

Glendale Middle School Spring 2025 Newsletter



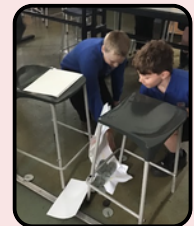
Animal workshop

On Thursday 20th February, Year 6 pupils made their way to the school gym to take part in a workshop about animals and their adaptations. Leading the workshop was Hannah and Juanita, two wildlife experts, who work at Andy Howey's Bird of Prey Centre. The aim of the workshop was to learn about a number of animals and how their adaptations help them to survive. It was a fascinating session where the children met two owls, a tarantula, a millipede and two snakes. Some of the children were even brave enough to put the tarantula on their head!



Science Week

Glendale celebrated British Science Week in their lessons this year by becoming engineers for the day. In small groups the children designed and built bridges, then tested them to see which bridge was the strongest and held the most mass before collapsing to the ground. The theme of this year's science week was "Change and Adapt" so the children had to use their scientific knowledge throughout the process to change and adapt their bridge designs to become the best one possible. There were some super designs and there could definitely be some engineers of the future among



Glasshouse BBC Ten Pieces music trip
KS2 and Ceilidh Band – 04.03.25



Glendale World Book Day 2025

On Thursday 6th March, the nation celebrated World Book Day and as always, the pupils of Glendale Middle embraced the event with relish! This year's theme was 'Read Your Way' and the day began with an assembly which included streamed videos of famous authors; their top tips on reading and their favourite places to read.

At the end of the assembly, the best fancy dress characters competition were awarded with a prize. This year it seemed that many many more pupils were dressed up than usual and the form tutors had a very difficult time choosing! However, this year's winners were:

Year 5 – AJ (An oompa loompa) and Elora (Alice in Wonderland)

Year 6 – Kaitlyn (The Queen of Hearts) and Jack (Willy Wonka)

Year 7 – James (Jeremy Clarkson) and Laura (Zinnia Wormwood)

Year 8 – Saffron/Ella and Kara (Alvin, Simon and Theodore chipmunks) and Libby (Toothless from How to Train Your Dragon)

A huge thanks goes to parents, carers and guardians for making the effort and supporting the pupils with the costumes which really made the day more spectacular!



GMS World Book Day Readathon

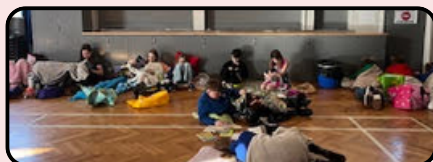
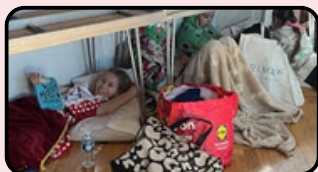
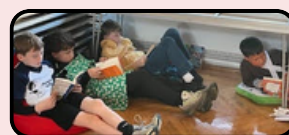
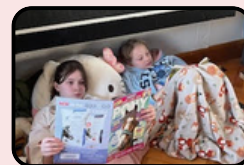
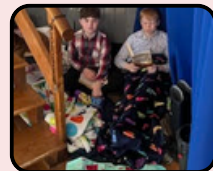
The Readathon is possibly the best attended and the most enjoyed event of World Book Day, here, at Glendale Middle. It is truly inspiring that we see so many pupils relaxing with their friends, quietly enjoying themselves and reading all at the same time. The children were a credit to you, parents, carers and guardians and every single child managed to complete the challenge and raise an extraordinary £650.50, which will help towards subsidising school trips and enrichment activities for the students. We can't thank you enough for your support. Well done!

Here are some of the participant comments:

'I enjoyed it so much because you could take your own snacks and read and sit with the people I like.' Brodie.

'I liked the readathon because I finished my book.' Alfie

'Reading with my friend was lovely.' Paige



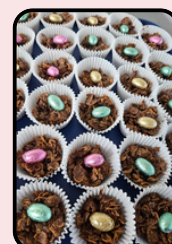
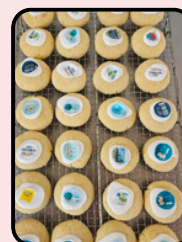
The winners of the Easter Egg Competition were as follows:

Year 5 – 1st Elora 2nd Zak

Year 6 – 1st Melissa 2nd – Kaitlynn

Well done to everyone who entered

The children enjoyed cupcakes for Valentines Day and Comic Relief Day, biscuits on World Book Day and Easter nests.



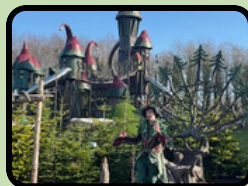
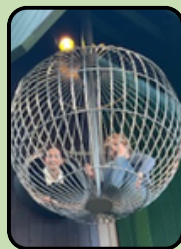
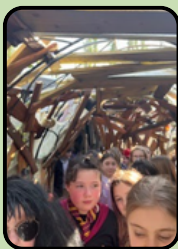
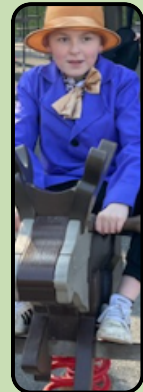
GMS KS2 trip to Lilidorei for a World Book Day Extravaganza



In the afternoon of World Book Day 2025, Years 5 and 6 were invited to Lilidorei in Alnwick Gardens to take part in a World Book Day Extravaganza. The pupils joined in the WBD parade; listened to a story time; used their imagination to complete the story of The Brave Little Lilidorian as they explored the village and played on Elfwin Drin – the tallest play structure in the world! Here is some feedback from Year 6:

The Lilidorei trip was fun and exciting. We were dressed up in our costumes and we were allowed to run around.' Leif.

'I enjoyed the Lilidorei trip. We listened to the story; played in the park and did a quest around the village. We had our own little flag. It was amazing!' Scarlett



Trip to Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh

Year 8 visited Holyroodhouse to learn more about the history of the Tudors and Stuarts. On the visit pupils participated in a workshop to investigate why the crown of England was passed to the Scottish royal family, the Stuarts, on the death of Elizabeth I. We learned that this was because Henry VII had married his daughter, Margaret Tudor, to James IV of Scotland in an attempt to bring peace between the two rival nations. Not entirely successfully Year 8 discovered, as it was James IV who died along the road at the Battle of Flodden when fighting the English in 1513! When Elizabeth I died with no heir in 1603, James VI of Scotland was the next in line to the throne. It was a great trip, many thanks to the Friends of WFS and GMS for supporting with a financial contribution towards the bus.

Miss Hall



Sporting Events

KS2 Cross Country at Longridge Towers School March 25

We took a group of YR5 and 6 pupils to the Cross Country Meet at Longridge on a gorgeous sunny, spring day. They competed against other boys and girls from a wide range of schools coming from across the border and up from Newcastle. All of our pupils worked hard and supported each other as they crossed the finish line.



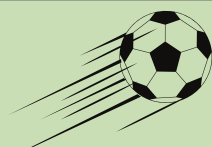
KS2 Girls Netball held at Tweedmouth Middle School Mar 25

Our KS2 girls have been working hard in PE lessons, and at Netball club, to compete in the Area Netball Competition at Tweedmouth Middle School. Up against stiff competition they fought every match, giving their all. The sportspersonship on display was exceptional. Well done to all the girls who participated and gave their very best.



KS2 and 3 Boys Football at Berwick Sports Centre

Our KS2 and KS3 boys had the opportunity to compete against other North Northumberland Schools at Berwick Sports Centre. Both sets of boys showed their determination and energy on the pitch with some excellent results.



KS2 and KS3 Rugby Training Jan/Feb 25.

Dougie Hall, from Berwick Rugby Club, has been in school for the first half of spring term. He has been coaching all of our pupils in Rugby. Despite the cold, and sometimes inclement weather, our pupils got out on the school field and gave their best. From passing drills, to running tasks and full-blown contact practice – it has been a brilliant start to 2025. Good preparation for some competitive matches coming up after Spring half term.



Sporting Events

KS3 Indoor Area Athletics, Berwick Sports Centre, Jan 25.

Our KS3 pupils took part in the indoor athletics competition at Berwick Sports Centre. We were competing against other schools in North Northumberland in field and track events like indoor shot putt, speed bounce, vertical jump and a variety of track races. Our pupils showed resilience, determination and teamwork with YR7 Girls and YR7 Boys coming second in their group. There were many stand out performances but one in particular showed true grit and determination; Joshua Fleming blowing away the competition and coming first in the four lap race. I am always super proud to take our school teams to compete against other schools and you didn't disappoint – a fabulous morning of sportsmanship. Well done to all those who were involved.



KS3 Girls Netball held at Tweedmouth Middle School Apr 25

Our KS3 girls have been working hard in PE lessons, and at Netball club, to compete in the Area Netball Competition at Tweedmouth Middle School. Up against stiff competition they fought every match, giving their all. The sportsmanship on display was exceptional. Well done to all the girls who participated and gave their very best.



YR7 Rugby Friendly at Berwick Middle School

Our YR7 girls took part in a friendly Rugby Tournament organised by Dougie Hall from Berwick Rugby Club. A tentative start from our Yr7's saw them build in confidence as the matches progressed, eventually beating another team 15 – 14 in one of the tightly fought competitions. Team spirit and determination were shown by all girls involved and it was a pleasure to take them out for the afternoon.



Girls Football Tournament held at GMS, Feb 25

We had the pleasure of hosting an Area Girls Football Tournament at Glendale back in February. KS2/3 girls from all over North Northumberland came to play Football, enjoy competitive sport and test out their skills. A superb display of comradery, sportswomanship and teamwork were on display at the event. Our YR8 sports leaders were enlisted to referee some of the KS2 matches and did our school proud with their polite, fair and even handed approach. A very successful day, so much so, we are doing it again in the summer term! Well done to all who competed.



"Disrupting the Archive" Film Project with the Northumberland Archives

This term, a group of Key Stage Three pupils have been given the opportunity to participate in a film making project after school, working with local film makers and Northumberland Archive staff. Pupils are working in small groups to create films about different aspects of the history of Wooler! As part of the project, the group have learned how to set up and use GoPro cameras; they have also learned different film making techniques. This term we have also filmed at the Archives in Berwick, where pupils studied particular photos and documents stored there, relevant to their films. Once the filming is complete in the first part of next term, pupils will learn how to edit their films. We hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us on the red carpet for our very own premiere later in the Summer Term, where we will watch and enjoy the films made by our budding Glendale film crews and presenters!



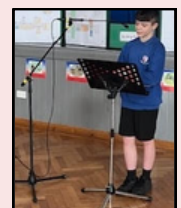
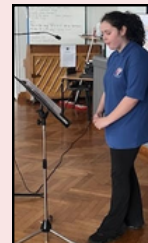
Miss Hall



Year 8 Persuasive Speech Writing

This term, Year 8 has been studying persuasive speech writing and language techniques. They have analysed various famous speeches from important figures in history and have used their knowledge to write their own persuasive speech. They have worked hard at researching topics for which they feel passionate and subjects have ranged from 'Banning Uniform;' 'Repealing the Ban on Foxhunting;' to 'Stopping the Family Farm Tax.'

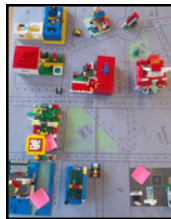
Once they had written their speeches, Year 8 then had to deliver them to an audience in a persuasive manner. (Photos below.) Many of the pupils were nervous about this, however they persevered and afterwards said they were proud of their achievement.



Year 7 - Wild About Adventure

Year 7 Lego Town

Lego Town – As part of our Navigation work in WAA, we have been making sketch maps of our very own Lego Town. With a butcher shop, police station and church, to name but a few, we have used our Lego Town to draw sketch maps with keys, labels and directions to help us achieve our Navigation Award.



Year 7 Bulb planting

When we were asked by Paxton House to help plant 2000 plants, YR7 jumped to the rescue. Many hands make light work, and all the plants were safely potted up to be used in the formal gardens at Paxton. Hopefully, we will be able to go and visit in the summer to see them in their full colour glory.



YR7 WAA – First Aid

Throughout this term, Year 7 have been completing a St Johns Ambulance Basic First Aid Course. We have covered everything from life saving techniques like CPR, Defibrillator use and Recovery Position to what to do if someone is having an allergic reaction or even choking. ALL year 7 pupils have shown they have the knowledge and skills, they have taken on board this subject with confidence, determination and had a lot of fun along the way. Well done everyone.



Music

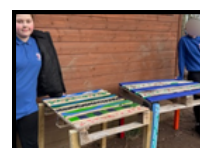
Year 8 are learning to play the chords and bass line of the 12 Bar Blues using our huge range of tuned percussion and keyboards.



Year 8 - Wild About Adventure

Jan/Feb 25 YR8 WAA

Year 8 have been working on a Forest School Project, producing educational items to support Forest Based Learning in First School. Some innovative, creative and thoughtful products have been created and handed over to our, very enthusiastic, Year 3 & 4. So proud of YR8 for their resilience, determination and teamwork in this task. Well done everyone.



Berwick Literary Festival – Janis Mackay Author Visit



On Friday 21st February, Janis Mackay (award-winning) children's author of *The Accidental Time Traveller* and *Magnus Fin* visited Year 5 and 6 as part of the Berwick Literary Festival. The purpose of her visit was to discuss writing and to talk about some of her favourite book characters. Pupils also had a go at writing themselves, inspired by the author's 'can do' approach and motivated by the activities delivered in the afternoon session.



'She was fun and Scottish and she was inspiring.' Imogen.



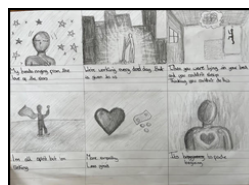
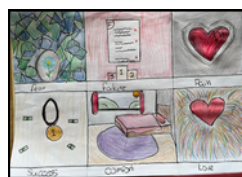
'"I found a seal in my garden!" What an odd thing to say but it happened to the author...' Amelie.



'I found the author's visit fun and I loved listening to her. Her stories were entertaining and she even signed my paper.' Isobel.

Y8 Poetry Study – Kae Tempest 'People's Faces.'

Year 8 explored the lyrics of this song from Kae Tempest, which was written during lockdown; a time all of our Year 8s remember. The song is poetical in so far as it is a composition that delves into the negative and positive aspects of society today from a young person's perspective. Once we had analysed the rhythm, structure and language of the poem, Year 8 created their own versions of the values they both like and dislike in the world currently and also reflected some of the author's lyrics through their own imagery.



A Sense of Belonging

Northumberland County Council were looking to explore what a 'sense of belonging' means to children and young people in relation to their school experience. As such they delivered a workshop which was delivered by two Assistant Educational Psychologists. During the workshop, Y6 and Y8 pupils were given the opportunity to express what a 'sense of belonging' means to them by creating pieces of artwork. This artwork was then displayed at their 'Relationships and Belonging in Northumberland' conference in March. The artwork produced was self-reflective and interesting.





Safeguarding

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We are committed to safeguarding and have a culture of 'it could happen here' in all aspects of safeguarding and child protection. **Any of our staff can listen and act appropriately on your concerns.** We have specially trained safeguarding leads in our schools - these are our safeguarding team.

Our safeguarding team



Mike Deane-Hall
Headteacher &
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead (DSL)



Victoria Dent
WFS Deputy
Headteacher &
Deputy DSL



Geoff Tong
GMS Deputy
Headteacher &
Deputy DSL



Jennie Dunn
GMS SENDCo &
Deputy DSL



Rachel Mascop
WFS SENDCo &
Deputy DSL

If you are worried about a child you can:

- Contact our safeguarding team via the usual school contact channels including our main phone number 01668 281 470
- Talk to the local safeguarding team 01670 622 720 or One Call, the Local Authority's single point of access on 01670 536400
- If you believe a child is in immediate danger you should call 999 and report your concern immediately to the police.

More information and our policy on safeguarding and child protection can be found on our website.

The following organisations websites can also provide information and their helplines can listen if you have concerns:

- NSPCC 0800 800 500
- CEOP
- Childline 0800 1111

Academic Calendar



2024 to 2025

| Sep 2024 | | | | | | | Oct 2024 | | | | | | | Nov 2024 | | | | | | |
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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Dec 2024 | | | | | | | Jan 2025 | | | | | | | Feb 2025 | | | | | | |
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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
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| Mar 2025 | | | | | | | Apr 2025 | | | | | | | May 2025 | | | | | | |
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| Jun 2025 | | | | | | | Jul 2025 | | | | | | | Aug 2025 | | | | | | |
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School Holiday

Bank Holiday

Pupil Day

Training Day



ADELLE HICKS & ROBYN ROBINSON

We are Autism Family Support Workers that are a part of the Autism Support Team within HNT at Northumberland County Council.

We run our Autism Family Drop In sessions across all of Northumberland. Each session is free, two hours long and is a chance to come along to meet us and other parents for an informal chat over a cuppa. There is no set agenda for the drop ins. It is a chance to seek support and advice from us and other parents, however there is no expectation to talk about your child if you don't want to. Any parent/carer or family members are welcome to attend any session, you do not need to attend the session in the area that you live in. The sessions are not for professionals.

FAQ

Do I need to book?

No, just turn up on the day.

Do I need to stay for the two hours?

No, you can drop in at any time that is convenient for you.

Can I bring my child with me?

We normally advise parents/carers not to bring their children if they can, as this allows you to speak freely. However, if childcare is preventing you from attending then please bring them along. Please be aware that other parents may want to discuss sensitive topics.

What happens if I can't attend?

We try and alternate days and times of the drop ins at each location so hopefully the next session will be more convenient for you. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer advice via email or telephone due to our capacity. However, please bring any questions or queries along to the drop in session. We look forward to seeing you!

If you have any questions, please contact your local Family Hub or email us at: robyn.robinson@northumberland.gov.uk or adelle.hicks@northumberland.gov.uk

Inclusive Education Services



Do you have a child aged 0-19 years? Come along for a cuppa and chat and to meet other parents. No diagnosis needed!

JOIN US ON:

Thursday 1st May 2025 10am-12 at Alnwick Family Hub

On St Michaels School Site, Howling Lane, NE66 1DJ

Thursday 22nd May 2025 1-3pm at Berwick Family Hub

Ladywell Place, Tweedmouth, Berwick-upon-Tweed, TD15 2AE

Tuesday 29th April 2025 10am-12 at Hexham Family Hub

On Hexham First School Site, Beaufort Avenue, NE46 1UD

Tuesday 13th May 10am-12 at Morpeth Golf Club

Morpeth Golf Club, Loansdale, NE61 2BT

Wednesday 14th May 2025 1-3pm at Ashington Family Hub

Alexandra Road, NE63 9EF

Tuesday 6th May 2025 10am-12 at The Community Hub at Cramlington

Forum Way, Manor Walks Shopping Centre, NE23 6YB (Next to Concordia)

If you have any questions, please contact your local Family Hub or email us at: adelle.hicks@northumberland.gov.uk

Inclusive Education Services



BACK
TO
SCHOOL

Monday 28th April



OPERATION
ENCOMPASS

Operation
Endeavour