



Newsletter - Friday 18th September 2026

September 2026

Tuesday 29th September – Individual School Photos

October 2026

Friday 16th October – Y2 visit to Quayside and South Shields

Tuesday 20th October – Autumn Disco for Years 1 & 2 – 3.15pm-4.30pm

Wednesday 21st October – Autumn Disco for Years 3 & 4 – 3.15pm-4.30pm

Thursday 22nd October – Autumn Disco for Years 5 & 6 – 3.15pm-4.30pm

Friday 23rd October – Last day of the half term

November 2026

Monday 2nd November – Children return to school after half term

Friday 6th November – Y5 visit to Beamish

Monday 9th - Wednesday 11th November – Y6 residential to Robinwood

December 2026

Friday 4th December – Flu Immunisations (Reception to Year 6)

Thursday 10th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Friday 18th December – Last Day of term

January 2027

Monday 4th January - children return to school after Christmas holidays

February 2027

Friday 12th February - Last day of the half term

Monday 22nd February - Children return to school

March 2027

Thursday 25th March - Last day of term

April 2027

Monday 12th April - Children return to school

May 2027

Monday 3rd May - School Closed for Bank Holiday

Friday 28th May - Last day of half term

June 2027

Monday 7th June - Children return to school

July 2027

Friday 16th July - Last day of term



Glynwood Community Primary School

Growing Together at Glynwood

Dear Families,

What another lovely week we have had in school!

It has been wonderful to see how well the children are settling into the routines of the new school year. There is such a happy, purposeful atmosphere around school, and I have really enjoyed seeing the children busy learning, playing and spending time with their friends. Our new Nursery and Reception children continue to impress us with how confidently they are settling in, while our older children are doing a fantastic job of being positive role models around school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We have a few important reminders and some exciting dates to share with you this week.

Earrings, necklaces and PE

A reminder that earrings are not permitted in school. This is for health and safety reasons, so please ensure that children come to school without earrings.

If earrings cannot be removed, they must be completely covered with tape at both the front and back. Families will need to provide the appropriate tape for their child.

Please also be aware that children cannot take part in PE while wearing earrings. Taping earrings is not sufficient for PE, so on PE days earrings must be removed.

Necklaces should also not be worn to school, again for health and safety reasons.

Thank you for helping us to keep everyone safe.

Data Collection Sheets

If you have not yet returned your child's data collection sheet, please could you do this as soon as possible. It is really important that the information we hold for your child is accurate and up to date, particularly emergency contact and medical information. Thank you to everyone who has already completed and returned theirs.

We are a nut-free school

Please remember that we are a nut-free school.

Children must not bring nuts or products containing nuts into school as part of their packed lunch or snacks. This is extremely important as we have children and staff for whom exposure to nuts can cause a serious allergic reaction. Products such as Nutella do contain nuts, as do lots of breakfast bars.

We really appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping us keep all of our children safe.

Can you help our Early Years team?

Our Early Years team are on the lookout for some guttering and/or drainpipes to use as part of their outdoor provision.

If you have any clean, safe, unwanted lengths of plastic guttering or drainpipe at home that you would be happy to donate, we would be very grateful! Please speak to a member of the Early Years team or contact the school office.

ParentMail – Consent Form

There is a consent form on ParentMail that we need families to complete. Please log in and complete this as soon as possible if you haven't already done so.

Thank you for helping us get all of our permissions and records up to date.

Pre-loved School Uniform

A reminder that we have pre-loved school uniform available from the school office.

Please do make use of this. Children grow incredibly quickly, and there is absolutely no need for perfectly good uniform to go to waste! Speak to the office team if there is something you need.

Autumn Discos

We are very excited to share the dates for our Autumn Discos:

Year 1 & Year 2 – Tuesday 20th October

Year 3 & Year 4 – Wednesday 21st October

Year 5 & Year 6 – Thursday 22nd October

The discos will take place straight after school until 4.30pm. Children should be collected at 4.30pm from their usual pick-up points.

Children are very welcome to dress up for the occasion! However, please do not send children in masks or violent/frightening costumes. We want the discos to be fun and enjoyable for everyone, and some of our children can find these costumes quite scary and the idea of, as well as the reality of these outfits can cause a lot of distress.

More information will follow, but for now please pop the dates in your diaries!

Thank you for another really positive week and for everything you do to support us. It is lovely to see our school community settling back into the rhythm of the new year, and I am looking forward to another busy and happy week ahead.

Have a lovely weekend.

With my very best wishes for a lovely weekend,

Vicky Treherne (previously Nellis)

Head Teacher



**Glynwood Community
Primary School**

Growing Together at Glynwood



Our Safeguarding Children Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Name: Mrs Nellis

Designated Safeguarding Deputy



Name: Mr Otterson

Designated Safeguarding Deputy



Name: Mrs Birkbeck

Designated Safeguarding Deputy



Name: Mrs Brunskill

Designated Safeguarding Deputy



Name: Mrs Lowres

Designated Safeguarding Deputy



Name: Mrs Commons

Designated Safeguarding Deputy



Name: Mrs Etherington

Designated Safeguarding Deputy (After School Club)



Name: Helen Moss

If you are concerned about a child, please talk to us

Child Protection and Safeguarding

Child Protection and Safeguarding are always an absolute priority in school. Our designated safeguarding leads and deputies are: Vicky Nellis (Head Teacher), Simon Otterson (Deputy Head), Sarah Brunskill (Assistant Head), Esther Commons (SENDco), Jude Etherington (Curriculum leader), Vic Birkbeck (Family Support Worker), Helen Moss (Afterschool club lead). Please talk to any of us about any concerns that you may have. Posters displaying photos of the designated safeguarding leads are displayed around school.

If you have concerns about a child in your community, you have a number of options:

- 1) You can call 101 and ask for some welfare advice. This can be done anonymously.
- 2) You can visit the NSPCC website on: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/report/> or you can call the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000, You can report concerns here anonymously too.



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Dear Families,

It is really important that we work together to improve attendance for all of our children. One area which can be contentious is term-time holiday requests. We need families to be open and transparent regarding holidays (for safeguarding reasons and so children aren't asked to lie), but the statutory and legal guidance around this is much stricter and is a national priority for the government.

I know that the vast majority of families do not take term-time holidays, so I apologise for the blanket communication, but it is vital that families understand the systems and the legal guidance.

Leave of absence forms should continue to be completed for ALL requests. If you feel that you have exceptional circumstances around a term time leave of absence request for your child (as in there are exceptional reasons why the absence has to take place on a very specific date in term time for an exceptional reason (as outlined below)) then this needs to be outlined in writing. I will then consider the information provided to me and the decision will be made whether to authorise the absence, but again I must reinforce, I can now only authorise term-time leave of absence requests in the most exceptional circumstances and these will be very rare.

Holidays will not be authorised.

I am more than happy to discuss any aspect of your child's learning or well-being and have an open-door policy for this, however **term-time leave of absence procedures are very clear and I am not willing to discuss decisions made with families.** I will also not discuss other children's absences for confidentiality and GDPR reasons. When guidance is very clear, as it is now, questioning decisions made puts everyone in a difficult position and can put a strain on relationships between school and families, which we want to avoid at all costs. Aggressive communication towards staff will also not be accepted for any reason, including communication around term-time leave of absence requests.

Please see the guidance below which is taken from our Attendance Policy which meets the legal and statutory requirements set out by the Department for Education. This is the same as the communication sent out to parents in previous newsletters.

Best wishes

Vicky Nellis

Head Teacher

4.1 Approval for term-time absence

The headteacher will only grant a leave of absence to a pupil during term time if they consider there to be 'exceptional circumstances'. A leave of absence is granted at the headteacher's discretion, including the length of time the pupil is authorised to be absent.

We define 'exceptional circumstances' as **where there are unavoidable reasons for the leave of absence not falling during school holiday time. For example, visiting a very sick relative in a different area or country, an immediate family member's wedding or an immediate family member's funeral. Exceptional Circumstances also apply if a child is involved in sporting or creative events, but school do need evidence of these dates.**

Exceptional circumstances are truly exceptional and this will be applied consistently across all requests.

The school considers each application for term-time absence individually, taking into account the specific facts, circumstances and relevant context behind the request.

Any request should be submitted as soon as it is anticipated and, where possible, at least 3 weeks before the absence, and in accordance with any leave of absence request form, accessible via the school office or the school website. The headteacher may require evidence to support any request for a leave of absence.

4.3 Legal sanctions

The local authority can fine parents for the unauthorised absence of their child from school, where the child is of compulsory school age.

Warning letters are no longer issued.

If issued a fine, or penalty notice, each parent must pay £80 within 21 days or £160 within 28 days. The payment must be made directly to the local authority.

Penalty notices can be issued by a local authority officer or the police.

The decision on whether or not to issue a penalty notice may take into account:

- The number of unauthorised absences occurring within a rolling academic year
- One-off instances of irregular attendance, such as holidays taken in term time without permission
- Where an excluded pupil is found in a public place during school hours without a justifiable reason

If the payment has not been made after 28 days, the local authority can decide whether to prosecute or withdraw the notice.

The first penalty notice issued to a parent in respect of a particular pupil will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

- A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same pupil is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.
- A third penalty notice **cannot be issued** to the same parent in respect of the same child **within 3 years of the date of issue** of the first. In a case where the national threshold is met for a third time (or subsequent times) within those 3 years, alternative action should be taken instead. This will often include considering prosecution, but may include other tools such as one of the other attendance legal interventions.



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