



GLADSTONE PARK NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2 WEEK 6

Dear families,

Welcome to our last newsletter of the autumn term. We have spent the last two weeks assessing our students, learning more about them and preparing their wonderful performances to celebrate the festive season. We hope you enjoyed seeing your little ones in action - they were spectacular! Our amazing staff team make the concerts look seamless, but they have been incredible in organising, structuring and relentlessly practising with our students, so we are very grateful to them for all their incredible work.

We also celebrated with our community last week at our wonderful 'Winter Fair'. A huge thank you to our incredible PSA and volunteers who ensured the day was such a success.

The next week is very busy, so please ensure you check out our key dates below. You will also receive your child's end of term report on Wednesday 17th December too. We hope you enjoy celebrating the progress they have made this term.

As we look forward to a restful break on the 19th December, we'd like to wish those celebrating a very merry Christmas, and we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 6th January.

Ms Green



Don't forget to check out our published academic results from last year, our amazing choir in action and lots more!

instagram:  [gladstoneparkprimary](https://www.instagram.com/gladstoneparkprimary) - here's where you'll find snippets of school life & information you need!

YEAR UPDATES

EYFS



We would like to say a big thank you for coming to watch our Nativity performance— it was truly magical. We are also excited to share that our puddle suits have arrived, and we have already begun using them for outdoor play. Please don't forget to bring Wellington boots for your child by the end of this term.

Next week, we will be having our class Christmas party on the 18th of December. We will share a list of items you can provide for the party via MCAS. Thank you for all your support—your home learning efforts make a big impact on the children's progress.



Thank you to all the parents who attended our nursery sing-along on Wednesday; the children did so well and we are very proud of them. This week, the children enjoyed learning about the book *The Snowman*, exploring descriptive language like "cold," "winter," and "snowman" after finding a box with a snowman inside. They also had lots of fun playing outside, making muddy Christmas pies.



YEAR 1



In Science this week, we have been exploring the fascinating processes of melting and freezing! The children loved becoming real "mini-scientists" as they investigated how ice changes state. One of the highlights was when each child held an ice cube and watched—wide-eyed—as it slowly melted in their hands. They made brilliant observations about how temperature affects solids and liquids, and their curiosity sparked some wonderful class discussions. It's been a chilly but exciting adventure in learning!

YEAR 2



Year 2 have been booked and busy getting ready for their Christmas performance, so all parents will be in for a treat! They have also been learning about healthy eating and each week have had the chance to prepare a delicious dish which even blew Ms Green away. Shapes have been the focus in maths and the children have been getting stuck into learning all the new key vocabulary and showing what amazing independent learners they are - well done year 2!

YEAR UPDATES

YEAR 4



Year 4 have once again been out and about exploring London! This week the classes continued to learn about the Roman empire by visiting Gunnersbury Park Museum to look at some Roman artefacts!

The amazing enrichments opportunities that have been on offer this year have given the children the hunger to learn outside of the classroom!

YEAR 6

Year 6 had a fantastic time at Camden Arts this week! They got hands-on and creative as they put the finishing touches on their projects — a brilliant break from the classroom. They've also worked extremely hard in their second mock SATs and showed amazing improvements, proving just how much effort they've put in this term. All the booster groups, home learning, and their commitment to coming to school have really paid off, and we can't wait to see what their next results will show!



YEAR 3

Year 3 have recently been reading the story of The Tear Thief by former UK Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy. Over the past few weeks, the children have turned into mini journalists and have been gathering clues to uncover the mystery behind a stolen jar of tears! Have a look at some of their newspaper articles about the awful crime!



YEAR 5

Year 5 students are bursting with excitement as they prepare for their upcoming festive concert! The classrooms have been filled with cheerful singing as the students practise their songs, gaining confidence and having plenty of fun along the way. They've also been working hard on a special musical piece, using chime bars to play a bright and joyful tune that's sure to make the audience smile. They can't wait to share their festive spirit with friends and families!



ATTENDANCE

Being at school every day makes a big difference to how our children learn, connect with friends, and feel confident. At GPPS, we keep an eye on attendance so we can step in early and support families if absences start to add up.

You might receive a quick call or invitation to chat from your child's class teacher — these are simply our way of checking in and making sure everything is okay. It's been fantastic to hear feedback from you about these and know that you've appreciated the check ins.

We know every family's situation is different, and we're here to help. If you ever have concerns about your child's attendance or need a bit of support, please reach out. Working together helps keep our students happy, learning, and thriving.

Well done to Reception and Year 1 who have seen their attendance increase over the past two weeks!

Reception

70% → 80%

Year 1

93% → 94%

Year 2

96% → 95%

Year 3

94% → 93%

Year 4

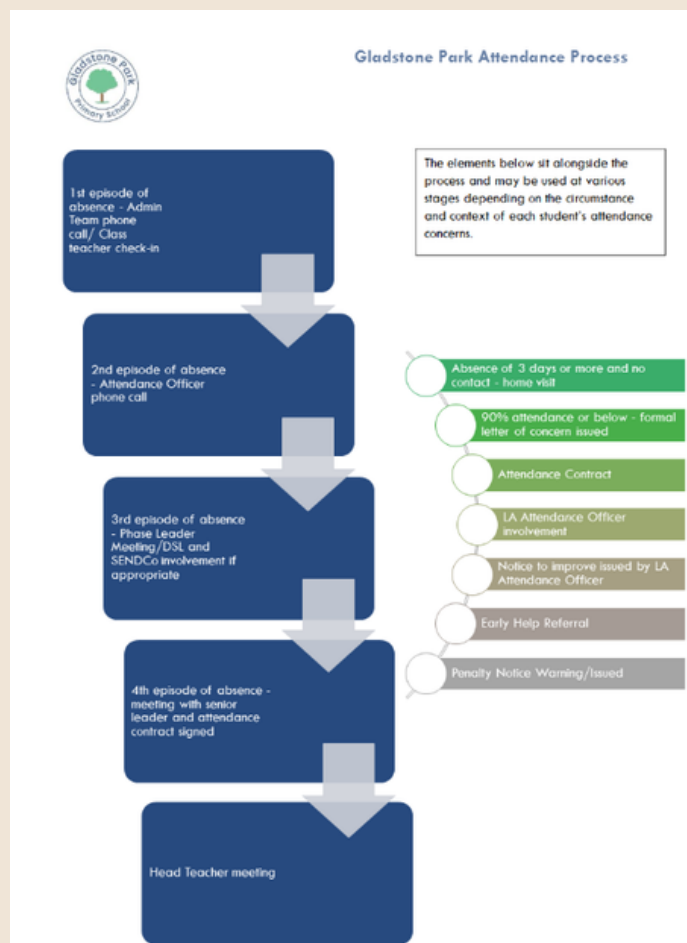
96% → 96%

Year 5

96% → 94%

Year 6

96% → 94%



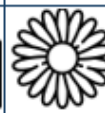
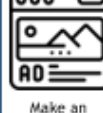
THE GLADSTONE PARK PLEDGE

We are delighted to announce that we have finalised The Gladstone Park Pledge!

After reviewing the feedback from parents, staff and students, we have created an overview of the activities and enrichment opportunities that we promise to offer our children by the time they leave our school! Stay tuned to see how we kick start our pledge in the new year!

EYFS				
 Visit a farm	 Visit the duck pond	 Travel on the tube	 Visit the library	 Go on a treasure hunt around the school
 Blow bubbles	 Make a healthy snack	 Zip up my coat	 Pack my school bag	 Grow a plant
 Learn Makaton	 Pack a picnic	 Meet a police officer	 Learn a song from another culture	 Dance in the rain
 Perform in a show	 Meet the fire brigade	 Water the plants	 Make a leaf rubbing	 Jump in muddy puddles
 Write a card to my friend	 Listen to seashells	 Walk on frosty grass	 Listen to a bedtime story	 Identify a local bird
	 Meet a reindeer		 Watch a pantomime	

KS1					
 Visit the seaside	 Visit the zoo	 Visit a place of worship	 Borrow a book from the library	 Visit the transport museum	 Visit Pudding Lane
 Bake cupcakes	 Get ready for school	 Log in to a computer	 Learn to count to 10 in a different language	 Answer a telephone call	 Play a team sport
 Tie shoelaces	 Plait hair	 Make a paper aeroplane	 Splash in the sea	 Skim a stone	 Listen to an author
 Try a new food	 Paint a portrait	 Watch a campfire	 Post a letter	 Complete an act of kindness	 Make a den
	 Learn how to look after a pet	 Chat to an elderly person in the community	 Take part in a charity event	 Grow an edible plant	

Lower KS2					
 Visit a museum	 Visit Wembley stadium	 Visit a place of worship	 Visit a restaurant	 Visit Gunnersbury Park Museum	 Visit the local library
 Make a meal at a restaurant	 Spend money in a shop	 Self-publish a book	 Make a daisy chain	 Send an email	 Make the bed
 Create and exhibit a piece of art	 Learn to recycle	 Learn to lay the table	 Learn to tell the time	 Learn how to play chess	 Play in a sports team
 Watch a theatre show	 Learn and understand my rights	 Make an online advert	 Tie-dye a t shirt	 Litter picking	 Learn to play an inclusive sport
	 Sew a button				

Upper KS2					
 Visit an art gallery	 Visit a sports venue	 Visit the Houses of Parliament	 Visit a place of worship	 Go on a residential trip	
 Visit a bank	 Visit a care home	 Self-publish a book	 Visit RAF Hendon		
 Cook a basic meal	 Learn to ride a bike	 Swim 25m	 Learn to tell the time	 Learn to speak publicly	
 Program a robot	 Ask challenging questions	 Learn to read and follow a map	 Follow DIY instructions	 Learn to wrap a present	
 Learn to travel independently	 Learn Origami	 Learn first aid	 Compete in a team sport	 Perform in a show	
 Grow something to eat	 Organise an event	 Cook outdoors	 Watch a live sports event	 Watch the sunrise	
	 Film a vlog	 Participate in an election			

NOTICES



Follow us on Instagram:
gladstoneparkprimary

Are you Rock Band ready?

We're thrilled to announce that we're partnering with Rock Steady Music School next term to offer a programme of weekly music sessions for our children in Year 1 - Year 6 which will culminate in termly rock band performances! Keep your eyes peeled on MCAS in January for more information!



Feedback to us!

This year, we're partnering with The Engagement Platform (TEP) a research-led engagement tool that will help us better understand your experience - please complete the [survey here](#) by Friday 19th December!



Tutoring Club!

We're working with First Class Learning Tuition to host a maths tutoring club at Gladstone Park in January 2026 for just £7.50 a session! If you'd be interested in signing your children up, please complete the form [here](#).



**FIRST
CLASS
LEARNING**

Willesden
maths and English
tuition

Give your child's learning a First Class boost!



ECO- AMBASSADORS UPDATE



Our eco-ambassadors have been working tirelessly this term! They have have been working closely with Mr Maddock to complete an environmental review of the school. The children have been completing surveys and questionnaires to find out information on how the school stays environmentally friendly. After asking Ms Green some challenging questions about: transport, global citizenship, waste, marine life, biodiversity, energy and the school grounds, the children brought their results back to their Eco-ambassador meeting.

Once the group have collated all the information from their surveys, they will create an action plan which outlines how they intend to improve the school's eco-friendliness! Once this has been shared, the children will start rolling up their sleeves and spring into action!

Stay tuned to see what they get up to by the end of the spring term! I'm sure they are going to make a huge difference to the school!



STAFFING UPDATE

We would like to share that Mr Reed will be leaving Gladstone Park at the end of this term after many years of dedicated service to our school community. We are incredibly grateful for the contribution he has made to the lives of our pupils, families and staff, and we wish him every success in the future.

From January, Ms Trickett will be joining our Year 5 teaching team and will take over as class teacher. We are delighted to welcome her into this role and are confident she will continue to support the children to thrive.

SPORTS NEWS



Our football team have continued their impressive start to the season with an emphatic 12-0 victory over St Josephs in the Brent Cup 2nd round. Coach Dee said that it was almost impossible to choose a standout performer from the game as every single player on the team was outstanding! The children should be immensely proud of the work they have put in to get this far in the competition and hopefully we can push on and bring home the trophy!



CLUBS UPDATE

Keep a look out for the new after-school clubs that will be on offer for the Spring term.

We are excited to announce that from January, we will be offering a dance club for Year 2, 3 and 4 - provided by an external dance company!

We're working with First Class Learning Tuition to host a maths tutoring club at Gladstone Park in January 2026 for just £7.50 a session!

If you'd be interested in signing your children up, please complete the form [here](#).



Willesden
maths and English
tuition

Give your child's learning a First Class boost!



MATHS FLUENCY

We're sure many of you have heard your children talking enthusiastically about their maths fluency lessons this term and may be wondering what it's all about! We launched our new whole-school maths fluency programme, Effective Maths, in September, and it's been fantastic to see how quickly the children have taken to it.



Throughout the week, pupils take part in short, snappy fluency sessions that help them strengthen number sense, build confidence, and practise key maths skills in a fun and memorable way. Across the school, children are already becoming quicker with their number facts, more accurate in their calculations, and far more confident about giving things a go.

What's been especially lovely is hearing pupils talk so positively about these sessions and seeing how much they're enjoying maths as a result. We're really proud of the progress they've made and look forward to seeing their confidence continue to grow throughout the year.



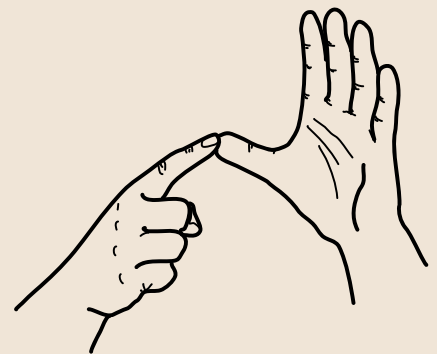
INDOOR LUNCHTIME PROVISION

This half term, we have started a lunchtime provision to support some of our children who would benefit from a calmer indoor space to help them feel safe and regulated at lunchtime as the outdoor environment can sometimes be overwhelming with so many activities and children!

We have a range of activities including board games, air hockey and turn taking games. Our students are loving it so far!



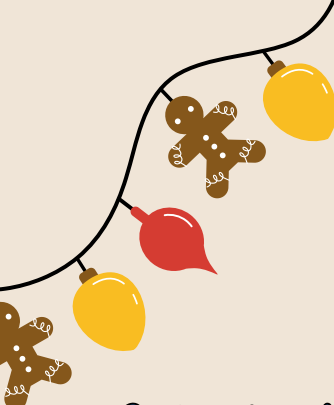
MAKATON SIGNS OF THE WEEK



We have been learning the Makaton Signs of the Week as part of our commitment to supporting every child's communication. Each week, we introduce a new sign and model this to our students. This has been particularly helpful for our children with speech, language and communication needs to understand key vocabulary and express themselves.

If you would like to practise the weekly signs at home, you can find them here:

[Makaton Sign of the Week](#)



AUTUMN 2 EVENTS



**Saturday 6th
December**

PSA Winter Fair

**Tuesday 9th
December**

Reception Nativity 10:00 Year 1 Nativity 13:30

**Wednesday 10th
December**

Year 3 and Year 4 Festive Concert 09:00-10:30

Nursery Festive Performance 10:30 and 14:00

**Thursday 11th
December**

EYFS Open Morning 09:00

**Thursday 11th
December**

**Year 2 Festive Concert 09:00 & Christmas
Jumper Day**

**Friday 12th
December**

Year 5 and Year 6 Festive Concert 09:00-10:30

**Thursday 18th
December**

Christmas Lunch & Festive dress

**Thursday 18th
December**

Christmas Class Parties

PARENT EVENTS

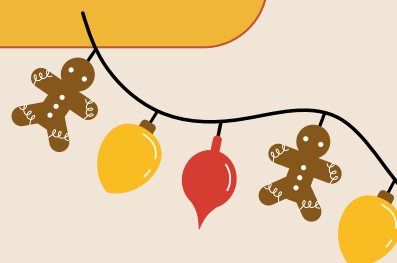
**Tuesday 9th
December**

Coffee Morning: Educational Psychologist

**Come along to meet the Educational Psychologist who works closely with us,
learn strategies on how to support your child at home and at school.**

Last day of Autumn 2: Friday 19th December

First day of Spring 1: Tuesday 6th January



SPRING 1 PARENT EVENTS



All at 09:00

Our feedback from coffee mornings was that our families want to find more ways to engage more in school life and learn about how we teach.

This term, we're inviting our Year 6 parents in to see a live reading lesson in action, and our workshops are aimed at teaching you what we teach our students in maths and reading!

**Tuesday 6th
January**

Introduction to Maths at Gladstone Park

**Tuesday 13th
January**

Year 6 & how to prepare for SATs

**Tuesday 20th
January**

Maths: how we teach calculation strategies

**Tuesday 27th
January**

Introduction to our behaviour approach - Thrive

**Tuesday 3rd
February**

Phonics & how to prepare your child for the screening check

**Tuesday 10th
February**

Reading: how we teach Year 2-Year 6



First day of Spring 1: Tuesday 6th January

Last day of Spring 1: Friday 13th February

