



April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to what is a very strange summer term 2020. Firstly, I do hope you are all safe and well and adjusting to the current circumstances. The Glapton Academy staff are all missing the children and looking forward to the time the government announces that we are open again.

### **HOME SCHOOL LEARNING**

Thank you for your amazing support with home school learning. We made a very deliberate decision to plan lessons specifically to ensure key skills could be covered during lockdown so that children would not be disadvantaged in reading, writing or maths.



Our learning packs for this term have been very carefully prepared and checked for you and our priority has been clearly on providing quality teaching activities precisely matched to need and building on each pupil's prior learning. Your feedback is appreciated and I hope you feel reassured that staff at the school are working hard behind the scenes.

Please try and complete the daily lessons by setting a routine that works for you and your family and enjoy also dipping into the wider curriculum options too.

### **PE AT HOME**

I know a lot of you will be following Joe Wicks or taking daily exercise on a walk each day. If you are looking for specific activities related to the PE National Curriculum, the Association for Physical Education (afpe.org.uk) is also providing a useful resource with a home video lesson published every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1pm - there are 11 videos uploaded to date with some great ideas for developing physical skills at home. <https://youtu.be/IvySZYSZFNy>

'Each #ThisIsPE video will focus on a different aspect of the National Curriculum. The videos, delivered by PE teachers, will help children and young people to continue their skill development in PE during this period and do not require specific PE or Sports equipment.

### **THE WAINMAN TRUST**

The Wainman Trust is a charity which runs a friendship group for the over 60s in Hope Centre on Southchurch Drive in Clifton. Due to the current Government restrictions they are unable to meet together as they would usually and have been co-ordinating a letter writing scheme for their members. Many of them live alone and receiving a letter has brought much joy and comfort. They have had people of all ages involved in writing but their favourites have been from children who have also included a drawing for their recipient.

I am inviting our pupils to write a letter, draw a picture or make a card for an older person who lives locally. We are obviously unable to share individual contact details for their members, but if letters are sent to 50 Peeveril Road, Beeston, Nottingham NG9 2HU they will be posted on to their

members. Please send your letters directly to this address but also email a photo of your letter into school so that we can thank your child for this lovely gesture.

To celebrate VE day on 8 May, the charity are inviting letter writers to either draw a picture of a vase of flowers - with a Red, White and Blue theme - or even make a model vase of flowers from their recycling and take a photo of it, which can be sent along with a letter to a member for them to put in their window over 8-10 May.

We are hoping to invite letter writers to go and meet the members once the lockdown is over too, and I hope as many of you as possible will join in and support our Clifton Community.

### **FREE ON-LINE SAFETY RESOURCES**

With a lot of online learning taking place at present, as adults we need to keep reinforcing online safety messages. As parents and carers you may even be learning alongside your children but may not necessarily have the experience of online risks. ThinkUKnow have published some free resources designed to be used at home. They are organised for different age groups: 4-5, 5-7, 8-10, 11-13. Here is the link: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/>. Hopefully you find the articles useful.

### **WELL-BEING PLANNER**

Sheffield NHS has produced a fantastic resource called 'Healthy Minds #BeatTheBoredomSheffPlanner'. This provides a set of prompts and some useful documents aimed at helping with the planning of your routines during lockdown. Whilst it is designed for children, it may also be useful for adults too. I'll be using it with my school age twins myself! I have attached it and hope you find it useful. I will also be sending out a 'self-care kit' from the Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust. This is a super resource to use with your children or yourselves if you are feeling anxious in these new and strange circumstances.

### **#THANKOURCHILDREN**



Sir John Peace, Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, has launched a campaign to thank all children for their help during the fight against the coronavirus. Sir John is hoping to reach every child and young person in Nottinghamshire and the City of Nottingham. Being able to recognise the huge efforts of schools, children and their families is vital to maintain national efforts and keep everyone as safe as possible. This is true of the children who are staying at home, and those attending schools. We are all hugely grateful of their efforts. #ThankOurChildren is a certificate and social media campaign, endorsed by Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire Police, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue and local NHS partners. We will be awarding certificates to all of our children via our website and sending certificates specifically to children who have joined in with any of our initiatives. We will take great pride in presenting the certificates on behalf of Sir John, as a representative of Her Majesty the Queen in our County. The determination, good humour and resilience of our children is well worthy of high praise and recognition. Please follow this link to download and personalise your certificate: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/lord-lieutenant>. If you do not have printing facilities, we will print certificates for you once school has reopened. Also check out Sir

John's and other Frontline Staff messages to our children here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OF4NHdqQa54>

### HOME SCHOOL HAPPINESS

We all eagerly await the day we can return to school and resume our normal lives and we cannot wait to hear about all of the different things your children have learned at home. However, we do not have to wait to celebrate their success!

Mr Phillips has launched our 'Home School Happiness' section in the gallery on our website. This is now a place to celebrate the different achievements the children have made during their time at home. No matter how big or small the achievement, we want to hear about it! Simply send a photo of your child and their work to [glaptonphotos@outlook.com](mailto:glaptonphotos@outlook.com), attach a name and a short paragraph describing what your child has achieved. This could be written and typed up by your child as part of their home school day. Please however note that this email address is temporary and is only to be used to send in your children's achievements. The email will be checked and uploaded on the Friday of every week. #ThankOurChildren certificates will be emailed to all children involved in this initiative. See how many you can collect!

Please have a browse of the gallery to see what the children have been up to and it is a good place to showcase home-schooling ideas: <https://www.glaptonacademy.co.uk/pupils/gallery/>.  
Thanks to Mr. Phillips for sorting this for us.

### GLAPTON ACADEMY NHS RAINBOWS



We are inviting you to create as many beautiful rainbows and NHS thankyou tributes as possible and then to attach them **safely and temporarily** (e.g. string or thread not nails, screws, staples or similar) to our school railings on GREEN LANE only. The bigger the better and the more the merrier!

Please send any pictures of your thank-you messages to [admin@glaptonacademy.co.uk](mailto:admin@glaptonacademy.co.uk) and we will upload them on to the website and send your child a #ThankOurChildren certificate.

### OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Although school is closed we are busy sorting our curriculum for when we return and planning lots of exciting activities for the new academic year. We are also organising our new class lists, teaching staff and classroom arrangements.

We are also preparing arrangements for our new breakfast club and a weekly parent/carer baby and toddler group. Further details to follow.

Whenever school does reopen we will run slightly differently for a temporary period with the emphasis being on the children's health and well-being and the identification and targeting of any gaps in reading, writing and maths as a result of the lockdown.

### ONLINE RESOURCES

The BBC has recently launched an education package across TV and online, featuring celebrities and teachers, helping to keep children learning at home and supporting parents. BBC Bitesize can be accessed here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>.

The DFE have published an online home learning website with weekly lessons matched to the National Curriculum. Our staff will be using them to complement our learning packages. Please feel free to use them as additional resources but not to replace the weekly plans prepared by our teachers. <https://www.thenational.academy/>

The DFE have also provided guidance for home learning with a guide for 2-4 year olds and also a guide for primary school children. They are useful lots more ideas, tips and resources.

- The 2-4 year old guide can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-aged-2-to-4-to-learn-at-home-during-coronavirus-covid-19>
- The Primary Guide can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

### **PYJAMARAMA: FRIDAY 1 MAY 2020**

To celebrate 'the bedtime story' and reading together, this year's Book Trust 'Pyjamarama' will be a day when families across the country can join in a festival of story-filled fun at home. There will be loads of activities and events for children to take part in - **the only requirement is that they're done in pyjamas!**



To make things even more fun, they have enlisted the help of PJ Masks, Horrid Henry and Tracy Beaker, who will be helping out and providing extra ideas and activities for a brilliant day in pyjamas on Friday 1 May. Find lots of info here: <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/pyjamarama/>

Finally, I hope I haven't overwhelmed you with information, there is so much out there at the moment! Stay Safe and enjoy this special time with your children.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Hurst', written in a cursive style.

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