

Newsletter January 2017

We hope you all had a lovely festive break and enjoyed time with your loved ones and family. Although the first week of the New Year in school has already quickly passed, may we wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Attendance

What a great start to the first week for Butterflies class who earned a treat from Mrs Elliott for 100% attendance for the week! Well done Miss Chadwick's class!

May we take the opportunity to remind all parents and carers about good attendance and prompt time keeping. As part of the Local Authority guidelines we must challenge poor attendance and if necessary refer to the Education Welfare Officer if a pupil's absence becomes a cause for concern. If your child is ill you must contact the school on the first morning to report the reason for absence and all non essential appointments like a hair cut or a check up should be made after school or during the holidays. Any personal problems or issues surrounding getting your child to school can be discussed in confidence and if needed, with support, with our Pastoral Manager, Kay Shaw so please call by the office and ask to arrange a meeting if required. We hope that we can continue this amazing attendance effort parents and children from Butterflies achieved this week, throughout school!

Mrs Hayes

We are delighted to inform you that Mr & Mrs Hayes welcomed the arrival of their first son Edward on Wednesday 4th January. All are doing really well.

New Staff Member

We are delighted that our Little Grangers 2 year old provision is growing and receiving really positive feedback from parents using the nursery. As pupil numbers have increased to 12 in some sessions, you may have noticed a new staff member. At the start of this year we welcomed Miss Victoria Banks into the team, she is an experienced and qualified early year's assistant who I am sure will be an asset to the provision.

Keeping You Informed

We constantly work hard at ensuring our parents are fully informed of activities and events in school. We send out regular newsletters, letters, text messages and posts on the website. Despite this we still have families who say they are unaware of school news. We understand that letters get lost but constant reprinting adds to our already expensive print and paper bill.

We know that many parents rely on news via word of mouth over social media so we have decided to join Twitter. We will link information from our website like newsletters and news items and of course post frequent updates. **We will use the parent consent for the taking of images and the use of children's images for the website as the permission for the posts on twitter. Please inform school as soon as possible if you would like to change your permissions for images on Twitter. Please follow us @GLIAcademy1 as another way of ensuring you have all the information required.**

Text Messages

As mentioned, we often keep parents informed via text message. In order to test that we have everyone's up-to-date telephone number we will be sending a **TEST MESSAGE on FRIDAY 13th JANUARY**, it will just say test in the text. If you **do not** receive this message please come and check your details with the office or jot down your new number and hand to a member of staff to get this updated. Thank you.

Earrings & PE Kits

Members of staff have asked to remind you that if your child has their ears pierced, ideally they should be able to remove the earrings for PE by themselves. If this is not possible, please could you remove the earrings for PE days or provide a box of plasters in their PE kit so they can cover them. Any earrings worn should be small discrete studs please. Children are able to bring and leave their PE kits on their pegs. An old pair of shorts and a T-shirt are all they need.

Parent Volunteers

If you would like the opportunity to volunteer in school, please call by the office for a volunteer interest form.

Free School Meals

All infant children (reception, years 1 and 2) are able to have their dinner free of charge under the Government's Universal Free School Meal Scheme regardless of your financial status, which is great. However, this scheme has seen schools lose hundreds of pounds of funding, as parents who would be entitled to a free meal no longer need to claim for one. If your financial status has changed and you are now in the receipt of certain benefits, please either complete the free school meal form on the Doncaster Council webpage or enquire at the office for a form. Although completing this won't make any difference to you, it will make a huge difference to the school. Funding allocation for schools is coming up shortly and it would be great if we could ensure all those who are entitled are included on the data. Many thanks.

PTFA – Grown Up Grangers

We will be having a Grown Up Grangers parents and teachers group meeting on **Wednesday 18th January at 8.45am** to discuss the success of the Christmas Fayre, put ideas forward for further events and suggest how the fund raising money will be spent in school. If you would like to put any ideas forward please come along!

Names on Clothes

We already have quite a few items in the lost property box, please ensure you name all your children's school clothes especially school jumpers and cardigans. If your child has needed to borrow items of school clothing please ensure you return them. We are very low on spare clothes.

Coats

It has been noticed that some children are coming to school without a coat. I appreciate that they may be coming to school in a car but during the day children do have breaks outside. Lunch period could mean 30 minutes outdoors, only in **heavy** rain do we stop inside. Please ensure your child has a coat every day and they are wearing suitable shoes for outdoors.

Book Bags

Please could each child especially those in Reception, Years 1 and 2 bring a bag every day. It doesn't have to be a school book bag just something they can put their reading book and record in, their library book, their gloves and hat, any spellings or homework and letters from school. Children in the early years often have pieces of work to bring home or may need spare clothing so a bag for nursery pupils would also be useful.

Tapestry

Little Grangers, Nursery and Reception staff would like to remind you to continue posting the amazing things your children achieve at home on Tapestry. All your posts help towards their Early Learning goals.

Wellington Boots / Outdoor Shoes

A major part of Early Years education is based outdoors so Little Grangers, Nursery and Reception classes are often outside in all weathers. It would be really useful if children in these year groups brought with them a pair of wellington boots or outdoor shoes to change into for outdoor learning. These shoes can be kept in school in the cupboard space under their coat peg, if you wish.

Book Fayre

We have invited a book fayre into school to give parents and children the opportunity to come and browse around a selection of books, which can also be purchased at school. Mrs Rowley who is organising the Fayre is also arranging an evening where families can come and enjoy sharing their new stories over biscuits and hot chocolate. Further details will follow but the dates for the fayre are below in dates for your diaries!

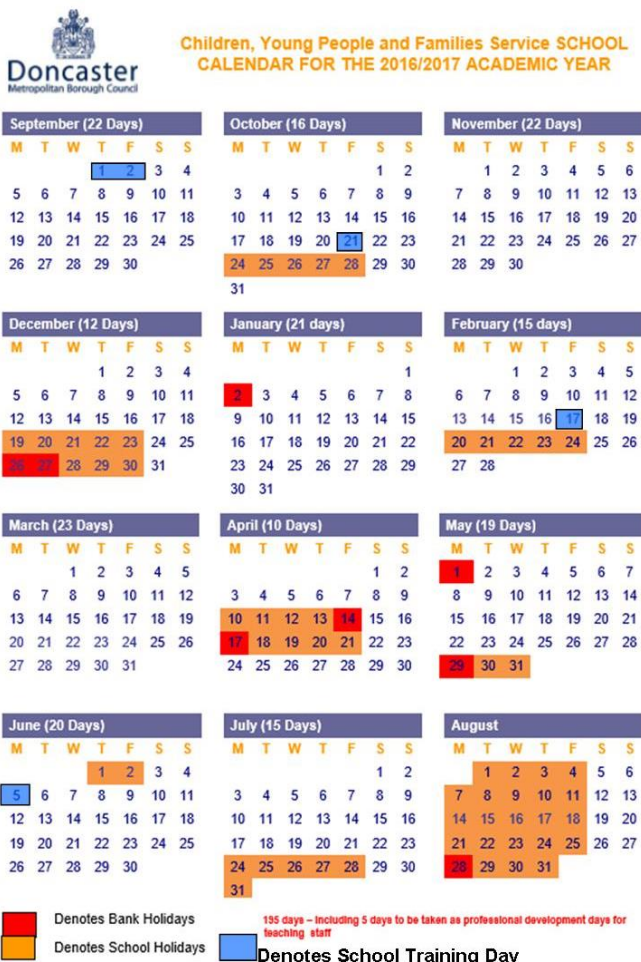


Dates for your diaries

- Wednesday 18th January - Grown Up Grangers PTFA meeting 8.45am - all welcome!
- Wednesday 25th January - Main Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 will be enjoying learning a dance for the Chinese New Year.
- Tuesday 7th February - Paul Cookson a Poet will be coming into school.
- Tuesday 7th February - Book Fayre in the school hall after school.
- Wednesday 8th February - Book Fayre and Reading Evening
- Thursday 9th February - Last day for the book Fayre
- Wednesday 15th February - Nursery parents meetings all day - further details to follow
- Wednesday 15th February - Parents evenings' reception, years 1 & 2 further details to follow
- Thursday 16th February - Parents evenings' reception, years 1 & 2 further details to follow
- Friday 17th February - Staff training day - school is closed to pupils
- Monday 20th Feb- Friday 24th Feb - Half term, we return to school on Monday 27th February.
- Tuesday 28th March - F2 Family Stay and Make (Butterflies and Ladybirds)
- Wednesday 29th March - F1 Family Stay and Makes (Main Nursery)
- Thursday 30th March - YR2 Family Stay and Makes (Lions & Tigers)
- Friday 31st March - YR1 Family Stay and Makes (Penguins and Owls)
- Friday 7th April - Easter Day - further details to follow.
- Monday 10th April - Friday 21st April - Easter break - we return to school on Monday 24th April

Website: www.gliacademy.org.uk Twitter: @GLIAcademy1

ACADEMIC DIARY 2016-2017



Training Days:

- 1st September 2016
- 2nd September 2016
- 21st October 2016
- 17th February 2017
- 5th June 2017

Half Terms

- 24th October – 28th October 2016
- 20th February – 24th February 2017
- 29th May – 2nd June 2017

Easter Break

- 10th April – 21st April 2017

Christmas Break

- 19th December - 2nd January 2017

May Bank Holiday

- 1st May 2017

Summer Break

- 24th July 2017