



## NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the new academic year 2020/21.

### WELCOME CHILDREN

We warmly welcome the following children to Glapton's Reception classes:

Aiva	Emily	Jacob-Dylan	Oliver	Sophie
Amelia	Finley	Jensen	Reenie-May	Thea
Aurora	Fozia	Kyle	Romy	Thomas
Ava	Harlen	Luke	Rosie	Tommy
Brody	Harley	Matilda-Claire	Ryan	Tommy
Camdyn	Harrison	Matthew	Samuel	Tristan
Carter	Harvey	Milan	Seren	Zaviah-Blu
Dakota	Jack	Mollie	Sonny	

We also warmly welcome the following children in other classes across the school:

Tsidkenu	Alissia	Romy	Emily	Frankie
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### WELCOME STAFF & STAFFING NEWS

We warmly welcome Mr Weeks in Reception, Miss Mackenzie in Y1 with Mr Payne, Miss Croft and Miss Butler in Y3, Miss Maholtra in year 4 and Mrs Shah in Y5. We also welcome Mrs Saleem who is supporting our office and reception until Mrs Smith starts in October. Mrs Kay remains on long-term sickness absence and Mrs Husbands (Miss Watts) will be returning shortly on a phased plan after a period of long-term sickness absence. Mrs Quigg and Miss Newbury are looking after Chestnut Class during this period. Mrs Akbar-Zia is also returning on a phased plan this term after a period of long-term sickness absence. We wish them all a speedy and successful recovery and look forward to welcoming them back to Glapton. We are looking forward to another exciting year with our new team.

### TOPICS FOR AUTUMN TERM

Saplings:	All About Me
Larch/Walnut:	Marvellous Me
Juniper/Willow:	The Great Outdoors
Beech/Chestnut	Lost!
Oak/Sycamore	The Stone Age to the Iron Age
Rowan/Alder:	Vikings
Hazel/Cherry:	One Extraordinary Earth
Elm & Birch:	Crime and Punishment

Your child will have brought home their knowledge organiser for the half term with a QR code for home research. These are also available on Class Dojo. Your help is always appreciated. Please let your child's teacher or any teacher know if you have any skill, experience or knowledge that could help with any of these topics.

## HOMEWORK

Weekly homework will involve spellings, reading, times table and other key skills. A half-termly menu of other homework tasks is available on your child's class pages to fit in with every family lifestyle too, which are published on the website on your child's class pages. Spelling lists may be sent home to learn a particular spelling rule. Knowledge of the rule will be tested in school, not the specific list of words, eg. if children are learning plurals of root words ending in the letter 'y' their word list may include flies and babies but their test words may be parties and spies.

## ABSENCE IN SCHOOL TERM TIME

Please may I remind you that holidays during term time WILL NOT be authorised except in rare, exceptional circumstances.

## THE NEW BUILD

Our building work started over the summer holidays but has come to a temporary halt whilst electrical cables are re-routed. Western Power need to have access to the school and shut off power for a considerable time, meaning this work must take place over October half term. We have a temporary corridor through to main reception for safeguarding reasons and reception can be accessed from the Glapton Lane Nursery Pedestrian gate.

## HEALTHY SCHOOLS

**Our SNAG group elections have taken place, and the group are now actively working on our Healthy Schools agenda.** If your KS2 child has a packed lunch, please could we remind you that snacks should be divided into small Tupperware (or similar) boxes. Packaged crisps etc. are not permitted to ensure that healthy habits are set for the future.

## WATER BOTTLES

Please could you ensure that your child has a water bottle labelled with their name, freshly filled each day. They will have access to this water throughout the day. Juice or flavoured water will be returned home at the end of the day and we will provide fresh water unless you have a medical letter approved requesting juice as an alternative to water.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thank you for supporting our school uniform policy. The children look really smart and ready for their learning. Please remember to send your child's PE kit in a red drawstring bag, which can be safely stored in the school cloakroom or on pegs. Large rucksacks do not fit in the cloakroom and are a danger in the classroom. School book bags or a similar red book-bag should be used as these can safely be stored in your child's tray. Your child does not need anything else in school as we supply all of their stationery needs.

## FRUIT KS1

Fruit delivered by the government has now resumed ensuring that your child has a snack in the morning. KS2 children may bring a piece of fruit into school to be stored on their desk and consumed at playtime. No other snacks are permitted.

## FIRST AID

You will be informed if your child has received First Aid during the school day via our Medical tracker System. A call will be made if it is felt further details need discussing with you. If your child needs medicine during the day and the dosage allows for all doses to be given at home outside school hours, we would politely request that if possible this is done in order to reduce the amount of medicine administered in school. If this is not possible, please ensure you have completed and returned the consent form, which can be found here: <https://www.glaptonacademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/20.21-Parental-Agreement-Administration-of-Medicine.pdf>. Please ensure that the medicine is sent in to school in a sealed bag/container, it is in date, in its original packaging with appropriate prescription/name labels, and clear dosage instructions if prescribed.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

If your child is currently attending school but needs to attend a medical appointment, please ensure you follow the procedure below:

- Where possible, appointments should be booked outside of school hours
- Where this is not possible (ie. hospital/orthodontist visits) please try and book an afternoon appointment and collect your child near to home-time.
- On these occasions you will be asked to provide medical evidence to school for our records and to collect or drop your child at the GLAPTON LANE NURSERY PEDESTRIAN GATE. Please ring the buzzer and await instructions.

## NUT ALLERGIES

We have children in school this year with severe nut allergies. Please can you make sure that you do not send your child to school with any food items containing nuts. Even a faint trace of nuts can trigger a severe reaction in these children so we trust you will support us in being as 'Nut Free' as possible. Thank you.

## SUNCREAM

As the summer seems to have awaited us to return to school it looks likely that children will need sun cream this week. Temperatures of 28 degrees, blue skies and sunny days are forecast so, please dig out the sun-cream and apply to your child before school. A cap or sunhat will be really protective too.

## LITTLE ACORNS

Do you have a baby or little one who has not yet started school? If so, bring them along to Little Acorns in our Key Stage 1 Hall on Wednesday afternoons for a fun Parent/Carer and Baby/Toddler session. The fun kicks off at 1.30pm and includes toys and activities, a tea or coffee for the grown-ups and a drink and snack for the little ones. Please see the attached flyer. See you there!

## GATES AND TIMES

Apologies for the few teething problems that occurred last week, including a late gate opening and locking some parents in! We hope everything runs smoothly this week. Staff will unlock gates in the morning to let our families in and Mr Cassidy will lock the gates from 9am. Afternoon gates will be opened from 3pm. The KS1 playground can be accessed readily from the Glapton Lane Nursery Pedestrian Gate, and from the other gates by walking around the perimeter of the building to the EYFS classroom. The children have been amazing and all in class quickly ready for learning in the mornings. We do have a tiny minority of late children who have to make their way around to the Glapton Lane Nursery Pedestrian gate and sign in at main reception. Don't let it be you - let's see if we can have no-one on our late register.

## OFFICE HOURS

Please note that school office hours are 8.15am to 4.15pm Monday to Thursday and 8.15am to 4.00pm on Fridays. Telephone calls before/after these times cannot be answered nor e-mails responded to. Thank you for your support and understanding on this matter.

## CLUB NEWS

Snap, Crackle and Pop Breakfast Club and our After School Care Club (soon to be named by the children) have got off to a wonderful start this year. You can register for both of our Extended Care clubs here: <https://forms.office.com/r/3TbUHNxCRS>.

## ENRICHMENT CLUBS - COMING SOON

Boccia      KS1 Gymnastics      Netball      Tag Rugby      Cross-Country

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY THIS HALF-TERM

We have now scheduled all key dates for the year and will publish these on the website for you. We are also sending out our Home-School Partnership Books on 10 September for you, which will include your reading diary and also have a place for messages. Key dates for the year will be in here too so you parents are well-informed a year in advance. Please do however note that ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES eg. staff changes, weather etc.

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 14 September	9am-10am	Drop-In EYFS
Thursday 16 September	2.30pm	Parents' Spelling Session
Monday 20 & Tuesday 21 September		Parents' Evening
Wednesday 22 September		Challenge Day For Children - Scarf
Tuesday 28 September	2.30pm	Parents' Calculation Session
Thursday 30 September	2:45pm	Elm Class Assembly
Friday 1 October		Harvest Festival Celebrations
Tuesday 5 October		Parents' Phonics Session
Thursday 7 October	2.45pm	Birch Class Assembly
Tuesday 12 October	2.30pm	Parents' SATS Info Session
Wednesday 13 October		Outdoor Classroom Challenge Day Science
Thursday 14 October	2:45pm	Hazel Class Assembly
Friday 15 October		Thank You Club

We will also be sending out a handy leaflet of general reminders covering all key bits of information. Please take the time to read these and perhaps print them out and put them somewhere handy for future reference.

## DATA COLLECTION AND CONSENT FORMS

If you have not already done so, please could you complete the online forms as soon as possible to enable us to safely look after your child, and also to ensure that we can update our records

**Data collection form:** <https://forms.office.com/r/dptJMrUB3n>

**Consent form:** <https://forms.office.com/r/yeQe93RFWM> (covers medical/photos/GDPR/local trips)

## ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

The school website has a summary of our procedures for arrival and dismissal. These pages also contain the form to request permission for your child to walk home alone or be collected regularly by an alternative adult. The form can also be completed online here: <https://forms.office.com/r/GhR9DAprNH>.

If there is going to be a planned change to your usual collection arrangements, for example if your child is going home with another child one afternoon for a play date, please write a message to your child's class teacher in their partnership book. Books will be distributed to children on Friday. In the case of short notice/unplanned changes (ie. after the school day has started), please let the office know **as soon as possible**. Please do not wait until later in the day to call us as we cannot guarantee getting messages to be seen by classroom staff in time.

## COVID ISOLATION AND TESTING ARRANGEMENTS

If your child or another member of your household tests positive for Covid, or anyone in your house is identified as a close contact of a positive case, **you must follow the self-isolation advice and guidance given to you by NHS Test and Trace**. Schools are no longer involved in contact tracing and isolation, so please clarify school attendance with the NHS Test and Trace staff.

On-site testing at school is not required for children in Y6 and below. However, could we remind parents/carers of the importance of being tested regularly. Approximately 1 in 3 people with Covid-19 do not have symptoms. It is important to take regular twice-weekly rapid lateral flow tests to stop the spread of infection. You can drop in at any of the local testing centres and get a free rapid test, or collect a box of tests to take at home. Further information on the centres, including opening times, is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>. Tests can also be accessed from many workplaces and pharmacies. To find a pharmacy near you that offers this service, go to: <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>.

If you are unable to access tests through these routes, you can order a pack of 7 tests online for delivery to your home address at: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

## APPLICATIONS FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

The government has recently changed the date used for counting numbers of pupils eligible for Free School Meals for the purposes of working out extra funding due to schools. This is now based on the Autumn school census day (7 October this year). It is therefore important for our school that all pupils who meet the criteria have had their eligibility checked and confirmed before that date. Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and therefore gets a free meal anyway, please do still apply if you think you meet the criteria outlined in the attached letter as this will generate pupil premium funding plus other extra funding into the school.

Here's looking forward to a great year for The Glapton Academy!

Yours sincerely



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