

Glenaire Gazette

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a lovely half term on the whole, and although it has not been without its challenges in the current circumstances, the children are enjoying their learning and working hard to close the gaps from lockdown. I know some parents miss the old routines, and we have not been able to invite you in for our usual events such as spooky maths in Early years or for celebration assemblies, but we will find our 'new normal' together as a community! We may not be able to plan a Christmas performance, but do not worry - we have a little covid-safe plan up our sleeve and will share this with you next half term.

Looking Ahead

School closes today for the half-term break – we wish all our families a relaxing and fun time.

School opens again on Monday 2nd November.

Parents evening cannot take place as usual, but we will arrange for you to have a telephone conversation with your child's teacher – appointment booking after half term.

Training Day: 20th November – school closed to all pupils.

Covid Update

We have made it to the end of a full half term without needing to close any 'bubbles' or send classes home. This is partly luck – we are one of very few schools in this position in Bradford now and I suspect as winter arrives, we will have our share of cases, but I like to think it is also a sign that our safety measures are working well.

Thanks to you all for wearing masks on school grounds and for waiting patiently in lines without overtaking, (I know it is tempting) to make our one-way systems work. Please don't let this slip as it is helping to keep us all safe.

Thanks also to our premises and cleaning team, who are doing a sterling job not just at the end of the day but also at key points through the day to keep school extra clean and safe.

STAY ALERT

Our Latest Success Stories

- we have had no positive cases of covid-19 amongst pupils or staff since September
- our attendance is better than the same time last year, with most year groups above the target of 96%!
- we have almost no lates this term so far (well done parents!)
- your generous donations have gone to help others less fortunate than ourselves – thank you so much
- Our survey results were very positive: 93% of replies were happy with how their children had settled back in and 100% of replies found school easy to contact, with 93% rating our communication as good or excellent. 94% of replies were happy with our covid-safety measures with nearly 80% giving the highest possible score. We also had some helpful suggestions and lovely supportive comments.



Anti-Bullying Work

Like all schools, we sometimes deal with issues between children that may turn into or feel to the child like bullying. The simple guide for whether something is bullying is STOP – bullying is Several Times On Purpose. We work closely with parents if issues arise to resolve them, and feedback from individual parents is positive. Often the bully needs a great deal of support to change their mindset and address their own issues alongside of course, support for the child who has been bullied. This can take time, and school's work does not stop after the initial problem is dealt with. It is important to all staff that children are happy and feel safe at Glenaire. It is upsetting to see negative comments about our school on social media, or hear of them in the community, implying that bullying is common at Glenaire or that the school or Headteacher are allowing bullying to happen, when this is far from the truth. We have lots of ways to get in touch with school – through class dojo/tapestry/telephone/email and I would ask any parent who has a concern about their child at Glenaire to contact school so we can work in partnership. We follow up on all concerns we are made aware of, in line with our policies and procedures.

Year group News

I have been lucky to share in some super work across school this week!

Early Years have been exploring the season looking at spiders (including a lovely big one to look at!) and celebrating National Apple Day by making chocolate apples.

In KS1 Amelia and Ellie performed their stories to me using story maps so brilliantly, we have made a video to share – look out for it coming soon on our Facebook, twitter and website pages!

I have seen some super writing from Courtney in Year 5 and had maths bridging ten explained to me brilliantly by Layton-Blake in Year 3.

Year 6 have been building their social skills playing a circle game called 'catch catch' with me at lunchtimes – why not play it at home?

Mental Health

In these difficult times, positive mental health becomes even more important, and this will be a focus in school over the coming half term.

In addition to their usual ongoing learning in PSHE and the social skills work we do as part of primary school life, we will also be looking at developing a shared language for our children to talk about their feelings; promoting and rewarding 'it's cool to be kind' attitudes and work leading up to anti-bullying week, which is the 16th to the 20th of November.

We will also be making a weekly suggestion for a 'family talk topic' which we would like you to discuss at home, helping home and school to work together.

Staff News



Congratulations to Mrs. Laura Metcalfe and family, who have added a beautiful baby girl called Rosie to their family. She is just gorgeous!

As always, thank you for your support for your child and our school – particularly in the current circumstances,

Jo Wilkinson
Headteacher

