



Autumn Term 2016

Friday 2nd December

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had an incredibly busy week this week with two inspections. We had a local authority safeguarding inspection on Monday and a school organized 'mini Ofsted' inspection led by a current Ofsted inspector on Thursday. Both inspections were extremely positive and reinforced our self-evaluation that we are close to being outstanding as a school. Both inspectors commented on the excellent behaviour of our pupils and the Ofsted inspector particularly commented on the exciting creative curriculum we provide and the rapid progress our pupils make. I would like to say a big thank you to all our staff for their hard work both this week and throughout the term.

We are into December already and Christmas is fast approaching! The children, particularly Nightingales class, have been very busy practising our Nativity, 'Peace on Earth' and are looking forward to sharing it with you on 13th and 14th December. Tickets are now available from the school office at £1.50 each. The money raised is used to pay for lighting and any additional money goes towards school funds.

We ask that small children are not brought to the performances as it is not fair on our pupils when their voices cannot be heard over crying etc. Parents with pre-school children/babies are welcome to attend the dress rehearsal on Monday 12th December for no charge although please be aware it is a dress rehearsal so things may be far from smooth!

As I have said several times previously, **we have children in this school that do not have permission for their photos to be used for their own protection and in view of this, we need to say that no photos/videos can be taken at school events.** You are very welcome to bring your child back into the hall at the end of the performance to take a photo with the backdrop. We are still looking for a volunteer to take and produce photos during the performance that we can make available to parents after the event - please speak to Mrs Sawyer in the school office.

We currently have some vacancies due to expansion of our school and wraparound care provision. If you or anyone you know is interested in a role as midday meal supervisor, After School Club assistant or Breakfast Club Assistant, please have a look at our website <http://glaphornschool.ik.org/vacancies.html> for more details. Mrs Dudley-Smith will be finishing at the end of the term due to family commitments. Mrs Dudley-Smith has been a fantastic member of our staff team and we wish her well for the future. Mrs Dudley-Smith currently works four days a week and her replacement will work five days a week - see our website for details of the post.

Work on School House Garden to pave a large part of it is planned to take place over the Christmas holidays, weather permitting, so we are looking forward to having a larger play area in the New Year. School Council have agreed the playground markings they would like to have from the generous donation from the Co-op and these are also due to be done shortly. The area in front of Robins class is now also nearly finished so the majority of it is now being used by the Reception children. We are still looking for someone to come and put down some anti-slip strips in the Barn Owls outdoor classroom. This could be done during the school day or at a weekend but needs dry weather. If you are able to do this for us, please speak to Mrs Sawyer in the office.

Finally, just a reminder please to park safely and with consideration for our neighbours and other people. Please ensure space is left free so children and adults can safely access the school without walking on the road, particularly at the entrance to the track.

Katherine Towns, Head and Lou Coulthard, Associate Head

Dates for the Term

Christingle service, St. Leonard's Church, Glapthorn, 4 p.m. this Sunday 4th December

Monday 5th December - Last day for bringing photograph orders into school

Christmas Nativity Performance: Tues 13th December, 2 p.m. and Wed 14th December, 6 p.m.
(Dress Rehearsal 12th December)

Christmas Lunch - Thursday 15th December. If you would like your child to have Christmas lunch please order by Monday 5th December as School Cook Mandy has to make an early Christmas order to her suppliers and will be unable to manage any last minute orders.

Christmas Parties and mufti day for £1 donation towards Present aid - Monday 19th December

End of Term Carol Service: Tuesday 20th December, 2 p.m. at St. Leonard's Church, Glapthorn

Parents Evenings will take place on Tuesday 10th January, 3.30 p.m.- 5.15 p.m. and Thursday 12th January, 5 p.m. - 7.30 p.m. and Autumn Term Reports will be given out as part of the meeting.

School Admissions

Reception Starters

If your child turns 4 between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, you need to apply for a school place for starting school in September 2017. On-line admissions are now open and applications must be made by **15th January 2017**.

To apply for a primary place, follow this link:

<http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/school-admissions/Pages/default.aspx>

| School Diary | | |
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| Week beginning 5th December | | |
| Day | During School | After School |
| Monday 5 th December BOOK FAIR | Barn Owls Craft Day Last Date for photo orders | Art Club |
| Tuesday 6 th December BOOK FAIR | Gardening Club | EYFS/KS1 Football Club Coding Club |
| Wednesday 7 th December | Robins Craft Day Signing Club Strings lessons | |
| Thursday 8 th December | Nightingales Craft Day | KS2 Football Club Knitting Club |
| Friday 9 th December | Red Kites Craft Day Robins to Forest School French Club Woodwind and Brass lessons | Rugby Club Film Club |
| Week beginning 12th December - NO CLUBS | | |
| Monday 12 th December | 2 p.m. Dress Rehearsal | |
| Tuesday 13 th December | 2 p.m. Nativity | |
| Wednesday 14 th December | | 6 p.m. Nativity |
| Thursday 15 th December | Christmas Lunch | |
| Friday 16 th December | | |
| Week beginning 19th December - NO CLUBS | | |
| Monday 19 th December | Mufti Day - £1 donation in aid of Present Aid Christmas parties in class | |
| Tuesday 20 th December | 2 p.m. Carol Service in St. Leonard's Church, Glapthorn | After School Club closes 4.30 p.m. |

School reopens on Thursday 5th January 2017