

Parent and Carer Newsletter 8.12.23

General Information and Reminders

Performing Arts Christmas Show

The Expressive Arts Faculty have had another very busy week with two performance evenings from the Performing Arts and Music departments

On Tuesday evening, audiences were treated to a variety of dance and drama pieces in the Christmas Performing Arts Show. Some of the work showcased the hard work done for BTEC Dance and Drama coursework and others were created during dance and drama clubs. We had a range of styles on display, from jazz to contemporary and pantomime to physical theatre.

We had some wonderful feedback from the audience and Mrs Nevin was delighted to receive the following message from a member of the audience:

'The splendid choreography was performed beautifully and with confidence, a physical extension of the music; much of it was better than professional dance works that I've paid to see. Equally impressive were the confident drama performances showing some excellent characterisation- Congratulations!'

On Thursday evening the Music department was so proud of all the participants in the Music Christmas Concert. They wowed the audience with festive favourites from the Choir to the Wind Band along with many Soloists and Duets and there were some fantastic pieces on the Piano. Matthew.B, from our Sixth Form, was amazing on Drums! The Dark Peak Orchestra also treated us to their Intermediate Strings and their Brass Ensemble, so many of Glossopdale students are in these orchestras. A very well done to all involved, pictures and videos can be found on our Facebook page.



Parent Peer Support Group, Information From TOG Minds

This group takes place on Thursday 14th December 2023, 9.30 – 11.30 in the Anthony Seddon Centre, George Street, Ashton-Under-Lyne. It is an informal space for parents & carers to share their experiences of supporting children with Emotional and Mental Health difficulties with like-minded people, alongside the support of TOG Minds' teams; Anthony Seddon, Tameside Parenting Team, Tameside's - Young People's Mental Health Support Team. Please see the attached poster for further information. <https://www.glossopdale.school/news/?pid=7&nid=1&storyid=63>

The Place

We still have places available on our holiday activity sessions running this January at the Place. Book now at : www.glossopdale.school/the-place/holiday-activities

Christmas Appeals

As mentioned last week 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) 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.



Communications Policy

It is very important to us that we work closely in partnership with parents and carers, and communication between home and school is key. Communications can take a variety of forms: verbal (through meetings or by telephone), written (through emails, Class Charts messages, texts messages and letters). We recognise, however, that parents and carers have very busy lives and that it can often be difficult communicating with teachers because they have a very full timetable. So that these pressures can be taken into consideration, our Communication policy (at <https://www.glossopdale.derbyshire.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=873>) explains the communication processes and timescales that are used in school.

Key Stage 3

DofE Bronze

The Year 9 Bronze expeditions have now been provisionally booked for Friday 21st June and Saturday 22nd and Thursday 11th and Friday 12th July 2024. Friday the 21st will be a normal day in school and the group will head to the campsite after school. More details will be shared in the New Year.

Meetings continue every Monday at 3pm, please ensure your child has their DofE login details as we cannot spend each session resetting passwords. Students should also log in during the week to add evidence to their eDofE accounts, most students are now 1 month into their activity and have just 2 more months before they can sign the section off. If your child has not yet started, they need to speak to a member of staff urgently.

Y7 Parents' Evening

Parent's Evening was held last Thursday, 30/11, and was the largest face to face parent's evening that has been hosted on this site. It was really well-attended and we hope it was an informative evening. We will be sending out an evaluation form next week to help us to make improvements for future parents' evenings. Please look out for the Classcharts announcement.

Y7 Rewards Event to 'Cinderella' at Buxton Opera House - Wednesday 13th December

Well done to all students who have earned their place on this rewards trip. Arrangements are as follows: Students need to bring a packed lunch as usual or will be provided with one which they have already selected (in place of school meal). Students should wear their normal, smart uniforms and may bring some snacks for eating at the performance. We will arrive back in Glossop at around 4pm. Thank you for supporting your children to attend this lovely event.

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 has 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

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

Wednesday 13th December	SEND Parent Forum (Invites sent to SEND parents)
Wednesday 13th December	Year 7 Rewards Trip - Buxton Opera House
Thursday 14th December	Y11 THRIVE day, Career Fair for all students & Post 16 Parents Evening
Friday 15th December	Manc & Salford Q Geography A Level Trip J.Ward (11 pupils in school day)
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
Friday 22nd December	Last Day of Term. Half day - school closes at 12.30

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.

Best wishes from all at Glossopdale School and Sixth Form