our Workers of the Week have included Lawan (Puffins class) for using his now/next at school and at home to grow his independence and Ruben (Senior 3 class) for using his knife and fork. Jack (Junior 2 class) has also made life changing progress in using the toilet. Sometimes we have two Workers of the Week and this is a reflection of how very hard your children work and what they achieve.

Governors have this term completed their analysis of the Quality of Education at Glyne Gap over 2023/24. This includes looking at pupil progress. Pupil progress at Glyne Gap is measured in a variety of ways including how well the pupil has been achieving within their termly goals, the school's view of progress and the view of parents/carers. The headline I want to share is:

61% of pupils at Glyne Gap School are making outstanding progress with a further 38% making good progress.

The learning this progress represents is certainly something to celebrate and I am extremely proud of all pupils' achievements. I hope you are proud of your child's achievements.

We continue to work in partnership with parents and carers to support pupils to work towards and achieve their 'Supergoal'. I am delighted to advise that last year 39 pupils made transformational progress through achieving their Supergoal. If you do not know your child's 'Supergoal', or want to discuss how to support your child to achieve it, please talk to your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support this term. I will write to you again next term to share the information from our parent/carer survey and what we will be doing as a response to that as we continue to develop our school.

I do hope you enjoy the October break and I look forward to seeing pupils back in school on Tuesday, 5th November ready for the challenges, opportunities and fun of term 2.

Kivshy



Finn and Isobel enjoying the bald headed eagle and owl.

Dates for your Diary

School (all sites) closed due to staff training:

Monday, 4th November

Friday, 29th November

Christmas Break:
Friday, 20th December (1pm) - Monday, 6th January

Birds of Prey Experience

The Junior department had a visit from a variety of birds of prey this term as part of their Woodland topic. Here you can see Isabelle and Finn engaged in this experience. Birds included a bald headed eagle, a tawny owl and a harris hawk. Pupils have also been exploring the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, creating artwork with natural materials and enjoying our new outdoor classroom (located in the Wild Garden) in all weathers!



Lilly — Showing Who's in Charge!



Lilly uses a range of switches to access her learning throughout the day at school. She celebrated her birthday at the beginning of term by blowing out her birthday candles by pressing a hand switch to activate the fan.



This term Lilly is learning to move the mobility platform by trialing a head switch. She has worked very hard on this skill and is moving the platform forward independently. As you can see from her smile, Lilly loves this activity. Lilly was awarded 'Worker of the Week' for all her efforts. Go Lilly!

Knowing Me, Knowing You

FE1 have started off the academic year with a topic called 'Knowing Me Knowing You'. Students have been exploring what makes them happy, sharing this with their friends, and trying new experiences.

Sofia loves to be outside listening to the trees and being in nature. She shared this with her friends and as a class we all visited Hampden Park. The class had a great time and loved watching all the wildlife.



Spoooky Sensory Sessions in Senior 2

Pupils in Senior 2 have been on a Halloween themed sensory journey! Pupils have been exploring all kinds of textures and smells in their sensory sessions including zombie brains (jelly), worms (spaghetti) and 'slime' (orb beads). They have also been doing some pumpkin carving, including taking out all the mushy bits inside! Pupils explored all materials and used their communication to express if they wanted 'more' or to 'finish'. Here you can see Mia, Isabelle, Oliver and Isobel all engaging in their spooktacular activities!



Seniors—Movers and Shakers

Since joining the Senior Department this term, Senior 1 have loved taking the opportunity to join in with twice weekly Senior Department integration sessions. These afternoons provide a time and space for pupils to develop their friendship skills with both classmates and friends in other classes through art, games and creativity. Communication skills have also progressed as pupils have begun to communicate with less familiar adults and their new



Pupils enjoying their 'Autumn' themed craft integration sessions.

Safeguarding

Hello! My name is Jayne Gosling and I'm the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) at Glynegap School. It was great to meet so many of you at the school's recent Parent/Carers Evening.



As we all know, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns, no matter how small they may feel, please give me a call and I will be happy to help. I can be contacted by email at: jayne.gosling@glynegap.org or directly by telephone at school on: tel: 01424 217720.

Best wishes,
Jayne

Autumn Fun In Robins

Robins have been exploring the great outdoors this term working together and independently to discover the joys of Autumn. We have loved being out in in the wild garden, taking part in Autumn Scavenger Hunts and sharing this term's story 'Were Going On A Bear Hunt'.

We found lots of colourful leaves that were perfect for our Autumn art lessons back in class and some of us created our own works of art outside with thick oozy mud!

Exploring Autumn foods has been lots of fun, we have used our senses to taste, feel and smell different foods including blackberries and pumpkins. We worked together to make blackberry smoothies using a blender and had fun squishing blackberries to paint with. We also baked our own hedgehog biscuits by following a recipe together and then melting chocolate to drizzle on top.

Circle Time Excitement at Nursery!

This term in nursery we have been enjoying Bucket Circle Time. Pupils have loved anticipating what will come out of the bucket, they have been practicing their "waiting" for their turn and accepting when the toy has "finished". This helps to focus attention on the leading adult and helps to gain shared attention with simple repetitive language by an adult alongside a 'catchy' song to sing along too.



News from the Communication Team!

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:

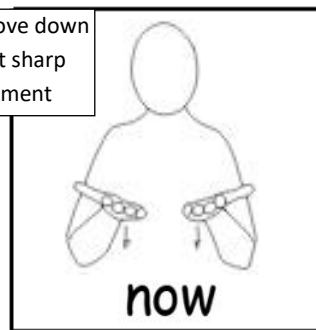
Meal times — 'Now dinner, next play'

Getting ready ~ 'Now getting dressed, next iPad'

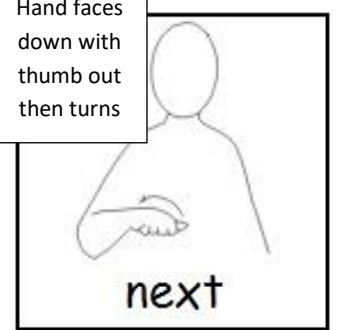
Going out ~ 'Now Tesco, next park'

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

Hands move down
in short sharp
movement



Hand faces
down with
thumb out
then turns



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!

By keeping your language simple it helps your child focus on the important words—don't forget to allow some time to process what you have said too.



What stars you are...

This term we are celebrating our amazing pupils for coming back after the summer break and maintaining their skills!



We have been amazed at how many of our pupils manage to remember all their skills on their return to school after the 6 week break. There has been a lot of change in school and for children to transfer all their skills into new classrooms and with new staff is incredible! Here's 2 of our superstars...



Lydia has moved to a different class with a different teacher and staff and has still managed to maintain her amazing PECs skills! She's even earned herself a worker of the week award already this term. Go Lydia!



Edward has impressed his teachers by working really hard on making a clear choice between 2 objects. Keep it up Edward!