

Glengowan Primary School and Nursery Class



Newsletter - September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I extend a very warm welcome to all the new families who have joined the Glengowan community. As the weeks and months progress you will get used to all of our routines.

Our school plans learning and events in 4 terms:

Term 1 (August-October)

Term 2 (October-December)

Term 3 (January to April) Term 3 varies in length depending on the Spring/Easter break.

Term 4 (April to June)

A copy of our Annual Calendar was sent home. This was also shared on Parents Portal and on our School Website. Please note that there are 2 Glengowan Primary Schools, which both have a Nursery Class, if you are searching for us online. Our website has our 3 House Badges on the homepage and looks like this:



Parents Portal

The parents/carers of new children should have received information about Parents Portal. If your child came from another school that uses this system, the log in should have transferred over. Please note that Parents Portal is the main method of communication between school and home. If you have any problems, our office staff can assist you.

Mrs Kilgallon's Update

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Depute Head Teacher here at Glengowan Primary School. It has already been a pleasure getting to know the pupils, staff, and wider school community, and I feel very privileged to be part of such a welcoming and supportive environment.

My focus in these first weeks has been on listening and learning – finding out what makes our school special and how I can best contribute to the continued success of our pupils. I am especially looking forward to working in partnership with families to ensure every child feels valued, supported, and encouraged to achieve their very best.

Thank you for the warm welcome I have received so far. I look forward to meeting many more of you in the weeks ahead and working together to make this a positive, successful year for our young people.

Warm regards,

Lorna Kilgallon

Depute Head Teacher

Teachers

Every class has at least two different teachers. This has been the case in all primary schools for many years. Teachers are contracted to be in class and also have non-contact time. When your child's teacher has her non-contact time, your child will be taught by another member of our team. All planning for your child's learning is monitored, no matter who is teaching.

Car Park

Thank you for leaving the bus lane free, so that the children can board transport safely. Taxis arrive after 9am and before 2.45pm, so access is still required at these times.

Label Everything

Almost all items left on our lost property table don't include a child's name. Please make sure your child's belongings are labelled. If, in error, you have an item belonging to another child, this should be returned to the school. With younger children, it is fairly common to end up with another child's sweatshirt or jacket.



Mrs Allison's Update

Hello,

I just wanted to say a big thank you to all pupils, parents and staff for my warm welcome. I am so happy to be here to work with and get to know you all. I have been super busy getting our After School Clubs up and running and here is a little update.

Tom has very kindly offered to continue with taking our Football Club. The children have loved his training sessions so far and he has high hopes for this year. Our Active Schools Coordinator Chris is taking our Multisport Club for Primary 5-7 children. We have been inundated with requests for this, and we have a wait list, which is amazing. I am taking our Netball Club on a Wednesday, and I am really looking forward to taking the children to the festivals this year.

We have also had a visit from our local Martial Arts Community Hub who worked with our Primary 1 to 3 children. The children loved the activities and we cannot wait to welcome more visitors in to work with us.

There is lots to look forward to this session and I am so excited to get started.

Mrs Allison

Principal Teacher



Nursery Update



Welcome

We've had a wonderful start to the term, welcoming our newest little learners! Everyone has been busy exploring the nursery, making new friends, and finding their way around our routines. There's been lots of smiles, laughter, and curiosity as the children settle in and begin their learning journey with us. We can't wait to share more of our adventures with you soon!



We Need Your Help!

We are hoping to create a wonderful outdoor learning area for our children in the woodland space next to the nursery. To make this possible, we would be very grateful for some help from our parents and carers. If you are able to spare a little time – and perhaps bring along some tools – we would love your support in clearing the area. Together, we can make a fantastic space for our children to play, learn, and explore in nature.

If you would like to help - please let a member of staff know.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

*Every session, we have to set our school improvement priorities for the coming year. These are selected as a result of self-evaluation.
Our priorities for 2025/26 are as follows:*

Strategic Priority 1: *Implement the Verbal-Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract (VCPA) approach from Nursery to P7.*

- *This priority is about improving the teaching of Numeracy and Mathematics.*

Strategic Priority 2: *Develop our curriculum with a focus on Dance and Drama.*

- *This priority was selected as part of our cycle of curriculum refreshment.*

Strategic Priority 3: *Work towards creating an Attachment-Informed, Trauma Sensitive Establishment. Pledge Awards :- See the whole person.*

- *We achieved our first award last session and are continuing on this journey.*

Strategic Priority 4: *Create a strategy to ensure that children exceeding age-related expectations are challenged further.*

- *We will address the need to challenge many of our children further in literacy and numeracy.*

*Teaching staff have been assigned professional reading for Priority 1.
Development work for priorities 2-4 started a few weeks ago. Parents/carers will be kept updated about our school improvement.*

Our Vision

*At Glengowan, we want our pupils to become independent learners
who reach their full potential.*

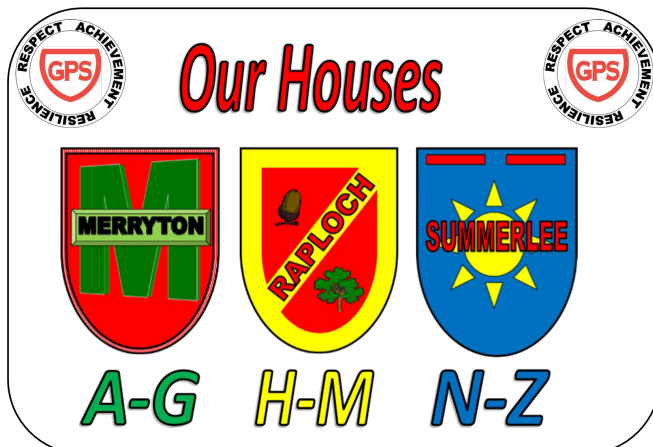
JRSO



Our new Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs) visited a special event at Chatelherault Country Park last week. They met representatives from various organisations that support road safety.

Our children spoke with police officers, a truck driver, a bus driver and took part in a competition. The highlight seemed to be pedalling a bike connected to a smoothie machine.

Our JRSOs gathered ideas for their own notice board, which will be in school soon.



House System

All P1-7 children are placed in a House according to their surname. Children gain house points through curriculum certificates, competitions and our Sports Day.

Homework

Class teachers assign homework on weekly Home Learning Task Maps. These can be found on the homepage of our school website.

<https://www.glengowan-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk/>

The assigned tasks are selected to support the learning that has taken place in class. We do enjoy a high level of support from parents/carers when it comes to supporting learning at home, and this is both appreciated and helpful with your child's learning journey. Especially with our youngest learners, it is important that the phonemes (sounds) are practised at home regularly using the pages provided and the books allocated to your child. We know from experience that parental engagement has a very positive effect on children's progress. Thank you for your continued support.

Important dates

<i>Thursday 25th September</i>	<i>P1-7 Open Morning</i>
<i>Friday 26th September</i>	<i>HOLIDAY</i>
<i>Monday 29th September</i>	<i>HOLIDAY</i>
<i>Wednesday 1st October</i>	<i>P1-7 Parents' Evening</i>
<i>Thursday 2nd October</i>	<i>P1-7 Parents' Evening</i>
<i>Wednesday 8th October</i>	<i>Nursery Parents' Evening</i>
<i>Thursday 9th October</i>	<i>Parent Group Meeting (7pm)</i>
<i>Friday 10th October</i>	<i>P4 Harvest Assembly (9.30)</i>
<i>Monday 13th- Friday 17th October</i>	<i>October Week Holiday</i>
<i>Monday 20th October</i>	<i>School reopens for Term 2</i>

*Yours faithfully,
Graeme Murray
Head Teacher*