



GLADSTONE PARK NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 1 WEEK 1

Dear Families,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the new school year. As many of you know, I am not new to the school community, having worked alongside our children, families and staff from April 2026. It is therefore a real privilege to begin this school year as the new Head of School.

One of the things that has really impressed me during these first few days is how quickly the children have returned to the school routines and settled back into their learning habits. I have enjoyed popping into classrooms and seeing purposeful learning taking place, with students eager to share their ideas, taking pride in their work. Pupils in Year 2 have been learning about the difference between fact and fiction and have impressed me with the fascinating facts they have discovered about wolves (did you know wolves have 42 teeth?!). Children across the school are eager to share their learning, and in Year 5, pupils have been exploring different methods of addition, including partitioning and the column method and are able to confidently explaining their mathematical thinking and reasoning.

The classrooms are calm and purposeful, and we are very proud of the way they have embraced the start of the year.

In the playground year 3 pupils showed true skill and demonstrated exceptional teamwork when teaching each other how to play hop scotch. The children were supporting one another in the playground and demonstrating the kindness and respect that make our school such a special place.

As we work together to ensure every child achieves their very best, there are a few important reminders that will help support their learning:

- Please ensure that reading records are brought into school regularly and signed when you have read with your child at home.
- Homework should be completed and returned on time to reinforce the learning taking place in class.
- Children should attend school in the correct uniform every day, taking pride in their appearance and representing our school positively.
- For health and safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn in school. The only exception is a single pair of small stud earrings.
- Leggings are not allowed.

Strong partnerships between home and school play a vital role in children's success, and we greatly appreciate your support in helping us maintain these expectations.

I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead, filled with learning, achievement and memorable experiences for our children. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Warm regards,
Ms Hussain
Head of School



FILM NEGATIVE



FILM NEGATIVE

Don't forget to check out our
tuition club, key dates and lots
more here!



@gladstoneparkprimary - here's
where you'll find snippets of
school life & information you
need!

YEAR UPDATES

RECEPTION

Our first full week is now over, and the children are beginning to settle into their school routines and class rules. We are so pleased with how well they are doing!

This week, we started learning our first sounds, and the children will be bringing home their first handwriting homework this Friday. We are not sending online homework yet. Your class teacher will let you know when this starts.

The children are beginning to build new friendships and relationships with their teachers and classmates, and they are really enjoying exploring the provision we have prepared for them.

We understand that it can sometimes be difficult to see your child feeling upset when you leave them in the morning. Please be reassured that, once we begin our morning routines, the children settle very quickly. They are soon sitting beautifully on the carpet, ready to learn and enjoy their day with us.

Thank you so much for all your support, patience and encouragement during these first few days. It really makes a difference.

Have a lovely weekend!
The Reception Team 🌟

NURSERY

Our First Week in Nursery

What a wonderful first week we have had in Nursery! The children are beginning to settle into their new routines and are becoming more familiar with their teachers, friends and the Nursery environment.

We have been busy exploring our different areas of provision, playing alongside our friends and getting to know the adults who are here to support us. Some children have found the transition a little tricky, which is completely normal, but we are already seeing lots of smiles, growing confidence and happy moments throughout the sessions.

We are beginning to learn our Nursery routines, including tidying up, listening to our teachers, choosing activities and taking care of our classroom. The children have been doing a fantastic job!

We are so proud of how well everyone is settling in and look forward to seeing their confidence grow over the coming weeks.

Thank you to all our Nursery families for your patience, encouragement and support as the children begin this exciting new journey with us.

Well done, Nursery! 💖

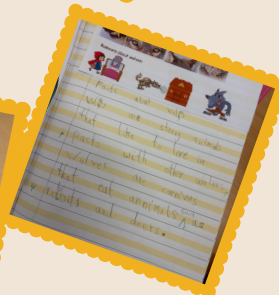


YEAR 1

Our new Year 1 children have made a fantastic start to the school year! They have been settling into their new classrooms, learning their routines and getting to know their teachers and new playground. Year 1 have already begun exploring their exciting English book for this half term, Cave Baby. The children have been enjoying talking about the different animals and setting, developing their vocabulary about extinct animals like mammoth. Year 1 have also been enjoying their daily phonics sessions, revisiting key sounds and practising blending and segmenting to build their confidence as they settle into their new routines. The Year 1 teachers are incredibly proud of how well the children have settled and are so impressed with their enthusiasm and hard work!

YEAR 2

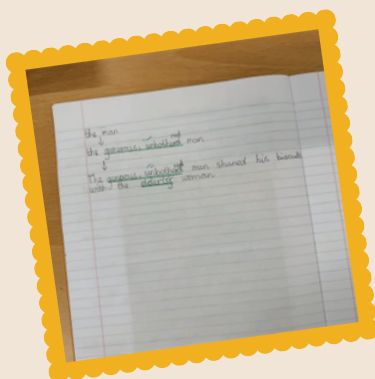
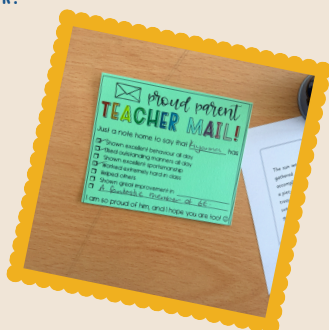
Our new year 2s have settled in so well this school year! They have enjoyed becoming familiar with their new classrooms, learning routines and getting to know their teachers. Year 2 have already got started with their English book for this half term: 'Wolves'. The children have been generating adjectives to describe wolves and have learnt lots of new facts and wolf packs, how they communicate and where they live. The year 2 teachers are super impressed with all the hard work going on.



YEAR UPDATES

YEAR 4

The children have had a great start to life in Year 4! The children have already immersed themselves in their new classrooms and made themselves familiar with their new teachers. This week, we have been working hard on our presentation and neatness of our books. It has been so pleasing to see the children take so much pride in their work. By the time you come in for parent/carer meetings, then children will have become experts in displaying beautifully presented work!



YEAR 3

We have made it to Key Stage 2! The children have settled in so well this week and are enjoying life upstairs!! It has been a huge change for the children but they have embraced it with an immense amount of maturity. When you walk into their classrooms, you would not believe that these children have only just started life in Year 3! We are so impressed with the start that they have made!

YEAR 5

What a fantastic start to Year 5! The children have settled back into school brilliantly and have been working hard to establish positive routines and expectations. We have been focusing on taking pride in our handwriting and presentation, making sure our work is neat, clear and something we can be proud of. We have also jumped straight into Maths, getting stuck into place value and developing our understanding of numbers. Alongside this, we have been learning all about pep talks – what makes an effective pep talk and how we can use our words to encourage, motivate and support others. It has been a brilliant start to the year, and we are looking forward to all the learning ahead!

YEAR 6

Year 6 has had an incredible start to the school year! Last week was all about getting to know each other and settling into our new classrooms. We worked together through team-building activities and games while creating our new learning environment.

This week we've started getting into the routines and expectations of Year 6. We've set up our books and begun our first poetry unit. We are especially proud of how neat and organised our books are! We can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings.

ATTENDANCE

Welcome back, everyone! What a fantastic first week we've had. It has been wonderful to see our school buzzing with excitement, happy faces and brilliant learning taking place from day one.

A huge congratulations to two classes who achieved an impressive 97% attendance this week. That's a fantastic start to the year and shows a real commitment to making every day count.

Special recognition goes to 5T, who were the winners of our Week 1 Attendance Challenge! By achieving the highest attendance across the first three days of term, they secured the top spot. Phenomenal work, 5T! 🙌🏆

As we settle into the new academic year, we want to remind families of the importance of attending school every day. These first few weeks are particularly important, as children are establishing routines, building relationships with new teachers and classmates, and laying the foundations for a successful year of learning. Missing school doesn't just mean missing lessons; it can also mean missing out on friendships, experiences and those important moments that help children feel confident and connected.

A gentle reminder that term-time leave is not permitted and requests for holidays during school time cannot be authorised except in exceptional circumstances. We encourage families to plan holidays during the school breaks wherever possible.

This year, our attendance target is 97%, and we know that by working together we can achieve it. Every day in school is an opportunity to learn, grow and succeed. Let's make learning truly unmissable!

Thank you for your continued support. ❤️



Nursery

77%

Reception

97% 😊

Year 1

92%

Year 2

95%

Year 3

91%

Year 4

93%

Year 5

94%

Year 6

97% 😊





1 Why Attendance Matters

Good attendance and punctuality help children feel settled, keep up with learning and make the best possible progress.

- ✓ Keep up with learning
- ✓ Build confidence and friendships
- ✓ Develop good routines
- ✓ Achieve their full potential

Small steps make BIG futures ♥



Please make every effort to ensure your child attends school every day unless they are genuinely unwell.

2 If Your Child Is Unwell



Please let us know ♥

Please contact the school promptly and follow the usual absence-reporting procedure.

When your child returns to school, you may be asked to provide an explanation for the absence in line with school procedures.

We're here to help and support you ♥

3 Be On Time!



Arrive between **8:30am and 8:40am**



Registers close at approximately **8:45am**



Children arriving after the register closes may be recorded as an unauthorised absence and this can affect attendance percentage.



Persistent lateness will be monitored.



Good days start on time! 😊

Just **5 minutes** late every day = around **3 DAYS** of lost learning over a school year!



Parents and carers have a legal duty to ensure their child attends school regularly and on time.

4 Term-Time Holidays



Please arrange family holidays during official school holiday periods.

Memories are special, but so is their education ♥



Leave during term time can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.



Unauthorised term-time absence may lead to further action, including a possible penalty notice/fine.

Taking children out of school during term time can affect learning, progress and achievement.

SAME LESSONS BRIGHTER FUTURES

STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE



School Council: Applications now open!

As we settle into another exciting school year, we are looking for enthusiastic, responsible and caring pupils to join our Student Council.

The Student Council plays an important role in school life, giving children the opportunity to share ideas, represent the views of their classmates and help make positive changes across the school. It is a chance for pupils to develop their leadership skills, confidence and sense of responsibility while contributing to our school community.



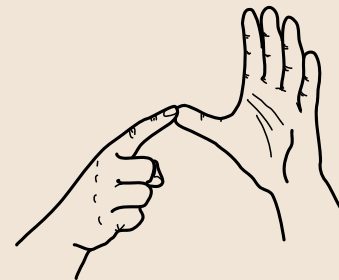
If your child is interested in becoming a Student Council representative, we encourage them to apply. Successful candidates should be ready to listen to others, share ideas respectfully and serve as positive role models for their peers.

Students should submit an application to their class teacher and we look forward to hearing from pupils who are passionate about making a difference.

We can't wait to see the fantastic ideas and enthusiasm our children bring to this year's Student Council! Together, we can make this another successful year for our school community.



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.

The sign of the week this week is teddy.

See the Makaton video using the link here:

https://makaton.org/TMC/News_Stories/SOTW/SOTW_Teddy.aspx



PARENT HANDBOOK



Attention parents! Please refer to our Parent handbook found on our website for any school policies, uniform guidelines, absence procedures etc.

<https://www.gladpark.anthemtrust.uk/our-school>

UNIFORM GUIDELINES

Polo shirt	Pale Blue	
Trousers/ Skirts	Black/grey	
Tights/ Socks	Black/grey	
Closed toe shoes (trainers can be worn but must be all black).	Black – there must not be any coloured detailing or sole. The shoe must be completely black.	
Hijabs/religious wear	Black/white	
*Leggings are not permitted * If thermals or undershirts are worn, they should be white or black *Jewellery is not permitted apart from a pair of small studs		



OUR THRIVE JOURNEY MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE!



Embedding Thrive Across Our School

This year, we are continuing our commitment to the Thrive approach and have started from day one to ensure it becomes firmly embedded in everyday school life.

Thrive helps us to support children's emotional wellbeing, build resilience and develop the social and emotional skills they need to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Our staff have been working hard to incorporate Thrive principles into their daily practice, creating calm, supportive and nurturing learning environments where every child feels safe, valued and ready to learn.

Already, we are seeing teachers confidently using Thrive strategies throughout the school day. Through positive relationships, predictable routines, emotional check-ins and supportive conversations, staff are helping children to understand and manage their feelings while developing confidence and independence.

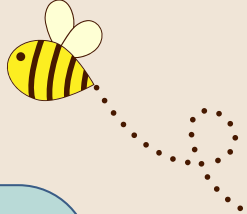
It has been wonderful to see how positively pupils have responded. Children are engaging well with the approach, using the language of emotions more confidently and demonstrating the respectful, caring behaviours that help our school community to thrive.

As the year progresses, we will continue to strengthen this work so that Thrive becomes an integral part of our school's culture. We look forward to sharing more about the positive impact of Thrive and how it supports every child to flourish academically, socially and emotionally.



AUTUMN 1 KEY DATES

Please see some of our key dates for the term ahead!



**Tuesday
1st September**

INSET DAY - No School for Children

**Wednesday
2nd September**

First day of school - Gates open at 08:30

**Thursday
17th September**

Open Day Tour @ 8:45am

**Tuesday
13th October**

Individual School Photos

**Wednesday 14th
October**

Parents' Evening

**Thursday
15th October**

Parents' Evening

**Thursday
15th October**

Open Day Tour @ 8:45am

Last day of Autumn 1: Friday 16th October 2026



AUTUMN 1 PARENT EVENTS



Please see some of our key dates for the term ahead!

**Thursday 3rd
September**

Curriculum meeting EYFS @ 3.30pm

**Friday
3rd September**

Curriculum meeting Y5-6 @ 3.30pm

**Tuesday
8th September**

Curriculum meeting Y3-4 @ 3.30pm

**Wednesday
9th September**

Meet the head coffee morning @ 8.45am

**Thursday
10th September**

Curriculum meeting Y1-2 @ 3.30pm

**Tuesday
15th September**

Phonics Workshop @ 8.45am



**Tuesday
22nd September**

MTC Workshop @ 8:45am

**Tuesday
22nd September**

Y6 Workshop @ 3.30pm

**Tuesday
29th September**

Secondary School Workshop @ 8.45am

**wednesday
30^h September**

SEND Coffee morning @ 8:45am

Last day of Autumn 1: Friday 16th October 2026

