

Parent and Carer Newsletter 3.2.23

Please see below a summary of helpful information for this week.

Safer Internet Day 7.2.23

Tuesday 7th February 2023 is Safer Internet Day. We will be exploring online safety with all students next week. It is equally important that these guidelines are discussed at home. Well-informed parents are aware of the risks and how to support their children's safe internet use. Please click on the link to review some help and advice:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023/parents-and-carers>

Dyslexia friendly resources and support

At Glossopdale School, we recognise that dyslexia can present a challenge for some students. Supporting students with dyslexia is important not only to help them to reach their full potential at school, but in equipping them with the skills and strategies to prepare them for their future. We'd like to use this newsletter to let parents know about the resources and support that we have in school. This week we'd like to draw your attention towards The Library. We have a list of books published by Barrington Stoke which we promote to our students with dyslexia - they have a clear font and cream pages and are 50-120 pages long. They are suitable for all ages.

Here are some more details: <https://www.barringtonstoke.co.uk/>

The library also offers a range of graphic novels and a very large selection of books that are aimed at older readers who may find longer texts more challenging. If you would like to discuss any further support or resources for students with dyslexia, please email sendco@glossopdale.school. Your feedback and questions are always welcome.

Parent Details and access to funding

We are using a system of checking eligibility for free school meals using National Insurance numbers. This means that your eligibility will be checked against your tax code and is therefore a more accurate identification of whether your child is entitled to free school meals. Circumstances do change and the details of the application will be stored and resubmitted for checking weekly, enabling any change of eligibility to be notified to you and the school. We therefore encourage the completion of the application by **all** parents. All information provided is kept confidential and is only used to establish eligibility for free school meals.

Please can ALL parents complete this form by Monday 6th February:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

It is very straightforward to complete. Please make sure that you have your National Insurance number to hand. Entering this information will mean that your entitlement is updated on a weekly basis and your eligibility is kept up to date.

If you receive one of the following benefits you may be eligible for Free School Meals:

- * Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- * Income Support
- * Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- * Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- * Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- * The guarantee element of Pension Credit

* Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

* Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Careers Fair- can you help ?

We are holding a Careers Fair in School on March 9th 2023 as part of a THRIVE day. We are offering stalls to businesses from 9.15am to 3pm to explain their industry / sector to our students and, additionally, to market their business. We will have over 1200 people visiting the fair during the day so it's a good opportunity and we'd be really grateful to share the wealth of local industry we have in the Glossopdale area. If you work in an industry where schools outreach is promoted and you are able to provide a stand, please contact cdunkerley@glossopdale.school to book a stand. The stands are free of charge and a light lunch will be provided. Thank you in advance.

Uniform: jewellery - REMINDER

We have recently seen a rise in the number of students bringing in and wearing jewellery in school. As a reminder, the only jewellery that students are permitted to wear is one plain stud in each ear. It is not appropriate for students to wear jewellery in school for a number of reasons; it presents a risk in practical lessons, it encourages competition and develops an unhealthy interest in appearance which we do not encourage in school. In some cases, this is expensive jewellery and we would not want students having their belongings damaged or lost. We have had the same uniform policy in place for a long time now, however, to ensure that the problem is addressed, from Monday 30th January, if a student is wearing any jewellery (with the exception of one plain stud in each ear), they will be asked to remove it and it will be kept (locked) in the relevant key stage office until the end of the day. At this stage, we do not wish to give detentions for wearing jewellery, however, further sanctions will be issued for repeat offences. We ask that you discuss this with your children and ensure that they do not bring in any jewellery to school.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 16th February	Young Musician of the Year competition
Friday 17th February	School closes for Half Term
	London Theatre and Year 7 Residential trips
Monday 27th February	INSET day - school closed to students
Tuesday 28th March	Spring Term 2 starts
Thursday 9th March	THRIVE Day for Y7-10
Tuesday 14th March	Y9 Options Evening (changed from Thursday 16th March)
Wednesday 22nd March - Friday 24th March	School Show

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Best wishes from all at Glossopdale School and Sixth Form