



Glenmere Primary School

Personal Development Newsletter

December 2025

Personal development at Glenmere is built upon the foundations of our school ethos; at Glenmere we are GREAT because we Grow, Respect, Enjoy, Achieve Together.

Christmas at Glenmere!

Trips to the Snowdome, the Curve theatre and a Pantomime, and a visit to Beaumanor Hall to learn about Victorian Christmases certainly help to get the children in the mood for the festivities.



Be Bright, Be Seen!

During the Winter months, 'Be Bright, Be Seen' is so important. This means you are harder to see on a dull day and the visibility is much poorer for a motorist. We want to spread awareness of road safety and ensuring your children can easily be seen when near traffic.

How Can My Children Be Seen More Easily?

- >This could be a bright coloured coat
- >Wearing high visibility strips on your coat
- >High visibility reflectors on your bag or a brightly coloured bag
- >Another key point, if you have a dark coat: try adding fluorescent armbands that can be put over coats and clothing.

Reflective Clothing at Night

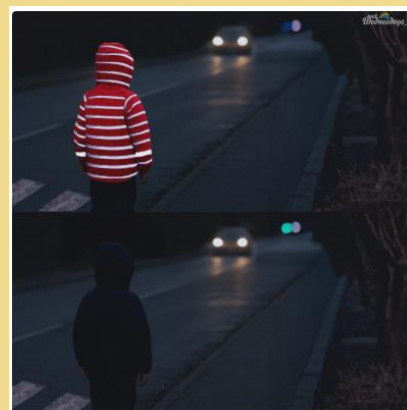
>Reflective Clothing is highly effective as it can be seen from car and bike headlamps from the reflection.

>Likewise, add on reflective armbands if you do not have reflective clothing as this will have the same impact.

>Reflective is important for night-time as brightly coloured clothing does not show up as well as a reflective fabric.

Remember; if your child is a little older and refuses to wear brighter colours, they can still opt for a brighter coloured bag or simply adding reflective strips to their coats and bags. We also recommend that all adults should be wearing bright clothing and reflective strips for their own safety.

There is a child in both of these photos. Same position. One Bright Coat, One Dark Coat.



British Values Day

We had a really great day with a variety of activities across the school, where all children learned more about our British values. These are

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Mutual Respect
- Individual Liberty
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

There were art activities creating graffiti walls with words celebrating the values. There were role-play activities, , discussionsquizzes,



Promoting Our Children's Personal Development

Our personal development learning goes more deeper and beyond the National Curriculum. It provides our children with an enriched cultural capital by offering a varied and diverse set of experiences. We believe that we help to prepare them for modern life in Britain. We take pride in the fact that we offer our children so much that supports their growth.

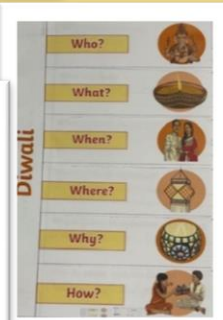
VR Headsets

The children loved their VR headset sessions and were actively involved with immersing themselves using the technology.



Diwali

Children across the school learned more about Diwali and its cultural significance.



A visit to Jewry Wall museum to experience the historic exhibition.



A visit to the National Justice Museum



Learning about road safety can never be underestimated.



A visit from the firefighters was very exciting!

Advice on new devices for Christmas

As the Christmas season approaches, many parents will be considering getting children their first internet connected device. Whether it's a smartphone, a tablet, or a gaming console, it's important to set boundaries from the start to ensure healthy tech habits and safety. Take a moment to read the tips about how you can help to keep your child safer whilst online this Christmas and beyond.



Primary Picture News

Picture news aims to support pupil's development of spiritual, moral, social



and cultural elements of learning and behaviour. It encourages children to engage with current affairs alongside worldwide news stories and provides them opportunities to learn about and discuss what is happening within assemblies and the classroom. Our Primary Picture News is linked to British Values, Protected Characteristics as well as the UN Rights of a Child. Check our school X (formerly Twitter) page each week for the latest news stories.



Protected Characteristics

The carol service celebrates how everyone can connect through kindness and community. Whoever we are, we should always feel welcome, valued, and never excluded because of any protected characteristic.






The Safeguarding Curriculum

We believe that one of the best ways to safeguard children is to equip them with the knowledge and skills to be able to keep themselves safe. Safeguarding themes are interwoven throughout our curriculum and the opportunities we offer in school. Some examples include:

- Our 'Values' assemblies which are delivered to all children from EYFS to Y6
- Online Safety days with age-appropriate workshops
- Online safety discussions within computing and other relevant lessons
- Involvement in Anti-Bullying Week and Mental Health Awareness Week
- Relationships, Sex & Health Education (RSHE) lessons
- Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) lessons

Our Values for this half term have been:
Honesty and **Politeness**

Our values for next half term will be: **Creativity** and **Enthusiasm**

School Values		
	<i>grow</i>	Self-Belief and Independence
	<i>respect</i>	Honesty and Politeness
	<i>enjoy</i>	Creativity and Enthusiasm
	<i>achieve</i>	Patience and Determination
	<i>together</i>	Friendship and Kindness

If you are worried about a child's safety please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Leads straight away. The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leads for Glenmere Primary School:

- Mrs Conlon (DSL)
- Mrs Dorrington
- Mrs Carton
- Mrs Siddons (Filtering and Monitoring Lead)

They can be contacted via the school office, or by telephone on 0116 2882228.

Safeguarding Governor and
Filtering and Monitoring Governor:
Andy Jones



Keeping Children Safe this Christmas

At this time of year, we really want the focus to be on happy, family time together. So let's keep it merry with six simple safety tips from the Child Accident Prevention Trust that you can do that won't add to your 'to do' list. For more information click the link below:

<https://capt.org.uk/6-simple-safety-tips-to-keep-children-safe-this-christmas/>



Our school participates in a national scheme called 'Operation Encompass', which is a joint partnership between Leicestershire Police and schools. One of the principles of Operation Encompass is that all incidents of domestic abuse are shared with schools, not just those where an offence can be identified. This system has been established to help schools provide in-house support to children who have been present at, exposed to or involved in any domestic abuse incident. We know that children can be significantly harmed physically and/or emotionally during these situations and that it negatively affects their learning and behaviour. Therefore, as part of the Operation Encompass procedure, and to help mitigate the resulting negative impact, the school receives and email the morning after a child has been witness to or involved in any reported domestic abuse incident. We are then able to use this information to provide the right support to any child and their family as and when it is needed



Giving devices safely this Christmas.

Getting a new device for Christmas is exciting - it can open a world of learning, creativity and connection. But it also introduces children to a digital world that isn't always designed with their safety in mind. Setting clear boundaries and protective measures early on helps children learn to use technology in healthy, balanced and age-appropriate ways. Without guidance, young users can stumble into areas of concern: social media platforms that encourage comparison and oversharing gaming chats that expose them to strangers or apps that collect more personal data than you might expect. These risks don't mean children shouldn't enjoy their new devices - they simply mean they need structure and support to navigate them confidently.



Here are some ways to make sure your child's first steps with a new device are positive ones:

1. Set it up before it gets wrapped.

Before gifting the device, take time to install updates, set parental controls and review privacy settings. This includes switching on filters, limiting app store access and setting up family accounts. Doing this ahead of time keeps Christmas morning focused on joy rather than set up stress - and gives you peace of mind from the start.

2. Agree on clear expectations.

Talk as a family about when and where the device can be used. For example, no phones at the dinner table or gaming at bedtime. These routines help children learn balance and prevent screen time from creeping into every moment of the day.

3. Talk about social media early.

Many social platforms have age limits (typically 13+), but children often feel pressure to join sooner. Keep the conversation open about why these limits exist, what 'friends' really means online and how to handle content that feels uncomfortable or unkind.

4. Guide them through gaming safely.

Games are fun and social, but online play can include chats with strangers or in-game purchases. Encourage your child to only play with people they know, keep personal details private and tell you if something doesn't feel right. Use built-in parental settings on consoles and gaming apps to manage time and communication.

5. Keep passwords and downloads shared.

Agree that you'll know passwords and approve new apps or purchases, at least while your child is learning to manage their own digital choices. This helps you stay involved without needing to hover.

6. Encourage balance.

Screens are just one part of a child's world. Make sure there's time for outdoor play, reading and family time too. Children learn from what they see, so model healthy habits by unplugging together.

As technology becomes a bigger part of childhood, staying informed and involved makes all the difference. With a few clear boundaries and open conversations, you can help your child enjoy the best of their new device - safely, confidently and with balance. Small steps now set the foundation for healthy digital habits that will last well beyond the Christmas holiday.