

New School Website

Our website has been revamped and is regularly updated with school news. Please check it for school forms, newsletters, calendar and more.

www.glendale.northumberland.sch.uk

Weight and Height Check

Colleagues from the NHS were in school recently to undertake weight and height checks with Reception Class and Year 6. The NHS team will contact you with the results of these checks.

Cashless System Online Payments

Both schools will soon be moving from cash and cheque payments to online payments for dinner money, trips payments, music lessons, clubs, etc. More information to follow.

Immunisation Programme

The immunisation team now have a link to their services which provides information to schools and parents regarding their vaccination programmes and further information regarding the vaccines that are given to children. The link is :

<https://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-services/immunisations/>

The link is also available on the school website under the tab "parents".

School Opens again on Monday 16th April 2018



Headteacher Headlines

Welcome to our Spring Bulletin – in these pages you will find just some of the wonderful things that your children have been learning about and exploring here in school and out on educational visits over the last term. It has been all go since we came back from the Christmas break with two very short but successful (and snowy) half terms. The children have been working incredibly hard in response to the raised expectations that the National Curriculum now demands of them. Our Year 6 students in particular have responded well to the demands of the new End of Key Stage testing and are preparing well for those assessments in the summer term.

Over the course of the last terms we have been engaging in regular 'Snack & chat' sessions on a Friday afternoon. These are informal sessions where pupils from each year group come together with Mr Tong and myself and we spend around an hour discussing diverse aspects of our school and of the children's learning experiences (along with having some lovely fresh fruit to enjoy). We are also usually joined by one of the school governors who also come to listen to what the children have to say. Our discussions this term have focused around safety, school meals and reading. Children's responses were very positive regarding feeling safe at school, they enjoyed our hot meals but did have some ideas for the kitchen team to consider for next term (our homemade soups were a real hit but some children were not keen on the cheese we have and would like us to try a different type). Our discussion on reading was most enlightening with the vast majority of children sharing a pleasing love of reading and a desire for us to make more time for reading for pleasure in school. The children also asked us to see if we could arrange for the mobile library van to visit the school regularly, particularly those children who lived outside of Wooler who found accessing the local library hard. Cllr Murray was present at that session and has taken the request back to the County Council to see what can be achieved. We are ending the term with our sponsored walk – fingers crossed for good weather as it should be a lovely day out in the hills. I hope you enjoy reading through our Spring Bulletin and all at school would like to wish you a very Happy Easter.



Our Snow Helpers

Thank you to Mike Hope for coming to clear the school car park for us. This was a huge help in ensuring that the school could reopen quickly after the heavy snow we had earlier this month. Also thank you to Richard, Terry and Patrick for helping on the day.

Governors News

We welcome Mr Todd who takes up the position of Parent Governor and to Mrs Gibb the position of Community Governor.

Fund Raising

Valentine Disco: raised £150.95
Book Fair: commission for the two schools is £300
Sport Relief: raised £273 for the two schools

THANK YOU TO ALL FOR HELPING US

March 2018

News from Glendale Community Middle School

Glendale Middle School Girls Visit Westfield Independent Girls School for Creative Arts Day

Westfield Independent Day School for Girls kindly invited 14 of Glendale Middle School's KS2 girls to attend a Creative Arts Day at their school on Thursday 8th February 2018. The day was structured in such a way that pupils experienced Art, Music, Drama and Domestic Science workshops.

The event was completely free and Westfield even provided minibus transport to and from the event. Both Westfield and Glendale Middle believe that the creative arts contribute to a pupil's personal development and well-being and recognise the value of inspiring pupils in the Arts and the long term benefits this can bring to individuals. To this end, the girls were delighted to have attended and were proud to have won many of the competitions held that day. They thoroughly enjoyed the valuable and memorable experience and 'met lots of kind friends, along with inspiring teachers'.
Thank you Westfield!



Glendale Pupils show they're not chicken when it comes to woodwork

Year 7 pupils at Glendale Middle School have finally completed designing, making and painting their bird boxes. The process started way back in September while Ms. Creigh was having surgery on her knee (please no mallet and chisel jokes here!!) with Mr. Deane-Hall and pupils visiting Ford and Etal forestry and sawmill to see how timber is grown and harvested sustainably. They then each brought a plank of wood back to school, measured up and bravely started sawing, sanding and hammering. Next they decided how they would like to decorate their bird boxes with some amazing ideas from a Star Wars themed bird box, a beach hut and even Korean influenced designs.

As you can see all of the children were justifiably proud of their amazing creations, and I'm sure birds nesting this spring will be thankful of a ready-made home.



Cartoonist Kev Sutherland's visit

On Tuesday 20th February, cartoonist Kev Sutherland, well-known for his work in the Beano and Dandy among other comics, visited Glendale Middle School through his work with the Hexham Book Festival to deliver a workshop to boys in order to inspire their reading and writing. By the end, the boys produced their own piece of work which was compiled into a comic for the school. The workshop 'was funny and Kev taught us how to draw characters.' All of the pupils found it 'amazing and absolutely fantastic!'



Glendale Pupils Visit to ISKON Hindu Temple

Year 6 pupils from Glendale felt privileged on Wednesday 7th March, when they visited the ISKON Hindu Temple in Newcastle to experience for themselves the world religion they had been studying at school. They were welcomed by a lovely group of open-hearted people who spoke to the children about some of their core beliefs and performed sacred songs with them as well as introducing the pupils to Hindu clothing and symbolism. Finally they were fortunate to have been served a wonderful meal, topping off a most relaxing and informative day.



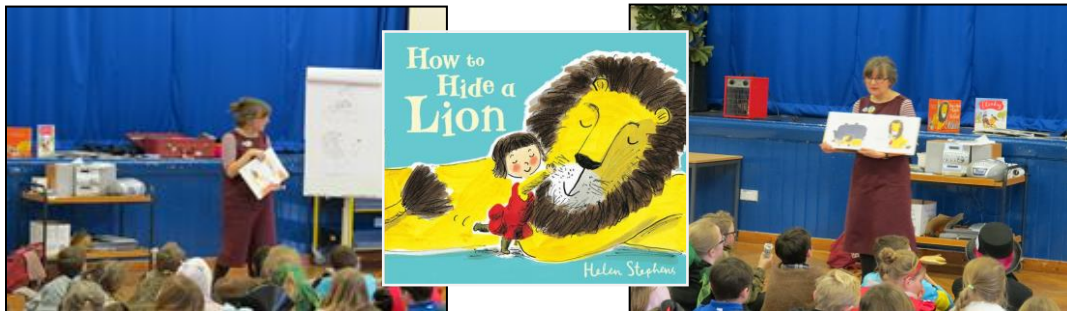
Our Hindu Temple visit

On Wednesday 7th March, year 6 visited the ISKON temple in Newcastle. We left at 9, arriving at half past 10.

As we entered the temple, we were told to take our shoes off by Kirditta, the owner of the temple. We all sat down on special cushions and she told us a little bit about Hinduism. Then she played us some beautiful music with a special drum whilst singing a beautiful song. After that Kirditta let us dress up in traditional Indian clothes called saris. The first sari she demonstrated on me, she put a waistcoat on Finley and a turban on Alexander. Following that she used water based paint to draw beautiful symbolic patterns on our faces and hands. After that she performed a song/prayer to Vishnu using 5 special objects to represent the 5 senses. Next we had lunch which was a speciality curry dish with tomatoes, peas and flat bread. For dessert we had ice cream and chocolate sauce. Then we said goodbye to Kirditta, put our shoes on and went home.

KS2 Author Visit

On Monday March 12th, successful Berwick writer, Helen Stephens, author of the 'How to Hide a Lion' books captured the interest of Year 5 and 6 with her practical advice and guidance on how to pursue a career in art and writing. In addition she explained the inspiration she took for her books from the beauty of the Northumberland countryside and told tales of the hidden meanings behind her texts. The pupils had so many questions for her and showed great engagement in her answers.



Glendale Middle Pupils Lay Down Roots for the Future

Year 5 Glendale Middle Pupils were delighted to assist the Doddington North Afforestation Project along with staunch supporter Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP today in planting the first of 600,000 trees on a site at Doddington North Moor. As the first generation that will mature with the forest and the first generation to enjoy the principle benefits of the new Doddington North Woodland, Glendale Middle students felt a sense of responsibility and connection to their local community in becoming involved in this hard fought battle to produce this fantastic new natural asset.



Yr 5 Visit a Synagogue in Newcastle

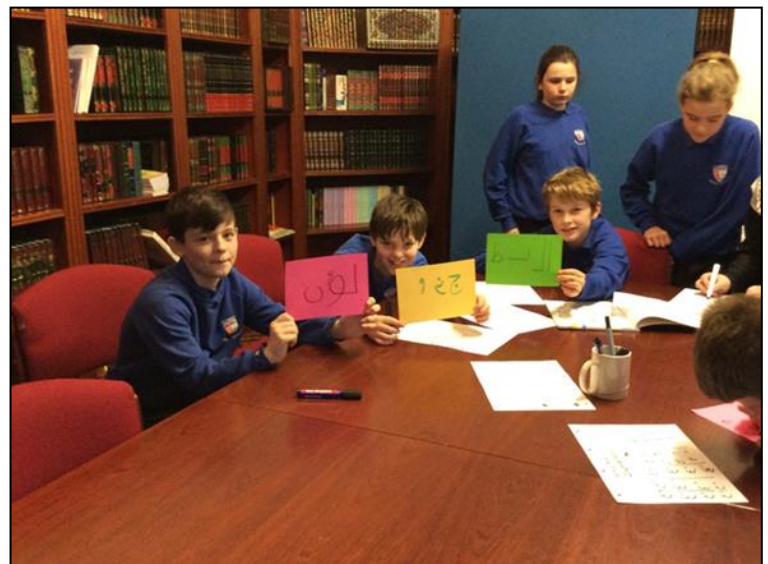
On the 15 March 2018 Year 5 visited a synagogue in Newcastle. This was part of our Social Studies project. First of all, we got on the bus. Then when we arrived we walked to the synagogue just along the road. After that, a lovely lady called Kim showed us around. We found out a Jewish kitchen has two halves one for meat and one for dairy. Also, the boys sit separated from the girls. Elzeard got to open up the room which the Torah is kept in. It turns out Mazzuzahs can be actually so fun! We looked at some Kippas and they were very interesting with some football team designs. Finally we went to the Hancock museum in Newcastle. We had the opportunity to look at lots of different exhibits.



Our Mosque visit in Edinburgh

On the 21st March 2018, year 7 went to the Central Mosque in Edinburgh. When we arrived we saw a magnificent Mosque in front of us. Soon after we arrived we had to take our shoes off as a sign of respect. When we entered the main prayer hall Sharon showed us the Mihrab. This is the main clock surrounded by 6 other clocks which indicate the daily times of prayer. Next she showed us how to pray facing Mecca, a town in Saudi Arabia. After that we went down stairs to the library where we wrote our names in Arabic (this was a bit confusing). At 12 o'clock we started our walk to the Scottish National Museum. Once we arrived we had our lunch after which we had a walk around the museum.

Overall it was a great day and thank you to Mrs Simpson and Mrs Deane-Hall for taking us.



World Book Day!

Despite the snow, pupils went all out to celebrate World Book Day (a little later than usual) on Monday 12th March. Pupils turned up in some incredible outfits and took part in a celebratory assembly which saw teachers read their favourite extracts from novels. Later on in the day KS2 had the opportunity to enjoy a visit from a very successful, local author - Helen Stephens. Winners of the best World Book Day outfits were: *(Pupils' names removed from the web version of the newsletter)*



Bulletin Sports Reports

Athletism:

On the 16th of January 2018, Glendale took 13 athletes to South Shields to represent North Northumberland in a National Cross Country Qualification race. In very difficult conditions, all athletes performed very well. *(Pupils' names removed from the web version of the Newsletter)*

Junior Netball (20.3.18)

Glendale took two teams to the Area Netball Competition at Tweedmouth. The year 5 team progressed very well, gain valuable match practice during the rounds. The Year 6 team dominated, winning all but 1 game. *(Pupils' names removed from the web version of the Newsletter)*

Senior Netball (22.3.18)

Glendale took two teams to the Senior Area Netball at Tweedmouth. The Year 7 team finished 5th and showed real improvement towards the later rounds. The Year 8 team, minus a couple of injuries, performed very well, winning all but 1 match. They finished runners up to a very strong Tweedmouth team. *(Pupils' names removed from the web version of the Newsletter)*

Sports Relief

On Friday the 23rd of March, Glendale dressed up to support Sports Relief. Pupils dressed up, baked cakes and ran different sports competitions, including a swimming marathon all for a great cause.

Easter Egg Winners

Yr5 1st
2nd
3rd

Yr6 1st
2nd
3rd

Yr7 1st
2nd
3rd

Yr8 1st
2nd
3rd

(Pupils' names removed from the web version of the Newsletter)





Dates for your Diary



Date	What is happening
Thurs 29 March 2018	School closes at the end of the day for Easter Holidays
Mon 16 April	Return to school
Wed 18 April, 12:15-15:30	Cross-country in Longridge
Mon 7 May	May Day
W/c Mon 14 May	Year 6 STATS week
Friday 25 May	School closes at the end of the day for half-term
Mon 4 June	Return to school
W/c Mon 4 June	Primary Enterprise Week
Fri 8 June	Area Athletics at Berwick Middle Yr 5/6/7/8
Fri 15 June	Inter Area Athletics GMS field
25-28 June	York Trip for Year 6
W/c 25 June	French Café for Year 7 and 8
Sat 7 July	Summer Fair
Tues 10 July	Beamish Trip for Year 6
Thurs 12 July	Vindolanda Trip for Year 5
Fri 20 July 2018	Break-up Summer Term
Mon 3 Sept and Tues 4 Sept	Teacher Training day
Wed 5 Sept 2018	Back to school



Absences and Late Arrivals

Please remember to ring the school office **before 9 a.m.** on the first day of absence if your child is poorly or cannot make it to school. If your child is late he/she needs to enter the school by the main door and advise the office staff of his/her late arrival and make his/her lunch choice.

Hometime Arrangements

If the hometime arrangement for your child/children differs from the usual, please let us know in the morning or early afternoon. We are getting an increasing number of requests late in the day and earlier notice will prevent the school staff from having to disturb classes. Thank you.

Sport for All Easter Holiday Camp With Sam Dronsfield 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Gymnastics, Cricket, Athletics, Rugby and more

April 3rd and 4th

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. - £15 per day
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. available for an extra £5 per day

To book a place or for more information, please contact Sam Dronsfield on
07827 159 60

Payments to School

Until our cashless system goes live, please can all money including school dinner money handed to the school office either by yourself or your child be placed in an envelope marked with the name of your child, the class and the reason for payment. Lunch money should be paid every Monday.
Thank you

Explore, learn & grow together



Glendale Community Middle School
15 Brewery Lane, Wooler, NE71 6QF
Tel: 01668 281 470
Email: glendalemiddle@woolerandglendale.co.uk

