

Parent Information Sheet
Thursday/Friday 30th August 2019

READY **KEY THREE...** **SAFE**
RESPECTFUL

Welcome back!

A very warm welcome back to a new school year! It was great to see the children return on Tuesday looking very smart in their new uniforms armed with full pencil cases and boundless enthusiasm. Long may it continue!

A special welcome to our new pupils starting Glencraig, not least our class of P1s. I know what a special day it is for both them and their parents and during the summer it can feel like it's never going to arrive! But it's here and we hope that the next seven years will be very happy ones for them.

So for some parents this will be your first "Friday Note" and if that is the case and you are a parent at Glencraig for the first time, welcome!

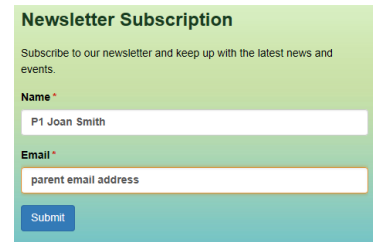
This is the only Friday note that will come home in paper copy. Over the last few years we have been working hard to try and decrease the amount of photocopying of notes going home and harness the digital technologies that are now very much part of all our lives. In this spirit we will only be posting our Friday Note on our website or emailing it to you as of next week.

I would really urge you to sign up to the emailing service or make a weekly habit to log on to the website and to read the Friday note. Not only does it contain important dates and information about events coming up but it also celebrates what has been going on in school each week, often reported by the children themselves and it helps to connect our school community.

So PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ THE FRIDAY NOTE.

If you would like the Friday Note emailed, simply log on to our website www.glencraigips.co.uk and on the front page insert your **CHILD'S class** and **name** followed by **YOUR email** address in the appropriate boxes.

As in the example shown.



Newsletter Subscription

Subscribe to our newsletter and keep up with the latest news and events.

Name *

P1 Joan Smith

Email *

parent email address

Submit

DINNER UPDATE!!!!

P2 – P7 Dinners (P1s don't stay for dinners until October)

School dinners are NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL WEDNESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER due to the ongoing work to our hall roof. Apologies for this inconvenience but I am confident that a drip free hall will be worth this short lived hassle.

Thanks you for your patience! Dinners can be ordered in advance and should be ordered and paid for online using the school Money website and the passwords issued today (30.8.19). Remember **dinners for any week must be ordered and paid for by midnight on the Sunday at the start of that week.**

Parent Information Evenings P1 – P7

These meetings will be held on **Wednesday 4th September** in the teachers' classrooms. They are an important opportunity for you to find out in detail the information relating directly to each year group. Classroom routines, homework details and an outline of aspects of the curriculum will be covered. I would strongly advise a representative from each family to attend. Should there be a clash in times, we would advise you to go to the meeting for your elder/eldest child.

Wednesday 4th at 6.30pm - P2, P4 & P6

Wednesday 4th at 7.30pm – P1, P3, P5 & P7

PTA Family Picnic – FRIDAY 6th September 6.00-8.00pm

The PTA met this week to finalise plans for the PTA Family Picnic which had to be postponed in June. The PTA have been successful in their application for a Community Grant to run this event so that there will be minimal cost to families attending. There will be a range of entertainment including active sports, football, drumming workshops, face painting and bouncy slide - all free of charge. We would love families to come along with their picnic (Tea and coffee will be available) and simply enjoy what the PTA have organised. It is a lovely way to kick off the year and for families, especially those new to Glencraig, to get to know each other in an informal way. All that is needed now is your support and of course some lovely late summer weather!



PTA CRYSTAL BALL

The Crystal Ball to celebrate our 15th year as an Integrated school is on Saturday 5th October at Clandeboye Lodge. Order forms went out at the end of last year but are also available from reception. This promises to be a great event with almost hundred tickets already sold so please round up your friends and get your order form in so that you aren't disappointed.

Various businesses have already been in contact to offer their support for the ball, there are many ways to get involved from sponsorship to raffle prizes. Please contact Juliemccusker@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to be part of it or have any contacts that would like to offer their support.

Supervision at Morning Drop-Off and Pick Up

The children are supervised by staff from 8.45am in the morning and dismissed from the staff's supervision at either 12.15pm (P1), 2.00pm (P2&3) or 3.00pm (P4-7 and 2.00pm on Friday). **Outside these times children are under the supervision of parents or guardians. Children should not be on school grounds outside these times unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.**

Classes may be using areas of the school at the front and children who have been dismissed earlier in the day should not be allowed in the areas that the classes are using. Your support in this is very much appreciated.

Holidays and Attendance

As always at the beginning of a new school year, I would like to remind parents of their responsibility to ensure that if their child is well, that they are in attendance at school. On our website is the school holiday list for this academic year. Family holidays should be restricted to these dates if at all possible. Our Educational Welfare Officer visits school on a regular monthly basis to monitor our overall attendance and the attendance of individual children. I would encourage you to ensure your child is present at school unless genuinely unwell, in which case TLC at home is without doubt the best remedy.

Absence Note

If your child is off school, we need a very brief note or email explaining the absence on their return. Many parents phone in to let us know that their child will not be coming in. Whilst this is useful for the teachers, unfortunately, it is not a substitute for a note on their return.

Much Needed Volunteers

The P1-P3 Healthy Break Scheme is up and running again this year and so Mrs Shaw would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to volunteer to help in preparing the fruit, etc, in the mornings. The break can be prepared at 9.00am straight after drop off time and so there is no need to go home and come back. The more volunteers we have the quicker the job. Volunteers do not need to be parents - we have had willing grandparents too. If you helped out last year and are willing to continue or if you are interested in becoming involved and want more details, please speak to Mrs Shaw in P2. We have already plenty of cover for a Tuesday so help on any other day would be really appreciated.

Extra pair of hands needed

Would you have an hour to spare in the afternoons on a regular weekly basis and be interested in helping out with Activity Based Learning in some of the classrooms? If so, please make contact with Mrs McKirgan.

ALLERGIES

At the start of the year it is a good time to remind everyone that we have a number of children with severe allergies and in the interests of their wellbeing we aim to be a **NUT FREE ZONE**. Please avoid sending in food containing nuts or traces of nuts. Many thanks for your support in this matter.

Nearly New Uniform

If you are interested in purchasing any additional items of uniform at very reasonable prices. Mrs White will be bringing out the uniform rails next **Friday 6th September and again on Monday 9th September** both first thing in the morning and again at pick up times.

P7 Parent Reminder

If your child is in P7 and is intending to sit one of the common entrance tests for our local grammar schools, the closing date for applications is **Friday 6th September** for AQE CEA assessment or **Friday 20th September** for the Post Primary Transfer Consortium GL assessment. Application forms are available through the local grammar schools or from the AQE or PPTC websites. Applying for these tests is solely the responsibility of parents.



Dates to put in your diary...

Wednesday 4th Sept, 6.30pm P2, P4 & P6 Parent Information Evening

Wednesday 4th Sept, 7.30pm P1, P3, P5 & P7 Parent Information Evening

Week beginning 21st October P1-P6 Parent/Teacher Interviews

Mon 28th Oct – Fri. 1st Nov (incl) Half Term Holiday