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GLEBE PRIMARY

October 2022 Newsletter



CREATIVITY

KINDNESS

RESPONSIBILITY

RESPECT

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been a very quick 6 weeks since our return in August, I can hardly believe it is October already...autumn is here and we are feeling the drop in temperature. It's time for extra layers and a reminder that children need a jacket every day, and if they have them, we would encourage hats, scarfs and gloves too.

Please remember to label all items of clothing. We have around 50 items of unnamed/unclaimed cardigans and jumpers in our lost property. If you think you are missing uniform come and have a look after school via the front office.

Please take note of some important information and dates for this term.

Mrs McNeil

School Review

Glebe Primary was visited by North Ayrshire Council Education Senior Managers last week. It was a very positive experience for staff and pupils with the SMs visiting all classes to see lessons in action and talk to the children about their learning. Our children, different staff groups and some of our parents/carers also participated in focus groups to discuss the work of the school.

Our amazing House Captains started the visit in style with a pupil guided school tour. Our visitors were very impressed praising the school's strong nurturing ethos, our very good attainment data, the dedicated teaching and support staff and the strong leadership driving forward school improvement.



School Photographs

The Tempest photographer was at Glebe on Monday 26th September. You should have received your child's order slip with photo proofs and instructions for ordering. Contact the school office if you have not received this.

The children looked very smart for their first school photo since covid and we were pleased to be able to welcome Tempest back to Glebe. Tempest were also able to take P7 class photos which can also be ordered online.

Attendance and late coming

Attendance and late arrival at school continues to be a concern for some families at Glebe. We understand children do get sick, however we need to **work together to ensure there are no unnecessary absences** which then impact on your child's education and attainment. Some families regularly keep children off for treat days, birthdays or other random days off and these all add up. We ask you to promote good attendance and discourage days off unless your child is sick.

We also ask for your **support to get children to school on time** as children who are regularly late miss vital chunks of learning every day. Attendance is discussed regularly and families/children where attendance is already an issue, will be contacted via a phone call/letter. **Every school day counts and we want to work with families who experience barriers to attendance.**

PARKING

A reminder that parking and striding is encouraged at Glebe and that our families have been given permission to use the Buzz Gala Bingo carpark at drop off and pick up time.

This carpark is at the back of Glebe and children can enter via the back gate. This carpark is also less congested and I would encourage families to use this as opposed to parking at the front of the school which is still an issue.

We would also ask that you do not park in disabled spaces, on the roundabout or on the yellow lines/bus parking.

Keeping our children safe is our key concern.



HALLOWEEN



Please drop off any unwanted (good condition) Halloween costumes at school and the PTA/PC will sort and organise a costume swap. Costumes will be available for parents and carers to view and take away in the school playground from 2.30pm on October 6th & 7th.

Children can come to school wearing Halloween costumes, or just dress down for Halloween, on Friday 28th October. Classes will participate in activities in class and the PTA/PC will provide a drink and a sweet for every child.

- Please ensure your child can get their costume on and off so they can go to the toilet.
- Please do not send your child wearing full body 'morph' suits as they leave little to the imagination.
- Please be mindful of really scary costumes/masks.
- Please make sure your child has a jacket as they will still go outside at break times.

Glebe Primary PTA/Parent Council NEWS

Who are we?

We are a group of parents/carers and staff, working together for the common goal of supporting the school, fundraising for amenities and treats, and helping to foster good relationships between families and school. We always welcome new members and we always need help, so please consider joining us. We are very lucky to have great parents/carers/families in the school, who always support our endeavors, making us a very successful PTA. Thanks to everyone in the current PTA/Parent Council for all your hard work.

We are meeting only 5 more times throughout the coming school year- in person at Fullarton Connexions/ or via Zoom(tbc) 6-7pm. Dates are:

Dates of Meetings:

- Thursday 27th October 2022
- Thursday 24th November 2022
- Thursday 26th January 2023
- Thursday 9th March 2023
- Thursday 18th May 2023

If interested, please pass on your interest to the school office and we will be in touch.

Our Successes:

Last year we applied for a Jubilee grant which paid for a fantastic Jubilee event for the school. Some of the other things we paid for were: buses for the school trips, the P7 leaver's year books, P1 book bags, and festive/seasonal gifts and treats. We even paid for the ice cream van, bouncy castles and magician for the whole school fun day. Our efforts, combined with your support helped to give the children some wonderful experiences in school that they otherwise wouldn't have.

In addition, in our Parent Council capacity, we liaised with school/council/parents on parking issues and other areas of concern. The recent Golf Day raised £1840 – thanks to all who supported this event by sponsoring a hole or entering a team.

Lunch

Lunch is free for all P1-P5 pupils and those in receipt of the free school meals and clothing grant. We would encourage your child to take advantage of this as the lunches are varied, healthy and save families time and money making packed lunches.



We also appreciate families taking the time to discuss food options and then pre-ordering lunch to reduce the time class teachers spend on this task daily, which, I'm sure you can imagine can take up valuable learning and teaching time.

HOMework

You will remember we had a parent/carer consultation back in May about whether or not we wanted to continue with homework and how we would organise homework this session.

Parents/carers asked for the following:

- Homework to return to paper/jotter in bags instead of online
- Homework to consolidate/reinforce/practice what children are learning in school instead of new learning
- Homework to move to a weekly pattern over a weekend instead of nightly and midweek

We did all of the above, however, we have some classes with very low returns for homework and some children who are not completing homework at all.

Furthermore we have a great deal of homework being returned that we would consider to be of a much lesser quality than we know the child is capable of in class.

We will continue to monitor homework return over the next few weeks with a view to asking parents/carers to vote again, this time via a form survey as there is no value in teachers preparing differentiated homework for multiple groups which isn't completed or requires significant time to read and mark.

Can I also ask that you tell us if you want to opt out of homework and that you sign your child's homework to let us know you have seen it (not that you have helped).

Reporting to Parents/Carers Learning Conversations

This session there will be two written reports and 2 Learning Conversations with you, your child and the class Teacher.

The first of these, an interim report will give you an indication of how your child has settled in their new class, how they are learning and their effort in class. You will receive this report on Friday 7th October. If you are worried about your child's wellbeing or learning at any time please make an appointment to talk to their class Teacher, the DHT Mr Wilson or myself.

Please save the date of Wednesday 23rd November for your child's Learning Conversation. Appointments will be between 3.30-8.30pm. Appointment paperwork will be issued after the October holiday. We look forward to seeing 100% of our families.

School In-service Day

There is a change to the North Ayrshire Schools In-service day due to the additional public holiday on the 19th of September for the Queen's funeral.

The rescheduled in-service day will now be Monday 24th October. Children will return on Tuesday 25th October.

Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday is on Sunday 13th November. Glebe primary will respect a minute silence on the morning of Friday 11th November. Our school Captains and Vice Captains will facilitate the sale of poppies during that week. Children who wish a poppy should bring a small donation, usually silver. There is no obligation to purchase poppies.



PLAY TRAIL PLAY EQUIPMENT

Sadly, I am writing to ask families to stop using the school play trail equipment after school. Staff and pupils use the equipment throughout the day adhering to our risk assessments, checking equipment for faults and monitoring use carefully. This is covered in our insurance.

However, use after school could mean the Council could be liable if any child was to be hurt, and we have been reminded during our workplace inspection to prohibit the use after school.

As parents/carers were not permitted in the playground during C19 restrictions this was not an issue, and some of our infant families may not know this has always been the rule, however since August 2022 we are seeing lots of families use the play trail after school and there have already been a few accidents.

In the past, parents/carers have suggested we put up a disclaimer, however NAC has said this does not suffice and the school/authority 'could' still be liable if there were to be any accidents.

There is a local play park to the left of the school and we would encourage families to play there after school. Apologies if this seems heavily bureaucratic however health and safety is a serious issue in schools and this rule is in every primary school, not just Glebe.

We will remind children not to use the play trail after school during next week's assembly, it would be helpful if you share this information with any family members who collect children from school. E.g. grandparents, childminders.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- *Pupils should come into school wearing standard school PE kit on their designated gym days. School polo shirts and school jumpers are suitable for PE days along with dark shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms.*
- Please ensure that your child's snacks/lunch do not contain nuts. We currently have several pupils with serious nut allergies therefore we are a nut free school.
- *If your child requires medication to be administered during the school day please contact the school office for a medical form.*
- Please send a water bottle to school with your child each day. ONLY WATER PLEASE
- For the safety of our staff and pupils, we ask that you refrain from parking in or using the staff car park for drop-off or pick-up unless a blue badge permit is displayed. No pupils should enter the playground via the staff car park gate.
- *Only parents of our younger children (P1-3) should enter the playground at home time for collection. Parents of p4-7 pupils can meet/collect their children just outside the school gates.*

Finally

Please find dates attached. Please get in touch if there is anything you wish to discuss.
Thanks for your continued support.

In partnership

E McNeil
Head Teacher
Glebe Primary School

DIARY DATES

Monday 3 rd October	Welcome Greenwood Ac. Work Experience Students
Thursday 6 th and Friday 7 th October	Halloween Costume Swap
Friday 7 th October	Interim Reports (in school bags)
END OF TERM 1 START OF TERM 2	
Monday 17 th - Friday 21 st October	School Holidays
Monday 24 th October	In-service Day – Staff only – Pupil Holiday
Tuesday 25 th October	Learning Conversation Appointment Slips issued
Tuesday 25 th - Friday 28 th October	PTA/PC Halloween Basket Raffle tickets on sale in school
Thursday 27 th October	PTA/PC Meeting - Venue TBC
Friday 28 th October	Halloween Activities in school/Dressing up optional
Friday 28 th October	Parents/Carers to return Learning Conversation appointment slips
Monday 31 st October	Rag Bag (old clothes donations)
Monday 7 th November	Pupil Flu Vaccination with NHS
Friday 11 th November	Remembrance Assembly and Minute Silence in School
Monday 14 th – Thursday 17 th	NHS Dental Team at Glebe- Fluoride Varnish P1- P4
Monday 14 th –Friday 25 th November	Enterprise Fortnight- Classes making items for School Christmas Fayre
Thursday 17 th November	P1 Pupils to Irvine library for Scottish Book Trust Book Bug Gifting
Friday 18 th and Monday 21 st November	School Holidays
Tuesday 22 nd November	In-service Day – Staff only – Pupil Holiday
Wednesday 23 rd November	Learning Conversations with teacher, parent/carer and child
Thursday 24 th November	PTA/PC Meeting - Venue TBC

Friday 25 th November	Junior Road Safety Event- Be Bright Be Seen (info to follow)
Friday 25 th November	Miss McNair and dance Club at NAC Day of Dance Portal Irvine – Details TBC
Friday 2 nd December	Christmas Fayre – 2-4pm at Glebe – Details TBC

Further dates and details to be confirmed in November's newsletter