

Parent and Carer Newsletter 01.12.23

General Information and Reminders

Ofsted Announcement

We are delighted to announce that for the first time in over two decades, Glossopdale School and Sixth Form is officially a 'Good' school. Previously the school was judged as 'Inadequate' in 2018, although the Sixth Form was 'Good' at this time. The inspection process was very thorough, and a number of judgements were made about the progress of the school. We clearly could not have achieved this positive outcome without your continued support, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all. We have amazing children, a hugely dedicated staff team and committed governing body. Without their hard work, commitment and dedication, Glossopdale would not be such a wonderful place to learn, work and succeed. The full report is now on our website [here](#). The report will also be available on the Ofsted website within the next week.



Christmas Appeals

Once again, we are delighted to be launching our Christmas Appeals to support the local community in conjunction with hummingbird project and [Glossopdale Foodbank](#)

If you are able, we would love to accept donations as follows to be passed on to children, families, individuals and the elderly in our community who might struggle over the festive period:

- Toys, books, games, selection boxes, toiletries, gift packs, jigsaws, knitted gifts, sweets, biscuits, chocolates or gift sets.
- Any food items with at least six month sell-by dates

Please send donations into school with your child (ren) as from next week and they will be passed on and much appreciated. Student leaders will collect donations each day until the closing date of 15th December. Thank you very much in advance for supporting us to work with these important local organisations in the vital support they offer in our community.

#COMMUNITYNOTCHARITY



hummingbird
project



community aid • clothing bank
• local support
adult • children • babies



CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

FOR THE 4TH YEAR RUNNING WE ARE SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING GIFTS TO CHILDREN, FAMILIES, INDIVIDUALS AND ELDERLEY RESIDENTS OF OUR COMMUNITY

WE NEED OVER 3000 GIFTS TO HELP THE FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS ON OUR LIST THIS YEAR

CAN YOU HELP?

Toys
Books
Games
Selection boxes
Toiletries
Gift packs

**if you or someone you know needs our help this Christmas, get in touch **

Jigsaws
Knitted gifts
Sweets
Biscuits
Chocolates
Gift Sets

DROP OFF POINTS -

GLOSSOP CARAVANS
TESCO GLOSSOP - HUMMINGBIRD PROJECT
CASK AND KITCHEN - SQUARE WEST
HARVEY LEONARDS - THE HOWARD ARMS
THE FRIENDSHIP - BROOKE TAVERN
BAR 2 - THE CORNER CUPBOARD
HADFIELD CON CLUB - THE PEAR TREE
THE COMMERCIAL - WETHERSPOONS
THE GRAPES - THE OAKWOOD
THE STAR - THE PALATINE
PRINCE OF WALES

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THESE BUSINESSES!

Performing Arts Christmas Show Tuesday 5th December 2023

Our Performing Arts Christmas Show will be held on Tuesday 5th December from 7.00pm to 8.30pm. The show will feature work created by our BTEC students and Key Stage 3 students. This will take place in the Theatre and will commence at 7.00pm (please can the students in the performance be at school for 6.30pm.) Tickets will be available to purchase from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/glossopdale> priced at £4.00 for adults and £3.00 for students. We look forward to seeing you there.

Christmas Concert Thursday 7th December 2023

Our Christmas music concert will be held on Thursday 7th December from 7.00pm to 8.30pm. The show will feature the band, choir and soloists with a selection of festive favourites. The performance will take place in the Theatre and will commence at 7.00pm (please can the students in the performance be at school for 6.30pm.) Tickets will be available to purchase <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/glossopdale> priced at £4.00 for adults and £3.00 for students. We hope you can make this festive event.

End of Year Trips

As a reward for the continued excellence of our students, we will be running the following trips at the end of this term:

Year 7: Afternoon trip to Buxton Theatre to watch the Cinderella pantomime on Wednesday 13th December

Year 8 & Year 9: Day trip to Cineworld & Hollywood Bowl at Ashton Moss on Tuesday 19th December

Year 10 & Year 11: Day trip to Cineworld & Hollywood Bowl at Ashton Moss on Monday 18th December

Due to limited places on each trip, first priority on each trip has been given to students with the best attendance and the most Thrive points. Letters have been sent directly to the students to invite them. Should places remain beyond these invitations, further students will be offered the opportunity to attend.

SKI Trip reminder:

Just a quick reminder that the 1st deposit of £100 for the Ski trip to Bardonecchia, Italy is due by Friday 8th December 2023. Thank you to everyone who has shown an interest in this trip and has already paid. As advised in the letter sent on the 13th November, this trip is open to applications from students in Years 7 to 12 and will take place during February half term in 2025. The dates for the trip are Saturday 15th February to Sunday 23rd February 2025. If you would like any further information please email info@glossopdale.school.

New Cashless Tills

The new cashless tills have now been successfully installed in the School's dining room. A reminder that the default daily spending limit set on a student's account is £10. This amount can be either reduced or increased by emailing kitchens@glossopdale.school. Please state your child's name, year and tutor group, along with your desired daily spending limit, when emailing any changes you wish to make to the default daily spending limit.

If your child has Free School Meals, the daily spend allowance is set at £2.65. This is enough to purchase a main meal deal at lunch time. Whilst this allowance can be used to purchase snacks at break time, we strongly encourage your child to make sensible meal choices. If the FSM allowance is used at break time, your child will need extra money on their ParentPay account to be able to purchase further items that same day. The dining room offers a free breakfast from 8:15am each day when toast and cereals can be obtained before morning line-up.

How does it work?

When the child places their finger on the scanner, the software matches their finger image with the unique digital signature held in the database. The finger or thumb used to register the unique digital signature MUST be the one used to pay for food/drink items purchased. Please remind your child of this. The reading can sometimes be affected by dirty or greasy hands, so clean hands are important to ensure the queue isn't held up.

What happens if my child's account is low on credit or has no credit?

Your child should see their Year Manager who will have a chat with you so they can make sure everything is OK. The tills are set so that accounts cannot go overdrawn. Please ensure that your child's account contains enough money to purchase the food/drink your child wants to buy each day. You can set up automatic reminders on the ParentPay system to ensure that you are made aware when your child's balance falls below a threshold that you can choose. If you have forgotten your ParentPay login details, please email finance@glossopdale.school who will be happy to help.

Visiting School during the school day

A reminder that the new automated vehicle gates are now in full operation and will remain closed between 8:30am and 3:10pm. If you plan to visit the School for any reason, you will be required to park in the visitor/overflow car park at the top of the drive. Access into the site is then through the automated pedestrian gate which has an intercom system in place to contact reception for entry. Vehicle/pedestrian access is no longer permitted through the staff car park.

When driving on school grounds, drivers should adhere to the 5-mph speed limit and drive safely at all times giving due respect for pedestrians. Pedestrians have priority over vehicles at all times. Our priority is to maintain safeguarding procedures and the safety and security of the site at all times. We thank you for your support with this and in helping to keep our students safe.

Key Stage 3

Y9 THRIVE DAY Wednesday 29th November

Our third THRIVE day of the year took place on Weds 29th November and was specially tailored for Year 9 who will soon be considering their GCSE Options. The theme of the day was 'Futures and CEIAG' (Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance). Students took part in: a range of workshops based on careers in media and journalism; online presence and futureproofing; a careers panel; labour market information and apprenticeships. Students had many interesting questions for our visiting speakers and enjoyed the information provided to start thinking about their own career pathways.

DofE Bronze

Students should now have access to their eDofE account and they need to submit their proposal for each of their activities. Once the proposal has been approved, they can start the section and upload evidence each week to show how they are progressing. DofE meetings take place every Monday 3 to 4pm in the computer rooms and students can get 1:1 help with their activities during these sessions. Please ensure your child knows their log in details, a lot of the meeting time is being spent resetting passwords, which clearly detracts from the purpose of these sessions.

Key Stage 4

Year 10 Progress update

Now that the Year 10 students have been studying GCSEs for 13 weeks, teaching staff will be asked to identify any students who may benefit from some additional support or intervention to ensure they stay focused and engaged in lessons. A small cohort of students will be selected to join the Key stage 4 Rapid Progress Group and you will be informed if your child is part of this initiative. This group will be reviewed on a termly basis with new students being added and those who have made good progress and are back on target taken out. On the whole, the year group have settled into Key stage 4 courses very well.

Year 11 Trial Exams

We have now completed the Y11 trial exams with the students in Art and Textiles completing their 5 hour exams earlier this week. Subject teachers will use lesson time over the next few weeks to feedback and provide targets to improve. We will also use the feedback from these exams to provide support and guidance in study skills and revision during weekly personal development lessons. On Thursday December 14th during the Year 11 Thrive day, there will be a mock results event and we will focus on study skills and future pathways. Teachers will deliver a lesson focused on a particular study skill and explaining why that skill is important and how it should be applied..

Year 11 Parents' Evening is on Thursday 11th January 2024 and invitations to book your appointments with your child's teachers will be available before we break for Christmas. The Year 11 Progress Reports with trial exam results, current and predicted grades will also be available at this time.

Key Stage 5

Y13 Trial Exams

These are now complete and there will be a mock results day event on Tuesday 12th December. Students will have gone through their papers and completed rewrites by then so will be fully aware of the steps they need to take to improve any disappointing results.

Sixth Form Parents' Evening

This will take place on Thursday 14th December from 4-7pm in the Sixth Form area. The letter explaining how appointments can be made on SchoolCloud has been emailed to parents and can be found [here](#). It is important for all parents and students to attend but it is essential that our Year 13 cohort are all there to discuss next steps and the support they will need to reach their full potential in five months' time.

UCAS

Many students who submitted their university applications over half term have now received all their offers. There are still a number of students, however, who are dragging their feet on getting their applications sent. If students wish to have their applications meet the UCAS deadline for 'on time applications' they will need to ensure applications are paid and sent (to school) by the end of next week. Any applications received after this date will not be actioned until after Christmas and therefore run the risk of being late applications to UCAS.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 5th December	Christmas Performing Arts evening show (see above)
Thursday 7th December	Christmas Music evening concert (see above)
Wednesday 13th December	SEND Parent Forum (Invite to be sent to SEND parents)
Wednesday 13th December	Year 7 Rewards Trip - Buxton Theatre
Thursday 14th December	Y11 THRIVE day & Post 16 Parents Evening
Monday 18th December	Year 10 and Year 11 Rewards Trip - Cinema & Bowling
Tuesday 19th December	Carol Service (Glossop Parish Church)
Tuesday 19th December	Year 8 and Year 9 Rewards Trip - Cinema & Bowling
Thursday 21st December	Year 13 leavers Certificate and Awards Presentation Evening

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Best wishes from all at Glossopdale School and Sixth Form