



## Parent & Carer Weekly Newsletter

### Date: Friday 13th September

#### General Information and Reminders

##### **My Child At School and Student Portal**

As you are aware, we have moved to a new system to communicate with you, this will now be via the “My Child At School” app (MCAS). This will become a ‘one-stop-shop’ for everything related to school, enabling you to see your child's timetable, homework, THRIVE points and more. You will have received communications about setting up MCAS for yourself last week. Please check your spam/junk folders for this information and the letter is linked again here [MCAS Information Letter](#). If you are having any difficulties, please contact [info@glossopdaleschool.org.uk](mailto:info@glossopdaleschool.org.uk)

There is a similar app for students, called the ‘Student Portal’. We have been supporting all students to gain access to this over the last week. The final few classes of students will be shown how to access the student portal next week. From the end of next week, all homework and points will be accessible by your child through the student portal online. Students who have accessed the student portal in school can download an app to access the student portal on a mobile (search “Bromcom Student App” in the Play Store/App Store and log in in the same way as at school). In the meanwhile, teachers will still be setting homework and THRIVE points will be given. These will show on your parent app, and teachers will make sure your child is aware of anything they need to complete at home.

##### **Attendance**

At Glossopdale School and Sixth Form, we regularly communicate that we recognise that regular attendance is essential for your child’s education and well-being. To support families and ensure that every student has the best chance of success, the government has introduced updated attendance fine structures. These changes are designed to reinforce the importance of regular school attendance and help address issues of persistent absenteeism.

Under the new regulations, parents may be issued a fixed penalty notice if their child has a series of unauthorised absences from school. This could occur if a child misses school without valid reasons, such as illness or approved leave. The government structures are below.

Fixed Penalty Notice and Court Progression:

1. First Instance of penalty:
  - Fixed penalty notice issued: £60 if paid within 21 days, increasing to £120 if paid within 28 days. Failure to pay leads to legal proceedings.
2. Second Instance of penalty:
  - Second fixed penalty notice issued: £120 with no reduction for early payment. Failure to pay within 28 days leads to court action.
3. Third Instance and Beyond:
  - After two fixed penalty notices, for any further unauthorised absences, the case can go straight to court. The school or local authority may decide not to issue another fixed penalty notice and instead proceed with prosecution immediately.
  - In court, fines can be up to £2,500 per parent, and penalties can also include community orders, parenting orders, or imprisonment for up to 3 months.



At Glossopdale, we want to help to support parents, carers and students to achieve high attendance to be able to flourish academically and we want to use referral to the Local Authority as a last resort. However, we wanted to take the time to explain the new structures given by the DfE.

Derbyshire County Council have produced a poster that you can find [here](#), that you may find useful.

### **Year 7/8/9 Flu Vaccinations Reminder**

Flu vaccinations will take place on Friday 27th September. Please click on this link to consent <https://nhslmms.azurewebsites.net/session/023e165e>. The link will close on the 20th September. If your child has already had the flu vaccine elsewhere since the beginning of September 2024, please disregard this message. If you have any problems accessing the link, please telephone Intra Health on 0333 3583 397 and select option 5.

### **Year 7 Residential**

This week, students in Year 7 have been invited to join us on their first residential trip as students of Glossopdale School and Sixth Form. This annual trip to PGL, Newby Whiske, forms part of the transition process, encouraging and supporting our youngest children in teambuilding and forming new friendships. The letter including full details can be found [here](#). Please note this is always a very popular event and places are limited. If you would like your child to take part, please secure the place on ParentPay as soon as possible.



### **Volunteer Trip to Kenya - African Adventures**

We are now counting down the weeks until our group of student volunteers and accompanying teachers travel to Kenya on their African Adventure. Students will be working with local children in several schools in extremely deprived areas and also learning about Kenyan culture, geography and wildlife. Our first planning meeting took place this week and excitement is building for this experience of a lifetime. We will, of course, be sharing our experiences on our return but would gratefully receive any donations of: sports' equipment, clothing for primary-age children, stationary items to take along for our partner schools.

All students taking part will have pre-visit preparation meetings on Wednesdays: September 25th, October 9th and October 23rd, at 3.10pm in the Theatre.

Please note this is to be a bi-annual trip and we will be launching the next opportunity in March 2025 for the trip in October 2026.



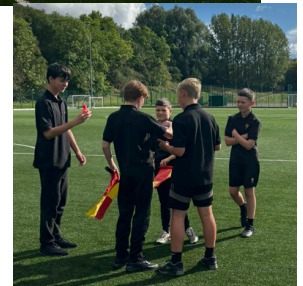
## Sports Leadership

There has been an amazing start to the year with the Glossopdale Leadership Academy. This week we have hosted the first of the primary school events calendar and what better way to start than with some football. Our leaders came together after one after school refresher session on Tuesday and delivered a seamless, positive and fun environment for the local primary school children to thrive in.

Our leaders have undertaken many different roles including referee, assistant referee and scorers. We are very proud of the start they have made and would like you to join us in celebrating their exemplary representation of our school and our values.

A special mention to Year 7 Jasmine M who stepped in to collate the scores after each game to enable the other leaders to experience the different roles they were taking on.

There was a real community spirit around the whole event and we go again next Thursday as we look to introduce some of our brand new Year 7 leaders who are very excited to be leading. It was really warming to see the leaders give all the primary school kids a guard of honour as they left the pitch too, a really nice touch.



**GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM**  
PTFA PRESENT...

**FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT**

This is your chance to show off your knowledge and have fun in a friendly competition.

**THURSDAY 24TH OCTOBER**  
THE THEATRE AT GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL  
Arrival from 6.45pm for a 7.15pm start

BOOK IN ADVANCE £5 / REGISTER ON THE NIGHT £7  
max 4 adults per team (unlimited under 16)

CASHLESS BAR - RAFFLE - PRIZES  
Book online: [www.glossopdaleschool.org.uk/ptfa](http://www.glossopdaleschool.org.uk/ptfa)

**Family Quiz Night! - Parents, Teachers & Friends Association - PTFA**  
Please get some teams together and join us on Thursday 24th October for a fun quiz evening to help raise money for Glossopdale Schools PTFA. You can register and pay online for £5.00 or register on the night for £7.00. For more details, please see here: <https://www.glossopdaleschool.org.uk/ptfa>



### E-scooters

There have been a few occasions recently where pupils have arrived at school on E-scooters. Please be aware that it is illegal to use E-scooters on the road or in public spaces and we cannot allow them on site. Please see here for more information from the Derbyshire Constabulary. [Advice on E-scooter Usage](#). If a pupil arrives on an E-Scooter it will be confiscated and will need to be collected by parent or carer.

### Lost Property

Lost property is now stored in the office behind reception, pupils have been made aware to check there at the end of the day if they have misplaced an item. Please label all items and please read the process for lost property available [here](#).

### DofE Information Evening (Year 9 and Year 10 parents/students only)

We are currently enrolling students onto the Bronze and Silver DofE Award. Year 9 students are invited to sign up for Bronze Award and students in Year 10 can do either Bronze or Silver Award. We are holding a student and parent information evening on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September from 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the Theatre. During this session we will share information on the structure of the Bronze and Silver Award, assessment process, the costs, support and training and how to sign up and get started.

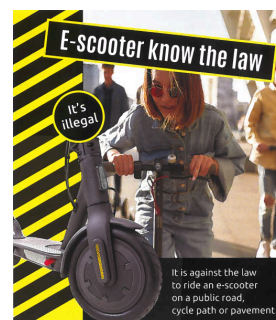
To secure your place at the DofE information evening, please complete this [form](#). You can still sign your child up for DofE if you are unable to attend on the 19<sup>th</sup>, details from the talk will be shared via the newsletter after the 19<sup>th</sup> and further information can be found on <https://www.dofe.org/do/>

### Sixth Form

Thank you to all parents who attended the Sixth Form Parents' Information Evening this week. We welcomed parents of our new Year 12 students and we were able to outline the year ahead and what life in the Sixth Form will look like. We also delivered a presentation to our Year 13 on future pathways, including university and higher apprenticeships. It was wonderful to meet with our parents and get our home/school partnership off to a positive start.

### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 17th September	School Photos
Thursday 19th September	DofE Recruitment Evening (Y9 &10)
Friday 27th September	Flu Vaccinations (Y7,8 &9)
Friday 27th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Friday 27th September	Year 13 DT workshop at Jack Badger, Glossop
Tuesday 1st October	Senior Maths Challenge
Wednesday 2nd October	Y12&13 Llandudno field trip
Thursday 3rd October - Sunday 6th October	Y10 Paris Trip 03/10 - 06/10



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Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter.  
Best wishes from all at Glossopdale School and Sixth Form