

COMMUNITIES & EDUCATION DIRECTORATE
Executive Director (Interim): Caroline Amos
Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE
Tel: 01294 310000 www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk



Kirk Vennel, Irvine KA12 0DQ

Tel: 01294 271587

E-Mail: glebe@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk

Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/glebeprimaryschool>

January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to 2022!

It's been a challenging start to 2022 at Glebe Primary with many staff and families isolating at the start of the new term, however today I am pleased to announce almost all staff are back at work safe and well. We hope, as the month progresses and restrictions are lifted, we are able to return to some kind of normal; albeit a new normal. We will keep you updated on changes if and when school restrictions are amended.

Staffing

- I'm sure your children have been very excited to tell you all about our new DHT Mr Gordon Wilson. He has quickly established himself with staff and pupils, spending time in every class at the school.
- We also welcome Mr M Rogerson and Mrs C Lamb, classroom assistants funded via the Pupil Equity Fund. Additional support staff means we are able to support pupil attainment and wellbeing as well as facilitate break and lunch time wellbeing and sport activities.
- We welcome our 3 Post Graduate in Education students to P4C, P6S and P7E; we hope they enjoy their time at Glebe.
- We have restructured our Recovery timetables and Non Class Contact timetables in the absence of Mrs Law and Mrs McAdam who retired in December. Mrs McGuigan and Mrs Harris will take on those remits.
- We are pleased to welcome back Mrs E Gall who has returned to P6G after some time off.

Contact Details and Emergency Contact Details

Please contact the school if your emergency contact details have changed. It's important we have the correct information in case of emergencies. In the last few weeks we have had difficulty reaching parents/carers in emergencies, which caused real distress to the children involved.

Please also contact us if you change your address, mobile number or email as this is our main form of communication. If we have the wrong details we are unable to keep you informed about what's happening in school.

Outdoor Learning/Outdoor Activities

The children are really enjoying the experiences from Operations Play Outdoors, which we have funded from the Pupil Equity Fund. So far they have all participated in Den Building and Loose Parts Play, next week we welcome the instructor back to do Forest Schools. The office will text class dates later in the week. Children should wear suitable clothes for working outdoors.

Sharing Success

At present we are still not able to mix pupils indoors therefore we can't do assemblies. We tried whole school assemblies over Teams however it wasn't possible due to the poor internet connection.

We still want to celebrate the children's success out of school. If your child has something to celebrate please contact the school email to share this with us. We will then get their picture taken for the Wings Achievement Wall and celebrate their success.

Attendance

As you can imagine attendance has become a real concern due to the pandemic. It's important that we strongly encourage good attendance going forward as children have missed so much school in the last two years.

- 95% attendance equates to 9 days or 2 weeks missed education in one school year, around 40 lessons missed
- 90% attendance equates to 18 days or 4 weeks missed education in one school year, around 80 lessons missed

Children will most likely have gaps in learning

- 85% attendance equates to 27 days or 6 weeks missed education in one school year, around 120 lessons missed
- 80% attendance equates to 36 days or 8 weeks missed education in one school year, around 160 lessons missed

Children will have gaps in learning and may have difficulty catching up

- 75% attendance equates to 45 days or 10 weeks missed education in one school year, around 200 lessons missed
- 70% attendance equates to 54 days or 12 weeks missed education in one school year, around 240 lessons missed
- 60% attendance equates to 72 days or 14 weeks missed education in one school year, around 320 lessons missed

Children will have many gaps in learning and need extensive school supports and interventions to catch up

When attendance drops to 80%-over 5 years a child will lose a year of education

For children every day at school is like getting a piece of a jigsaw puzzle. The more pieces they have the easier it is to see the whole picture. We plan learning opportunities that build on previous activities and understanding, therefore every day is as important as the previous day or the next day. The more time your child spends in school, the better your child's attainment will be.

At present Glebe has 157 children below 95% attendance (more than half the school) and 75 children below 90% attendance. We understand there are genuine reasons for some absences however we hope highlighting the above might discourage families from taking unnecessary time off.

Burns Certificate Winners

Thank you for helping your child practice their Burns or Scotland poem/song. Miss McNair has kindly put together a montage of the winners which will be shared with you this week.

Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to the class winners.

Parking

Dangerous parking continues to be a concern at Glebe Primary. Police Scotland have attended and spoken to motorists in the last few weeks. Where possible, please continue to 'Park & Stride' away from the school.

PTA/PC Zoom Meeting

Mr Wilson will be attending this week's PTA/PC zoom meeting with myself, we hope to see many of you attend this Thursday 27th January at 6pm. Please contact the PTA/PC for the joining details.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs. McNeil and everyone at Glebe Primary

E McNeil
Head Teacher
Glebe Primary School