



Tuesday 5th March 2024



SPRING NEWSLETTER 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Can you believe we are halfway through the academic year already! We are enjoying the remainder of this spring term whilst also looking ahead to the summer term. You'll find a reminder of key dates at the end of the letter.



STAFFING NEWS

Beech Class

Miss Patel will leave us at the end of the term but remains committed to giving the best support to Y1/Y2 until Miss Smith starts with us after Easter. Miss Smith will be visiting us on the 5th and 12th of March so please do make her feel welcome if you see her.

Oak Class

We are delighted to let you know that we have appointed Miss Jacobs as a permanent class teacher after her highly successful and valued time as a supply teacher at our school. This has allowed for a seamless transition for Oak Class.

Mrs Kay remains on long term sick leave but we are lucky to have found Mrs Lees who is with us on a fixed term basis supporting Y6, Y6 interventions and covering classes for PPA and other vital work throughout the school.

Elm Class

As you know, Mrs Ralph is our Deputy Head Teacher during Mrs Warman's maternity leave. Miss Edwards is Y6 class teacher on Monday through to Wednesday and Mrs Lees on Thursday and Friday. Mrs Ralph is still teaching Maths and English to support our Y6 and taking after school Booster classes.



Booster Classes

We should give a massive shout-out and thanks to all of our staff who are taking booster classes and giving up their own time to provide additional support for our children. Booster classes are in place for Y6 SATS preparation, Y1 and Y2 reading (phonics) and for children in Y4 preparing for their multiplication times table check in June. So many staff are helping out across the school showing what a fantastic team we have.



Baby News

Mrs Warman had a beautiful baby boy last week and mother and baby are both doing really well.

We can't wait to meet another baby born to our Glapton family.

I am sure that you will join us in sending best wishes and huge congratulations to Mrs Warman.



YOUNG VOICES

Our choir took part in Young Voices in January. The experience was not just a children's choir concert, but the **largest** children's choir concert in the **world**.

Our choir performed alongside around 8,000 other children as a single choir to a capacity audience of family and friends.

The children took part in one of the country's greatest arenas (NEC) and sang alongside incredible artists. They achieved this with all their school friends around them for support. The experience helped their self-belief, self-motivation, confidence, and ability to communicate as part of a team - which is invaluable!

There was also the massive health benefit of singing in rehearsals, including breathing exercises to focus the mind!

The concert was the culmination of a lot of hard work from our teachers and the children and the children should be congratulated – they were amazing and staff were really proud. We thank their families for making their way to the NEC to support them and send a massive thank you to our staff especially Mrs Oliver who was ably assisted by Mrs Smith, Miss Howard, Miss Shenton and Miss Baciu and numerous other staff along the way. We are already looking forward to next year!



PARENTS EVENING

We had an incredible turn out to parents evening and thank you all for the support you give us to support your children.

If you couldn't make it staff will still be trying to make contact with you before the end of term.

THANK YOU CLUB

Please check out our behaviour policy on our website. We have 6 simple school rules which we ask the children to use at all times and every day. Each child starts each day on a Team Board in their classroom. If they stick to the rules they stay on the Team Board. They may even move up to the Fantastic Board for doing something special.

Some children achieve this every day, day in, day out so periodically we like to say thank you by holding a 'Thank You Club' – usually an extra playtime with lots of toys and activities.

If a child has broken a rule they receive a sanction at the time but if they don't make Thank You Club they are never punished, they get on with class activities and simply don't go!

More and more children are getting to Thank You Club so please support your child to get to the next one! Look for dates in the Partnership Book.



FOOTBALL & FITNESS

Football & Fitness continue to support us to provide clubs and activities for your children. Clubs after school are paid for but clubs at lunch time are free.

Our coaches working with us are Mr Johnson, Mr Green and our point of contact is Mr Kinally.

This is what is on offer this block.

Day	Lunch time Club (Free & open to all in the specified year groups))	After School (Paid)
Monday	Multi Sports Year 5 and 6 Year 3 and 4	F2-Y2 Football
Tuesday	Dodgeball Year 5 and 6 Year 3 and 4	Y-Y6 Gymnastics
Wednesday	Football Year 5 and 6 Year 3 and 4	Y1-Y6 Multi-Sports

Thursday	Basketball Year 5 and 6 Year 3 and 4	Y1-Y6 Dodgeball
Friday	Hockey Year 5 and 6 Year 3 and 4	Y3-Y6 Football



THE BOOK BUS

The Book Bus came last week and what a great turn out we had at the end of the day to buy books at amazing value. Children visited throughout the day and when they stepped aboard they were welcomed by over 300 books for children of all interests and reading stages.

These included fiction and non-fiction titles, educational and activity books, and some of the most loved authors such as Julia Donaldson, Axel Scheffler, Roald Dahl, J. K. Rowling, David Walliams, Enid Blyton and much more, there was something for everyone on The Book Bus.

We have asked them to visit again but if they can't make it please make sure you have the 'Book Fair' in your diary - Book fair 27th June to 3rd July.



ATTENDANCE

Face-to-face education is vitally important in helping pupils to fulfil their potential. During school time we believe pupils should be in class with their teachers and peers and enjoying all the benefits that brings.

You, as parents or carers of a child have a legal responsibility to ensure your child receives a suitable education. This is usually achieved through regular attendance at school.

Why is regular attendance so important?

Being in school every day is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and their wider development.

Here's what the data shows:

Pupils with higher attainment at KS2 had lower levels of absence over the key stage compared to those with lower attainment.

Pupils who did not achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths had an overall absence rate of 4.7% over the key stage, compared with 3.5% among pupils who achieved the expected standard and 2.7% among those who achieved the higher standard.

Generally, the higher the percentage of sessions missed across KS2, the lower the level of attainment at the end of the key stage.

Among pupils with no missed sessions over KS2, 83.9% achieved the expected standard compared to 40.2% of pupils who were persistently absent.

There are only a small number of circumstances where missing a school day is permitted and will be authorised.

Please support us to support your child and talk to us if you are experiencing any issues leading to persistent absence.

Please ring school and let us know why your child is absent. If your child does not attend and we don't know the reason why you will be flagged for a home visit from the attendance team.

IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone us on the first day. Let us know that your child won't be in and give us the reason.

If your child is well enough to come to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, please let their teacher know.

Here is a link to some really useful guidance provided by the government to help you decide.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



Y6 CHOICES AND CONSEQUENCES WORKSHOPS

Y6 will be attending an award winning anti-knife crime prevention workshop for key stage 2. Don't worry, the workshop is specifically aimed at young people who are unlikely to have ever considered carrying a knife. Choices and Consequences is proven to encourage positive behaviours and attitudes **against** carrying knives.

Themes covered are:

- The dangers of carrying a knife
- The consequences of carrying and associating with those carrying knives
- The law and how it applies to knife crime cases
- The realities of prison life

- Making positive choices to stay safe
- Making safe decisions when it comes to good friends



READING CHALLENGE DAY THURSDAY 7th MARCH

BOOK SWAP

Does your child have a book or two they no longer read?

If so, now is the time for them to dust it off, bring into school and swap it for another!

Book Swap will be taking place on Thursday 7th March.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Snuggle up and share a story - Children are invited to wear something comfy to go with the 'Snuggle up' theme (this might be pyjamas, a onesie or loungewear) whilst bringing along their favourite book to share with others on World Book Day.

Mrs Ralph has many more reading activities planned, including our older children sharing stories with our younger children, book quizzes, learning to draw the style of different illustrators and practising our oracy skills whilst discussing different books. We hope the children are as excited about the day as we are!

STEM WEEK (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) – Week beginning 11th March



Stem Week is celebrated nationally each year to encourage an interest in these fields in children of all ages.

This practical week at Glapton sees children researching projects, creating designs, making and evaluating their designs and being inspired to be creative, ambitious and brave. The practical approach we take this week develops curiosity at a young age and aims to help children learn through fun, interactive, and educational design technology projects from designing mini greenhouses to working bird-boxes for our school garden!



SCHOOL ECO GARDEN

The school Eco Garden is taking shape thanks to the grant won by Mr Payne and our Eco team.

You will see little Saplings planted and thriving, bug hotels, water features, seating areas and growing boxes.

Thank you to Mr Payne and Mr Sulley (our cook's husband) for their hard installation work over half term.



FLOODS

We continue to be struck by floods (as is the rest of the country) and need to take action each time there is significant or sudden rain. LEAD Academy Trust have carried out work to lessen the potential damage which on the whole has been working. We still experience difficulty at the Glapton Lane Entrance Gate due to work needing to be completed by Nottingham City Council (NCC). Talks are currently in place between our Trust and NCC and we will keep you informed.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding on this matter.



RAMADAN

We will be supporting children and Glapton families during the month of Ramadan starting next week. This month serves as a time of reflection, contemplation, and celebration for Muslims all over the world.

Throughout the Ramadan period, adult Muslims of able body and mind start their day fasting, with a pre-dawn meal known as "suhur" with the fasting period concluding after sunset with a meal called "iftar", where families and friends come together around the dinner table. Eid al-Fitr is a festival that marks the end of Ramadan which we will be teaching the children about so they have an understanding, knowledge, respect and tolerance of the main religious festivals celebrated globally and locally.



CONTEMPORARY ARTS VISIT FOR Y4

We will be taking our Y4 to Nottingham's Contemporary Art Gallery as part of our art focus this block.

Contemporary art sparks imaginations, challenges thinking and encourages conversations. It offers exciting routes into subjects that extend far beyond the study of art itself. We hope it will build our children's confidence and self-esteem and maybe give them a life-long love or interest in the arts.



RED NOSE DAY

Friday 15th of March sees the return of Red Nose Day. Glapton will be getting involved to help people tackle poverty and injustice in the UK and around the world. Comic Relief supports incredible projects and organisations that are making a real difference for people and supporting them to rebuild their lives.

As the Friday 15th March is the end of our STEM week we will be inviting your children to swap their uniform for the day and come dressed as a Scientist or someone involved in science, technology, engineering or maths! Be as creative as you like! Previous years we have seen Scientists, Maths teachers, Doctors, Surveyors, calculators or even a Rubik's cube! Please bring a minimum of £1 to support this great charity. If you are struggling for ideas or time an accessory or adaptation would do e.g. pin some numbers to your top or just wear a white shirt and a tie and come as a maths teacher.



CHRISTIAN FESTIVALS

We will be celebrating Mothering Sunday, St Patrick's Day and of course Easter this half term.

Penny from the Church will take our Easter Assembly and Y2 and Y5 will both visit the church in Clifton Village to take part in Easter workshops. We will also be holding our own celebrations to deepen children's understanding of these important Christian festivals.

MEASLES

As you may have seen in the press, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has declared a national measles incident. The declaration was made due to an increase in the number of cases nationally, and more specifically 216 confirmed cases and 103 probable cases identified in the West Midlands since 1 October 2023 with the majority being in children aged 10 years and under. The biggest risk to catching measles is being unvaccinated.

Uptake of vaccination in Nottingham is significantly lower (75.1%) than the average for both the East Midlands (85.7%) and England (84.5%). We should be aiming for the World Health Organisation target threshold of 95% uptake across the population.

The NHS has recently launched a catch-up campaign for those who have missed one or both of their MMR vaccines. If your child has missed one or both vaccinations please call your GP to book an appointment for a catch-up vaccination.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Reading Challenge Day 7th March
Mother's Day Assembly 10th March

STEM CHALLENGE WEEK 11th – 15th March

Ramadan begins - Islam Assembly 11th March

ECO Group Assembly – 14th March
RED Nose Day – Friday 15th March
St Patricks Day Assembly – 18th March
Easter Focus 25th to 27th March
Children break up for Easter – March 27th 3.15pm.
School Closed for INSET Day Thursday 28th March
Friday 29th March – Bank Holiday

School re-opens to children Monday 15th April

Willow Class Assembly – 25th April
Monday 6th May Bank Holiday
WEEK COMMENCING 13th MAY – Y6 SATS Week

Wednesday 22nd March –

An invitation to stay and play if you have applied for a place at Glapton September 2024.

Friday 24th May – Break up for half term.

As you can see, we are looking forward to lots of exciting events this term and next, and are particularly looking forward to lighter nights and warmer days

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C Hurst BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH NLE
Headteacher