



The Glapton Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

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Monday 9 November 2020

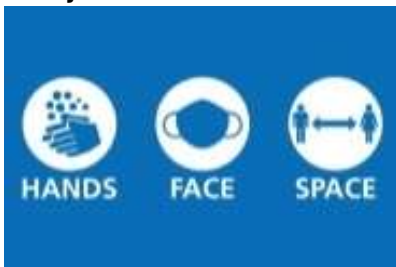
Headteacher: Mrs C Hurst BA(hons) PGCE NPQH NLE

Dear Parents & Carers

Newsletter November 2020

Welcome back to Glapton Academy within another National Lockdown!

Safety at the Gate



Please can we ask you once again to think about the Government guidelines:

'Hands, Face, Space'

Please ensure hands are washed on leaving your home and on your return.

As you know all of the staff and children wash their hands on entry into school every day and frequently throughout the day. Please wear a face covering at the gates to protect yourself, your friends and the Glapton Community.

Most families are adhering to social distancing very well at drop off and collection so we thank you for that. It is even more crucial during this National lockdown that we all adhere to this message

Post a Poppy

We have sent some additional information out about Remembrance Day asking you to try and make a poppy and send a selfie with the poppy into school over the week. Give it a go and let's see how many we can get on the website. We will be holding class assemblies with a Remembrance theme on Wednesday.



Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Week



During this week, we will all be looking at The School Rules as well as our Stay Safe Charters, and making sure these are high profile. We will be rewarding positive behaviour and looking particularly for 'Legendary Line Ups, Fantastic Walking, Super Sitting and aiming for Impeccable Behaviour'.

Children who keep all the school rules this week will be invited to a 'Thankyou Club' next week as a special reward.

We will also be looking at our Anti-Bullying statement and ensuring that the children understand that bullying can involve a range of behaviour and is of particular concern if this behaviour is:

- 1) Repeated, or
- 2) Intended to hurt someone either physically or emotionally

Bullying is not tolerated. Our Anti-Bullying Poster will be high profile and we will be emphasising rewards and team work by asking children to think about ways they can support each other to stop any unkind behaviour or bullying. Class or Individual 'Together, We Can' statements will be written by the children to be added to an underwater display to represent the school living and working together in harmony.

Together, we can make our school a happy place
Together, we can all be kind
Together, we can welcome new friends
Together, we can cheer someone up
Together, we can stamp out bullying
Together, we can protect each other.

We operate an Anti-Bullying Campaign (ABC) in school to follow up referrals of bullying. ABC is the terminology used for our Anti-Bullying Campaign. Our approach to bullying will be via solution focused support groups. There is evidence to suggest that, using this approach means the problem is solved immediately in over 90% of referrals; the vast majority of cases being solved within a month. As parents you also receive a single point of contact in school. This is usually Miss. Cosway.

School sanctions

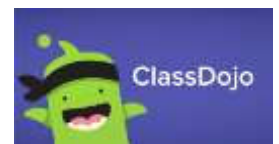
We have six school rules which you are probably well aware of, but we also have a series of sanctions attached to the school rules which are as follows:

- 1) A clear verbal warning is given; pointing out which rule has been broken and the pupil is positively reminded of what is expected. **For the majority of pupils, this is usually all that is needed.**
- 2) If the behaviour continues, the pupil's name is moved onto the 'Think' board. The teacher will confirm which rule has been broken.
- 3) If the behaviour continues, the pupil's name is moved to the 'Change Now!' board. The teacher will confirm which rule has been broken again, and the pupil will move to sit on their own.
- 4) If the behaviour continues, the child would previously be moved to work in a paired classroom for the remainder of that session. Covid restrictions don't allow this so the child remains sitting on their own in class and SLT are informed.
- 5) If the behaviour continues the child's class teacher will issue a Recorded Incident and the child will miss their next break. This will be within COVID safety guidelines but will be with an SLT staff member and may be for the playtime session of the lunch break. This is due to staggered breaks and availability of SLT to supervise a detention away from other Bubbles.

Please be reassured that detentions are rare and are only issued for behaviour serious enough to be recorded separately or for persistent disregard of school rules over a period of time.

Come and Share & Class Dojo

Please make sure you are signed up for Class Dojo so that you can enjoy an insight into special occasions and receive helpful information that would otherwise be shared at events held at school.



Class Dojo already has presentations on spelling, phonics, calculations, Y6 SATs, a virtual tour of the EYFS classroom and garden. There are also two class assemblies (so far Elm and Birch) and a class video to show you your child's classroom in place of our come & share session. We are chasing those of you who have not signed up and will be sending you an invite. Please respond, it is really easy and so rewarding. It is also private to school and your class and their families only. Lots of other information will still be placed on the website so check out the class pages when you can.

Fire drills



We have had fire drills to practice evacuations within our new guidelines. This is because children need to exit without too much contact with each other and line up in their own zones. The last drill we had just before half term was exemplary. I just had to let you know how sensible and responsible your amazing children were. Thank you!

Access to the toilet during lessons

Please can I advise that children will not always be given free access to the toilet during lesson times. This is because they will have regular opportunity to go to the toilet but should try to minimise interruption to their learning. Also our safety arrangements mean that only one child can go to the toilet at one time and will need permission to do so. Please also be reassured that if your child needs the toilet they will be allowed to go at the nearest acceptable time. If your child has a medically validated condition they will have adaptations to allow them to go to the toilet whenever they need. I hope you understand but also trust that we are never going to allow a child to experience any stress or indeed discomfort before asking for permission to go to the toilet.

Children in Need



Don't forget that your child can dress up with spotty accessories or full Pudsey outfits on Friday.

We are asking for a minimum donation of £1 which will be placed in a tub and quarantined before being counted and banked for Children in Need. We hope to raise at least £300 for this fantastic cause and are supporting Children in Need's slogan of 'Together, we can ... transform children's lives.' throughout our anti-bullying week too.

Dinners

We are making some slight changes to our dinner service now that the children have proved how brilliantly they can behave and how well they adhere to our safety guidelines. This means we can have more children in the dining hall at one time whilst remaining in their own Bubbles. They will be sitting closer together within their Bubbles but no closer than they do all day in class. This also supports positive behaviour management and staffing during these difficult times. Children will be able to sit with their class friends and also experience less waiting time after eating. We are constantly reviewing our procedures and they remain subject to ongoing changes and adjustments and we appreciate your support.



Attendance



Despite the National Lockdown, the government expects all children to attend school every day if they are well. Parents and carers are still breaking the law if they choose to keep their child off without a valid reason. If you have anxiety please contact your teacher via the office or Mrs Pye for reassurance. We will keep your child safe whilst in our care and are robust on our measures for Covid-safety procedures. Please refer to the website for our attendance policy and guidance. There are also a set of frequently asked questions to try and answer any queries you may have, which can be found on the following links:

<https://www.glaptonacademy.co.uk/parents/attendance/>

<https://www.glaptonacademy.co.uk/nursery-attendance/>

Mrs Pye is monitoring attendance and we will be in contact if your child is off school with attendance less than 96%. We have also launched our attendance tree and are filling it with names of children with 96%, 98% and 100% attendance. These names will go into a prize draw at the end of the year for HIGH STAKE PRIZES for the whole family. Watch out for details as the year progresses.

Home Learning

If your child needs to self-isolate because a member of the family they live with has symptoms or if their Bubble was to be sent home please could I confirm that they are required to do their home learning. Teachers are directed to provide home learning via Class Dojo and children's uptake of this learning is also monitored. The same attendance procedures will take place if a child does not access and complete their learning after a 48 hour period. This of course does not apply if they themselves are poorly with COVID symptoms or another illness.

Staffing

With the ever-changing climate with regard to NHS Track & Trace, isolation requirements, staff children's bubbles closing as well as potential staff illness, we ask for your patience and understanding with any resultant staff changes. We anticipate a variety of possible scenarios over the coming weeks, which we will endeavour to cover internally to reduce change for our children. These can also be last minute as the need to isolate is never predictable.

Parking

We have received several complaints from our neighbours recently and we would like to remind all families again of the need for consideration and courtesy when parking around the school gates, particularly when parking close to residents' properties and driveways. Your support in parking considerately is much appreciated and we ask that cars do not block driveways/footpaths in the area.

Dates for your Diary

Week commencing Monday 9 November

Friday 13 November

Thursday 19 November

Week commencing Monday 7 December

Wednesday 16 December

Thursday 17 December

Friday 18 December

Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Week

Children in Need

Cherry Class Assembly

Virtual Nativities and Christmas Concert

Christmas Lunch and CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Bubble Christmas Parties

Break up for Christmas

Stay safe and stay well.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Hurst BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH NLE
Headteacher