

# Glyne Gap School

Newsletter—Term 2—2019

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends,

What a wonderful time of year this is! It is an absolute delight to see our pupils' excitement as they take full part in the Christmas preparations and events. Many of our older pupils have been out Christmas shopping for family and friends, the infants had a Christmas party organised by the pupils of St Richard's Catholic College and Senior 2 class had a truly special visit to the Christmas illuminations at Bedgebury Pinetum. Junior 2 pupils even met Father Christmas and his... llamas (!) at the Llama Park.

Two highlights of this term are always the Nursery Nativity and the Infant Christmas Story as performed by the pupils in Seagulls, Skylarks, Penguins and Wrens. Their performances, as well as bringing a tear to the eye of the assembled parents, grandparents and staff, highlight the learning that our youngest pupils are achieving. Betsy and Kellise were angels in the Nursery Nativity and managed to undertake their roles alongside other nursery pupils. During the Infant Christmas Story Rogan just couldn't wait to get on the stage and show us his acting skills! ..... Well done to all pupils.

Evaluated termly goals will be coming home this week showing your child's learning over the term. Do talk to your child's class teacher with your thoughts for next steps.

It is our Christmas Service at St Michael's Church on Friday. It starts at 10am and all are welcome - hope to see you there.

Christmas love to you all and very best wishes for a peaceful New Year.

Kirsty



Students at The Faculty raising money for Children in Need

## Dates for your Diary

**Christmas Carol Service**  
20th December at 10am

**Back to school**  
Monday, 6th January

**School Closes at 1pm**  
Thursday, 30th January

**Half-term**  
17th—21st February

## Children In Need

Thank you to everyone for filling their Smarties cartons. We raised £256.76 for Children in Need!



## Outdoor Learning in Junior 1



We have been nature detectives learning about nature outside this Autumn. We have ventured out to Kiteye woods with the whole school and explored the wild garden to search for nature. One highlight was when we shared a smoky campfire with Junior 2. We cooked bananas in foil and bread and toasted marshmallows on sticks. We smelled and tasted the cooked foods to see if we liked them. J1 would like to say a big thank you to Bridget for enabling our amazing experiences.



## Supergoal Superstar

Harvey Quick (Junior 3) — I can make successful transitions between activities and places following my 'Now and Next' visual

Well done Harvey!



## Parent Café



A busy term for Parent Cafés!

Firstly we had an evening Café with Richard Ostle (solicitor) teaching us about 'Wills and Trusts' and also 'Power of Attorney' and 'Deputyship'. Richard had been recommended to us by Little Gate Farm and we could see why. Down to earth with an understanding of our children's needs and how our kind of families work, Richard was able to make this tricky area of the law easier to understand and help us understand why it is SO important to be aware of how (in law) our role as a parent/carer changes as our children grow older. Alongside this he showed us how to protect our children's money through setting up trusts. Richard will continue to offer his services to us. Get in touch with me if you'd like to know more.

On Wednesday 11th December, Jo Manly and Jo Lawes (NHS) joined us to talk all things 'Sleep' and 'Contenance' and home routines that might help. They were able to signpost families to potential avenues of support and also answer (lots!) of questions about individual children and their needs. All of our attendees said how helpful the session was, and both Jo's will be able to help us further as needed.

If you missed either of these cafés and would like to know more, do drop me an email. [melanie.juckes@glynegap.org](mailto:melanie.juckes@glynegap.org)

A reminder that in the Spring term we will have 2 Cafés:

Wednesday 5th February 10-12: Glyne Gap Signs and Symbols

Wednesday 25th March 10-12: Understanding Behaviour

I will be in touch in January with more information.

Have a wonderful and peaceful Christmas,  
Mel J



Jo Lawes (NHS) talking to parent at Cafe



Richard Ostle assisted parents on legal matters such as Power of Attorney

## News from the Faculty



Students at the Faculty decided that they would like to create a Christmas grotto for pupils at the school. As part of their research they visited a range of grottos and gathered resources. They worked together to build the grotto. It looks fantastic! All pupils will visit the Christmas grotto and meet Santa. Those who have already visited have had great fun and didn't want to leave!



Tiger (Skylarks) enjoying his time with Father Christmas in the grotto

Students with Tinsel Top Dan. He came from Blackbrooks Garden Centre to look at our grotto. Thank you Blackbrooks for donating the decorations.



## Cooking up a Storm in Wrens!

Wrens class have been using our cookery sessions to explore different equipment and learn how to use it.



Jared and Jojo worked together using a switch and the electric whisk to mix their ingredients. Jared watched carefully and realised that he could make the whisk start and stop by pressing the switch and they both had lots of fun.



Charlie soon got the hang of the hand whisk and had our ingredients mixed up in no time.







## Indian Adventures in Creative Arts

Creative Arts has taken on a new look.....we are now Native Americans in an Indian village, complete with tipis, totem pole, buffalo and sweet corn roasting on an open fire.

With traditional music and travelling light patterns, everyone can choose which part of the room they would like to explore. From rhythmic drumming to sheltering in a comforting tipi, there is something for everyone.

The session is totally interactive, with each individual discovering something that interests them and then staff gently extending the learning through responsive interaction. Conversations take many forms within an atmosphere of freedom, respect and above all, fun!



## Great Team Work in FE1

Since starting at the Faculty, Ibrahim and Andrew have done an excellent job of contributing to the preparation of a class lunch once a week. Ibrahim and Andrew each have their own tasks that they are expected to carry out – here Andrew is chopping the vegetables and Ibrahim is using his switch to grate the cheese in the food processor. Everybody enjoys the pasta bake that they help to prepare.



## Junior 3—Around the World Celebrations



Junior 3 have been learning about different celebrations around the world this term. We have been working on our independence and organisational skills by preparing and cooking food traditionally eaten during these celebrations.

We have had great fun developing our fine motor skills, mark-making and writing during our Literacy lessons. We have also used these lessons to produce celebration cards, our class shopping lists and instructions for class activities.

## Hello Everyone!

Christmas is fast approaching and it's a time when lots of different things happen and our usual routines may change for a few days. There can be family get togethers, decorations up at home, parties to go to and presents appearing under the Christmas tree! It can be quite confusing and un-predictable for our pupils, when will they be allowed their presents? why do we give presents to other people? why do we have to share?! There are lots of things to try and understand all in a short space of time.

*Here's something for you to try at home.....here are some signs you can use to help your child understand what's going on and what you expect them to do at Christmas. You could use them to help your child understand that they may have to take turns in opening presents or playing a game, so you could say 'now (see sign below) it's Dad's (point to Dad) turn, next (see sign below) it's your (point to your child) turn'. Plus, here are the signs for the tricky concepts of sharing & giving! I hope this is useful & wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.*



now



next



share



give



**Checkout Singing Hands on YouTube!**

**There are some super videos on YouTube that Singing Hands regularly update. They use Makaton Signs whilst singing anything from nursery rhymes to the latest tunes and Christmas songs - great for all ages!**

### Parent & Carer Resource Making Drop Ins

**19th December 9-10am  
15th January 9-10am  
29th January 9-10am  
12th February 9-10am**

**There are a limited number of spaces . Please let us know if you're planning to attend as soon as possible—Thank you.**

