



The Glapton Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

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



SUMMER 2 NEWSLETTER June/July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are safe and well. Please find below our latest newsletter, which we hope you will find useful. The government are still sending lots of advice to all schools, which we have responded to and incorporated in to the guidance below, so please do take careful note of all the information provided.

JUNE 2020 - WIDER RE-OPENING

We have been delighted with how smoothly our wider re-opening has gone and how well the children have adjusted. More and more eligible children have now decided to return, which is fantastic. If you are still undecided, we hope you will feel reassured by knowing how well the children have adapted. Children I have spoken to have told me that some of the best things about being back are:

- Seeing their friends and teachers again
- Getting back into a routine
- Feeling safe and happy in their Bubbles
- Having lots of help with their learning
- Being able to play and learn outside

Do let Mrs Lang know if you have changed your mind when she telephones you, or e-mail school directly and we can give you a starting date if you are in Reception, Y1, Y6 or were invited to attend Nursery. Please remember that DfE guidelines and resultant risk assessments mean that we are currently operating Bubbles which all have a restriction on numbers. Once bubbles are full, no more children can be admitted.

Last week The National Literacy Trust's "My Dear New Friend" project, which encourages children to write letters to people living in care homes, saw the children in school produce some amazing writing which will have a real impact on people's lives!

UPDATED END OF TERM ARRANGMENTS

Please note that school will close slightly earlier for the summer in preparation for September. We are awaiting government guidance this week and a final decision from LEAD. **This means that school will close to pupils on Wednesday 22 July at 3.00pm.**

FRIDAY CLOSURES

The Government has asked all schools to create recovery plans for September and Catch Up programmes for all of our children. To facilitate this work alongside safely accommodating increasing numbers of children who are now electing to attend school, we have agreed that school will remain closed to children (except those in the Rangers Bubble) for the remaining Fridays in July. **This means that only keyworker pupils will be in school on Friday 3, 10 and 17 July.**

SEPTEMBER OPENING

Following recent government announcements we are preparing to open to **ALL** pupils in September and will keep you up to date with our plans as they are confirmed. It won't be business as usual but this will hopefully mean we can safely welcome everyone from all year groups back into school. Year 5 children are currently being welcomed into school for a 1 to 1 half-day session to re-familiarise with school and to prepare for transition into year 6.

We will shortly be opening this provision to our Year 4 pupils and hope to see you all at some stage before the summer.

The Glapton Academy is an academy within the L.E.A.D. Academy Trust. Registered office: 5a The Ropewalk, Nottingham, NG1 5DU. L.E.A.D. Academy Trust is an exempt charity. Company registration number: 08296921.



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ONLINE/ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS, PAYMENTS AND FORMS

Since the country went in to lockdown, we have all had to get used to new ways of living and working, and these changes haven't been without their challenges for you as parents as well as our staff in school. As you know, we had planned to eventually move towards electronic methods of communication, cashless payments etc, and the coronavirus pandemic has forced us to bring forward these plans. We have had to quickly introduce new ways of working to reduce the risks presented to the entire school community by the possible transmission of COVID-19. These new systems are working



well and as such, all parents are now required to download the School Gateway App on to their mobile phone/tablet etc and use this system to manage the receipt of school communications, make payments etc. We will shortly introduce the use of secure online forms which are mobile-friendly to collect data, information and responses from parents. We have also just started to investigate the introduction of a new online school meals system called "Evolve". Evolve allows parents to select at home in advance their children's menu choices, it allows parents to eliminate food options with specific allergens, make dinner payments etc. More information about Evolve will be made available as and when we confirm this move with the supplier.

We hope you will agree that electronic and online systems are a natural next step as we look to improve communication with parents, and allow us to become more efficient and cost effective. Every penny we save on no longer needing to print and post hundreds of letters, no longer needing to spend valuable time counting dinner money will be ploughed straight back in to supporting your children in their learning and development within the classroom.

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 please book appointments outside of school hours.
- Where this is not possible please try and book an afternoon appointment and collect your child at 12pm. We will then have the capacity to bring your child to you with their picnic lunch. We would then expect them back the following morning.
- If an afternoon appointment is not possible please bring your child in at 12pm for their lunch and the afternoon session.
- 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.

AND FINALLY...



I wanted to reiterate my thanks to you for all the work that has been done at home by children and families during this unprecedented time, and for preparing your children so well for their recent return to school. It has been a joy to see them arriving each day with huge smiles and we are, as ever, very grateful for your support. Children thrive when school and home work in partnership together and all school staff really feel that this home-school relationship has been strengthened over the last few months.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Hurst BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH NLE
Headteacher