

GLEBE NEWS

Janus

On Wednesday our whole school assembly focussed on the Roman god Janus and how he is depicted with two faces – one looking back at the year just gone and one looking forward to the year ahead which is where the name for January came from. We talked about looking back on memories – some fond, others, sadly, not and what our ‘best bits’ from the last year were and I tasked the children to come to find me over the next week or so to tell me what they felt their greatest achievement was from last year. The ones I’ve heard so far have been fantastic! We also talked about looking ahead and how that can be nerve-wracking but can also be an exciting fresh start. I asked all the children to write down what they hope to achieve for this year and to keep it in their tray in the classroom. We will look at it a different times throughout the year to see how close they are to achieving their goal.



Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and are looking forward to the year ahead.

This week at Glebe

Despite being a relatively short week we have covered lots of ground. The staff were in on Tuesday for a training day which focused on designing a new curriculum. This was the start of a two-year process whereby we will be taking the national curriculum objectives for Science and each of the foundation subjects and designing an engaging and challenging curriculum based around them that reflects the needs and interests of our pupils. We began with Science, Art and Design Technology on Tuesday and year groups worked together to plan for the spring term. So much emphasis is (rightly) put on maths and English but we also want to nurture those pupils for whom maths and English may not come easily but other subjects may be their chance to shine. It was a really productive day and very positive start to the new year. We have planned further time for P.E. and Music during staff meeting time over the next few weeks. We will continue to do the same for other foundation subjects next term and into the next academic year. Subject Leaders are working on overviews of what topics will be covered over this term and you will be able to access them shortly on the school’s website. I will let you know when they go ‘live’.





Mrs Harvey

This week we have said a sad farewell to Mrs Sandra Harvey from the SRP. Mrs Harvey has been at Glebe for over 20 years and during her time has worked with many, many of our hearing impaired children. Mrs Harvey is retiring and will be spending some of her time looking after her grandchildren. We wish her all the very best for the future and we will miss her infectious laugh and great sense of humour very much.

Philosopher's Corner

Thought for the New Year:

"What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year." — Vern McLellan

Christmas Fayre

We have counted the money that we raised from the Christmas Fayre and we have raised **£1420.60!** Thank you all so much for your generosity and we are another step closer to achieving our goal of £10,000 for our outdoor classroom.

Looking Ahead

Mrs Joyce, Miss Griffiths and I will be undertaking Phase Monitoring again this term. We will be observing teaching and learning with classrooms and setting the teachers development points in how to further improve their practice. Next week we will be focusing on lower KS2.

School Census Day

This is happening on **Thursday 18th January** and amongst other things it is the day the school's future budget is decided. This is primarily dependent on pupil numbers across the school but, now, also includes the numbers taking the free meals on offer to reception and key stage 1 pupils. Rather than basing our funding on the actual numbers of pupils who have school lunch each day, the DFE choose two days (one in October and another in January) and calculate the funding for the whole year based on the take up for those specific dates. You may feel, like me, this is not a particularly fair way of doing things but it exists nevertheless. Our take up in October was very low so we really need to make up the shortfall this time so one way to help address this is by having a much larger number of pupils having their free lunch on **Thursday 18th January** as the DFE will average out the two census dates. We are currently liaising with the caterers we use to have a menu that will hopefully appeal to many children. I will inform you of what it is as soon as it is finalised. I would therefore ask as many of you as possible to give the hot dinners a go on Thursday 18th. If you haven't tried them before then the children may find they enjoy them more than they thought. It will certainly help the school and ensure that we can focus our school budget on providing great learning opportunities for the children rather than having to subsidise 'free' school lunches. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Advance Notice:

- School Photos on Monday 15th January all day - nursery to year 5 individual and sibling photos. Pre school siblings may come in between 9-11am. More details to follow.
- FOG Meeting at school on Wednesday 17th January – all welcome.
- School Census Day on Thursday 18th January