



# GLEBE

## GLEBE PARENT NEWSLETTER



I hope you all had a wonderful summer.

This week marks 25 years since I joined Glebe Primary School - I have dedicated half my life to the children at Glebe and I have loved (almost) every minute of it!

I am sorry that I was not here on Tuesday to welcome you back but I was attending my daughter Olivia's graduation. Olivia is an ex-Glebe pupil and I know that her love of learning was ignited by the staff at Glebe - past and present. Both of my children have had to share me with the pupils of Glebe all of their life, so Tuesday was about me being a mum first - I'm sure you all understand.

FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2024

### Weekly Attendance %

|     |      |
|-----|------|
| 1S  | 100  |
| 4JL | 98.9 |
| 4V  | 98.9 |
| 1M  | 98.8 |
| 1G  | 98.8 |
| 5IP | 98.3 |
| 6K  | 97.7 |
| 2J  | 97.6 |
| 4W  | 96.1 |
| 6L  | 96   |
| 3G  | 95.2 |
| 5M  | 95   |
| 3ME | 93.3 |
| 3D  | 92.7 |
| 2F  | 92   |
| 2C  | 92   |
| 6A  | 88.5 |
| 5I  | 85   |


**The Reception pupils are not counted this week as this has been their transition week. Their attendance will be included in next week's edition.**

Whole School

**95.2%**



# Start of the Year



I have been delighted with how well the children have settled back into school. The atmosphere around school is fantastic with the children focused and embracing the changes of new classmates and teachers. Long may it continue!

## *Memorial - One Year On*

On Monday, staff, Governors and members of Alan Budden's family came together to share memories and unveil his lasting memorial – a tree and bench on the field. The bench faces out towards the main building so those who wish to sit to remember him can do so whilst overlooking the school he so proudly took care of.

I can't believe it is a whole year since he died and we miss him terribly but we talk about him every day and he lives on through our shared stories and memories.



# Congratulations

Some members of Glebe staff had a very busy, yet exciting holiday!



We wish Ms Littelfield – now Mrs Reardon – and her husband Glenn congratulations as they were married during the summer holidays. We wish you a lifetime of love and happiness.

Mr Curd and his wife Hayley welcomed a beautiful baby girl into the world during the last week of the summer holidays. Both mother and baby are doing well. Mr and Mrs Curd are still deciding on a name for their daughter.



## GENERAL REMINDER



**Class Dojo**

If you are new to Glebe, please sign up for this free app. It is widely used throughout the school and an excellent way to keep in touch with your child's class teacher.

I would like to remind all parents to be mindful of teachers' work/life balance and I encourage my staff to not write or respond to Dojo messages after 6pm. I also ask that you consider that teachers may not be able to respond to queries during the school day as they are teaching.

# LUNCH TIME



# REMINDERS

## SCHOOL LUNCH



Please don't forget that even though all school meals are now fully funded, you must still order your child's meals directly from The Pantry. To avoid food wastage, they do not deliver extra meals to cover any shortfall, so booking a meal is vital to ensure your child receives a lunch.

## PACKED LUNCH



Please don't forget that we are a nut free school. We have a significant number of children with life-threatening nut allergies, so we ask that everyone plays their part in keeping these children safe. This includes food containing nuts, e.g. nutella, etc.



We do not allow sweets or chocolate in children's lunch boxes. The Pantry, like all school meal caterers, are bound by strict rules surrounding nutrition standards and, in the interests of fairness for all children, we ask that if parents are providing their child with a lunch, that it is healthy and nutritionally balanced.

# END OF DAY ARRANGEMENTS REMINDERS



## Pupils Walking Home Alone

Children in year 6 are allowed to walk home alone with written permission from parents.

Children in year 5 children can do so from the summer term of year 5, again with written permission from a parent.

## Sibling Collection

We have had an increasing number of requests from parents regarding siblings waiting together in one classroom so they can all be collected from one place. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate this (unless there are exceptional circumstances) as it is unmanageable for the class teachers.

Requests from parents for older siblings to collect younger siblings and walk them to a parent on the school grounds will be considered on an individual basis, taking into consideration the needs and ages of the children involved.

Requests for older children to collect younger siblings and walk home will, again, be considered on an individual basis taking into consideration distance to home, the ages and needs of the pupils involved but permission is unlikely to be granted by school unless there are exceptional circumstances.



# REMEMBER



## Key Information & Dates



### Autumn Term - 2024

Thursday 26th September - 5I Class Assembly at 9.15am - parking on playground from 9.05 but not before for health and safety reasons

Monday 7th October - Year 4 Harvest production at 9.15am - no parking available on site

Tuesday 8th October - Year 4 Harvest production at 2pm - no parking available on site

Wednesday 9th October - Year 4 Harvest production at 6.30pm - no parking available on site

Tuesday 22nd October - Parent Consultation Evening from 4pm- 7pm

Thursday 24th October - 5M Class Assembly at 9.15am - parking on playground from 9.05 but not before for health and safety reasons

- Parent Consultation Evening from 4.30pm- 7.30pm

### *Half Term: Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November*

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**Monday 4th November - children return to school: NO TRAINING DAY**

Thursday 7th November - 5IP Class Assembly at 9.15am - parking on playground from 9.05 but not before for health and safety reasons

**Thursday 28th and Friday 29th November - Staff Training Days - school closed to all pupils**

### Advanced Notice

**Tuesday 3rd, Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th December - Nursery and Year 2 Christmas performances times to follow.**

Children and young people are bound to spend lots more time on devices since Covid. **DON'T FEEL BAD** – lots will be schoolwork or healthy ways of catching up with friends or having fun. There are many ways to keep them safe, healthy and happy.

## Don't worry about screen time; aim for screen quality

Scrolling through social media isn't the same as making a film or story, or Skyping Grandma. Use the Children's Commissioner's 'Digital Five A Day' to plan or review each day together.



## Check the safety settings are turned on



Whether it's your home internet, mobile devices, consoles, apps or games, there are lots of settings to make them safer. The key ones are - can they chat to strangers, can they video chat or 'go live', are their posts public? **Internet Matters** has hundreds of guides to parental controls.

## Get your children to show you their apps and games



You don't need to know all about the latest app or game, but if your child shows you what they are doing and with whom, you'll probably see if it's appropriate or not. Remember 18 games are not more advanced – they are harmful to children! For parent guides to apps, including recommendations for kidsafe apps and video platforms, search for **Common Sense Media** or **NSPCC's NetAware**. And why not download the **BBC Own It** app?

## Don't try to hide news about scary things in the news



If you don't talk about it, your children might read inappropriate pages, believe scare stories or simply catastrophise in their heads. Why not watch **Newsround** together and talk about how they feel – there is guidance from **Childline** to help you.

## Remind them of key online safety principles



There are too many to list, but remember human behaviour is the same online and offline. Remind your children to be a good friend, to ask for help if they are worried or if someone is mean, not to get undressed on camera and most important of all... if somebody tells them not to tell or ask for help because it's too late or they will get in trouble, **THAT'S A LIE!**

## If you aren't sure, ASK!

Your school may be able to give you advice, but there are plenty of other places to ask for help as a parent or a child, whether it is advice or help to fix something. Lots of sites are listed at [reporting.lg.net](https://reporting.lg.net), including ones to tell your kids about (they might not want to talk to you in the first instance).



## **Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing**

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

### **Per Parent, Per Child**

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For Example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

### **5 Consecutive days of Term Time Leave**

Penalty notice fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days.

### **10 Sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10- week period**

Penalty notice fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

### **First Offence**

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be :

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent per child if paid within 21 days

### **Second Offence**

#### **(within 3 years)**

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days

### **Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)**

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrate's court. Magistrates fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

### **Local Authority DO NOT accept the following as exceptional circumstances:**

- My work do not allow me to take holidays during the school summer holiday period, even if they provide a letter
- My child needs a holiday at quieter times due to needs
- Our holiday has been gifted and paid for and did not have a choice of dates
- My child has good or 100% attendance
- I will report my child being poorly - schools are expected to carry out home visits, if a holiday is suspected, school will report to the local authority for a penalty notice fine

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Change can be hard for children to manage. Going back to school after a long summer break might cause them to feel uncertain about their friendships, school routines and relationships with new teachers. However, trusted adults play an important role in providing both practical and emotional support.

## 1 LEARN WHAT EQUIPMENT YOU NEED

Figure out a list of all equipment needed for the start of the school year, so you can comfortably get your hands on the necessary items in time. If children have any financial issues and receive free school meals, the school may be able to provide some monetary aid or offer other support.



## 2 COMMUNICATE WITH THE SCHOOL

If you notice that a child is feeling anxious about a change of teacher or school, arranging a one-to-one meeting with their new teacher can be a good way to alleviate some of the anxiety. Just knowing that they understand the child's worries and will be able to help them if the need arises can build the foundations of a good working relationship. Knowing that you can contact them with any queries can also be reassuring.



## 3 CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

There will be plenty of information about the start of term on the school's website to keep you updated. Furthermore, you should be able to find other useful information such as contact details for staff, important school equipment, clubs, and news about any special events on the school calendar for the year. It could be helpful to look through this with children for anything which might reassure them.



## 4 HELP TO MANAGE FRIENDSHIPS

If a child is feeling anxious about making new friends – especially if they're moving up to secondary school – it can be a good idea to remind them of what they could do or say when meeting new classmates. Investigating the extracurricular activities available could be a good way to open a conversation about their hobbies and pastimes, and joining such clubs could allow new friendships to be built on this mutual interest.



## 5 PLAN SELF-CARE

Talking to children about how they can manage their self-care can be an effective way of helping them understand its importance. This might involve playing a computer game they love with friends, a weekly visit to the library, getting to bed at the same time each night, or a range of other activities that support their wellbeing and provide the familiarity and safety of a routine that works for them.



## 6 MANAGE TRICKY FEELINGS

Explain that it's okay to have difficult feelings around returning to school. This can help reduce any shame or embarrassment a child might be feeling over these emotions. Emphasise that other children – even some of the teachers – will be feeling the same way. Consider practical ways to manage these feelings and help children feel more in control of their emotions. Some examples include fidget toys, breathing exercises or a notepad for doodling.



## 7 SECURE A SCHOOL UNIFORM

Parents and carers should try to buy a child's uniform for the new academic year well in advance of the new term (although allowing for potential holiday growth spurts) and give them time to adapt to any changes. Make sure they can comfortably change into and out of it for PE lessons. Double check the requirements for PE on the school's website, as some schools will also have requirements for PE kits.



## 8 PREPARE FOR TRANSITION DAYS

Ensuring that children attend transition days is a vital step in preparing for the new year. Some schools also have transition evenings for parents and carers to attend, offering extra opportunities to reach out for any additional support.



## 9 READ THE MENTAL HEALTH POLICY

If a young person struggles with their mental health, it's important to understand their school's mental health policy and provision to know what support is available. This should be on the school's website. A range of aid is typically on offer – from individual timetable amendments to group sessions on emotional wellbeing. You can then discuss these options with the child to reassure them that help is there if they need it.



## 10 LEARN ABOUT SEN SUPPORT

If a child has SEN and receives help in school, try to confirm exactly what support is available, to ensure they'll be having their needs met. If they're moving up to secondary school, it's a good idea to meet with the SENCO to ensure that all teachers receive the most relevant, up-to-date information about the child's needs and have a contact to liaise with if these change over time.



## Meet Our Expert

Amy Sayer is a freelance mental health trainer for schools, an author and a content writer. She is an Associate for Diverse Educators, a fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching and ITT wellbeing coach. Amy has previously been a SMHL coach, helping many different settings audit their mental health provision and support them to create and implement a strategic plan based on the specific needs of each setting.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-going-back-to-school>



Year group highlights  
will return next week



**Wishing you all a  
lovely weekend.**

**Mrs Penney**



**GLEBE  
WEEKLY  
SCHOOL  
NEWS**