

Glenwood School Monthly Newsletter



June 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of a successful summer term, I would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support, particularly during this week's hot weather and for attending Parents' Evening. Since April, we have made strong progress with our priorities of improving communication, curriculum, assessment and creating stability across the school. We have celebrated many achievements, including our students' success at the Mencap Awards, the Deputy Mayor's visit, involvement in the new accessible playground project, and the exciting completion of our new Post-16 building. We look forward to welcoming families to future opening events and transition visits.

Looking ahead to September, we will continue developing our new Equals curriculum, introduce an improved assessment and home-school communication system, and launch a new positive behaviour approach focused on understanding behaviour and working closely with families. We are also investing in staff development, strengthening residential provision, and supporting families through our Family Liaison Officers. Class teachers for next year will be shared shortly, with careful transition arrangements in place to ensure a smooth start. Thank you for helping make this such a positive term—we look forward to continuing to work together to provide the very best education and opportunities for every child and young person at Glenwood.

Amanda
Headteacher

Parents Evening

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended our recent Parents' Evenings. It was wonderful to see so many families engaging with staff and taking the opportunity to discuss their child's progress and achievements throughout the year.

We hope that the meetings provided a valuable opportunity to reflect on the information contained within your child's end-of-year report, celebrate successes, and discuss areas for continued development. The partnership between home and school plays a vital role in supporting every student's learning journey, and we greatly appreciate the time you took to attend.

The positive conversations shared across both evenings highlighted the strong relationships that exist within our school community. We know that students benefit greatly when parents, carers, and teachers work together to support their learning, wellbeing, and future aspirations.

As we move towards the end of the academic year, we would like to thank you for your continued support and encouragement. We are proud of all that our students have achieved and look forward to building on these successes in the months ahead.

Thank you once again for your attendance and for your ongoing partnership with the school.

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Shetland Ponies

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to TeacherActive for their generous support in funding a recent visit from Donna's Diddy Darlings. This wonderful experience was arranged for our PMLD learners, who had the opportunity to spend time with the ponies in a safe and familiar environment. The visit provided a rich sensory experience, allowing students to interact with the animals through touch, sight, and sound.

It was a joy to see the smiles on our learners' faces as they met the ponies. Many students were visibly engaged and excited throughout the session, with staff commenting on the positive responses and moments of connection that the experience inspired.

Opportunities such as these make a significant difference to our students, providing meaningful experiences that support wellbeing, communication, and sensory development. We are incredibly grateful to TeacherActive for making this visit possible and to Donna's Diddy Darlings for delivering such a memorable and enjoyable experience for our learners.



Dates for the diary 2026



9th July - Year 14 Prom

16th July - Hepatitis B Vaccines - Those eligible will be contacted by The Immunisation Team

20th July - Last Day of term

1st Sep - Inset Day - No learners in school

2nd Sep - Inset Day - No learners in school

3rd Sep - Learners first day back to school

Did you know?

Did you know? Glenwood's longest serving member of staff has been with us for 32 years.

Did you know? Glenwood "traces its origins back to the late 1960s. Originally serving as a junior training centre, it was officially designated as a school for children with special educational needs in 1970".

Did you know? Our current building, built in 2017, is a £15.4 million premises.

June at Glenwood

This month at Glenwood has been another busy and exciting one. We held another FrOG (Friends of Glenwood) meeting, which was attended by our Headteacher, Amanda. Learners in Yellow Corridor enjoyed a fun-filled illuminated party with a visiting entertainer, while several members of staff attended Team Teach training in preparation for the new academic year.

A group of learners from Purple Corridor represented the school at an off-site sports day alongside students from other local schools. We also held two Parents' Evenings, providing families with the opportunity to discuss their child's progress and end-of-year reports, and welcomed the Immunisation Team into school to administer vaccinations. In addition, we conducted Learning Support Assistant (LSA) interviews and celebrated World Picnic Day, with some learners in Yellow Corridor taking part in an outdoor picnic. The FrOG team also hosted their first parent-organised event—a Father's Day sale—which was a great success. We also invited staff and learner to dress up for The World Cup.

To round off the month, two Shetland ponies returned to Glenwood to visit our PMLD learners, providing a wonderful sensory experience and bringing smiles to many faces.

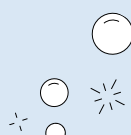
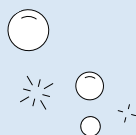
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Yellow Corridor Party

Learners in the Yellow Corridor enjoyed a special treat this month with a visit from a professional party entertainer. Staff and learners alike had a fantastic time enjoying music, magic tricks, flying foam, balloons, and much more. The foam machine was a particular favourite among the learners, bringing lots of laughter and excitement to the day.



Moments Captured



Dressing Up For The World Cup

It was fantastic to see so many staff and learners getting into the spirit of England's first World Cup game on 17th June by dressing up. The enthusiasm and sense of community on display helped create a fun and positive atmosphere across the school. Thank you to everyone who took part and showed their support!



Staff Spotlight

We would like to say a massive well done to Class Teacher, Romy who ran the Southend half marathon on Sunday 14th June. Romy ran the marathon with her dad to raise money for Havens Hospice. Well done Romy!



New Build Update

We are delighted to share the exciting news that we have now received the keys to our new Post-16 building! A formal opening, organised by Morgan Sindall, will take place next week. We look forward to inviting the parents and carers of students who will be moving into the new building this September, giving you the opportunity to see this fantastic new learning environment. Over the coming weeks, we will also be carefully planning transition visits for our students. These visits will help them become familiar with their new surroundings and ensure they feel confident and excited about the move ahead.



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Glenwood Learners Help Create South Essex's New Accessible Playground

Glenwood School is extremely proud to be contributing to an exciting new £600,000 community project that will see one of the largest accessible playgrounds in South Essex built at South Benfleet Park.

Market-leading playground company Kompan approached Glenwood and invited our learners to take part in the exciting project by painting pebbles that will be incorporated into a tactile pathway within the new playground. The impressive play area will cover approximately 1,800 square metres and will be free to access 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Designed for children of all abilities, it will feature a wide range of colourful and inclusive play equipment.

The playground will also be located next to the new H.O.M.E. Hub, which will provide a free car park, café and fully inclusive toilet facilities, creating an accessible and welcoming space for local families.

Kompan kindly provided the school with large smooth pebbles, brushes and acrylic paints for the project. On Monday 15th June, the Deputy Mayor of Castle Point, Michael Dearson, and Steven from Kompan joined our very own class teacher Catherine and many of our learners in our bespoke café for a special pebble-painting session. Headteacher Amanda also joined the activity, helping learners develop ideas and find inspiration for their designs. The event was a wonderful opportunity for learners from across the school to work together and contribute to a lasting community project.

The Deputy Mayor said "it was a truly special opportunity to spend time with the pupils", "it was an honour to be involved in such a meaningful project. The creativity, enthusiasm and warmth of the children made the visit especially memorable." "Sincere thanks to Head Teacher, Amanda Lambert, and her dedicated staff for their warm welcome and for hosting such a fantastic visit".

We are looking forward to sharing news of the playground's grand opening and hope that many of our learners and their families will visit to see how their beautifully painted pebbles have been incorporated into the final design. It will be a fantastic reminder of the important role Glenwood has played in helping to create an inclusive space for the whole community to enjoy.



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Stars of June



Red 1 - Jack for his friendly and caring nature and making good choices.

Red 2 - Oakley for showing increased confidence and enthusiasm when joining sensory activities with his peers.

Red 3 - Ronnie for continued improvement with his choice making.

Yellow 1 - Jeni for developing her spoken communication in school.

Yellow 2 - Albie for finding new ways to regulate himself.

Yellow 3 - Tara for communicating her preferences and making choices.

Yellow 4 - William for great progress with his communication.

Yellow 5 - Oliver L for using his communication board to make choices and express his preferences.

Yellow 6 - Maya for great participation in Music therapy sessions.

Blue 1 - Sophie for swimming 25 meters.

Blue 2 - James for participating and always being fully engaged during the Makaton lesson.

Blue 3 - Kristoff for his growing confidence with his communication.

Blue 4 - Freddie for his perseverance in the hot weather and excitement during the activities on offer.

Blue 5 - Xoesse for settling in wonderfully and adapting to everyday life at Glenwood.

Blue 6 - Tommy for beginning to find enjoyment sharing time and space with others.

Blue 7 - Callum for confident communication with less familiar adults when conducting surveys around the school.

Purple 1 - Klea for settling in so well.

Purple 2 - Sophie has shown fantastic kindness and responsibility by helping adults with a range of jobs around the classroom and school. She has been a great support to others and always completes tasks with care and enthusiasm.

Purple 3 - Olly for excellent transitioning around the school.

Purple 4 - Kye for overcoming situations he finds challenging.

Purple 5 - Matthew for making good progress in his ability to transition in a timely manner.

Purple 6 - Ruben for making a great return to school after time off and getting on the bus well on the way home.

Green 1 - Madeleine for clearly communicating her likes and dislikes during TAC PAC.

Green 2 - Rajveer for participating in activities.

Green 3 - Izzy for preparing the tablets for lunch and organising the cutlery, drinks etc for her friends in class.

Green 4 - Shelby for her positive and successful start to staying at The Glen, showing growing confidence and independence.

Green 5 - Zack, he has joined the class really positively and settled in well since joining the class.