



## New guidance for parents and carers on children's digital lives

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has recently published a new guide for parents titled *'What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives'*. To support this guide a children's activity pack titled *'What I wish my parents or carers knew about the online world ... Activity Pack'*, has also been produced.

Keeping children safe is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For parents and carers, this has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now closely intertwined with the digital world. Many families face difficult decisions about how to protect children from online harm, while also enabling access to spaces that are central to learning, socialising and play.

The guide and activity pack reflect the rapidly evolving digital landscape and focuses on managing children's everyday online habits and takes a broader approach in response to the challenges families now face. Most importantly, they have been written with direct input from children and young people in England. The Children's Commissioner and her team visited schools, spoke with teenagers, Youth Ambassadors and members of the Youth SEND Panel to understand what works – and what doesn't – when it comes to managing online life at home.

Many young people shared that, with hindsight, they would have wanted stronger protections around smartphone use and valued clear, firm boundaries set by trusted adults. Children consistently said they appreciate adults being informed, confident and protective when concerns arise about online content.

Schools play a vital role in supporting parents and carers with these challenges. Recent surveys show that school leaders are deeply concerned about online safety, even where steps have already been taken to limit device use during the school day.

As parents, carers and educators, our shared priority is children's wellbeing and safety – and this is what young people tell us they want and expect from the adults around them. The guide and activity pack are intended as a practical resource for families and school communities. We encourage parents and carers to explore them.

### **What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives:**

<https://assets.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wpuploads/2025/12/cc-what-i-wish-parent-guide.pdf>

### **What I wish my parents or carers knew about the online world ... Activity Pack**

<https://assets.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wpuploads/2025/12/cc-what-i-wish-activity-pack.pdf>

For up to the minute information, logon to the GCS website where you can find out about:



- Dates for Parents/Carers Events
- School trips
- The curriculum
- Emergency Closures (snow, power cuts etc)

[www.gladesmore.com](http://www.gladesmore.com)  
or go to the  
**EduLink One App**





# Iftar 2026 at Gladesmore

A shared moment of reflection, connection and community as we break the fast together.

Tuesday | **10** March | 5:30 - 7:30

Gladesmore Main Hall      Tickets: £2  
Tickets available from the school office

Join us for a special evening as we come together to break our fast and celebrate our Gladesmore community.

Food will be provided.

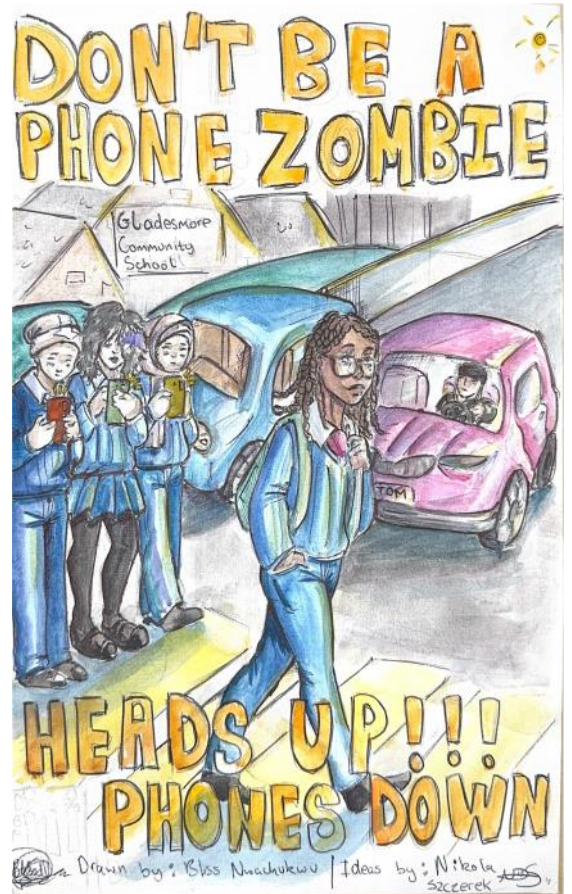
**ALL ARE WELCOME**



National Online Safety (now part of The National College) offers a range of free, high-quality, and informative posters aimed at schools, parents, and carers to promote online safety. Various materials published by National Online Safety are on display around the school.

"Heads up, screens down" is a slogan often used by National Online Safety in educational guides, including topics on screen time, social media risks, and gaming safety under their [#WakeUpWednesday](#) initiative. Parents can find a lot of useful safety tips by accessing this site.

Congratulations to Bliss Nwachukwu and Nikola Szczerek both from 8S, who together have recreated a poster as part of the 'Heads up phones down' campaign which is now on display around the school.



# Year 7 Trip to the Twist Museum

On Monday 9th February, thirty Year 7 students took part in a trip to the Twist Museum in central London.

The immersive exhibitions, using light, colour, pattern, and optical illusion, encouraged curiosity, creativity, and new ways of seeing the world. The trip provided a valuable cultural experience that many students would not normally have access to and helped strengthen relationships through a shared experience outside the classroom.

More Year 7 trips are on the way for students displaying our REACH values and striving for greatness every day.



## Gladesmore Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Be part of our school community • Make a difference • Support our students

**GET INVOLVED!**

Our next PTA meeting will take place in January

The Gladesmore PTA brings together parents, carers and staff to support the school's development and enrich the experiences of all our students. Anyone can get involved – even if you can only offer a small amount of time. Your contribution truly matters.

**TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP EVERY STUDENT FEEL: INCLUDED, RESPECTED, UNITED.**

**WHAT THE PTA DOES:**

- Raises funds to provide extras and additional opportunities for students
- Runs social events for families
- Supports school trips, outings, and special activities
- Organises meetings to keep parents informed about key issues
- Provides feedback to help the school continue to develop

**INTERESTED IN JOINING?**

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. [pta@gladesmore.com](mailto:pta@gladesmore.com)

## Gladesmore's PTA QUIZ night

**JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING EVENING OF QUESTIONS, TEAMWORK AND PRIZES!**

**Date:** Thursday 5th of March 2026  
**Time:** 5pm - 7pm  
**Venue:** Main Hall  
**Entry:** £1 Student/Child £2 Adult

**Tickets can be purchased at the School Office**

Open to all students, teachers and parents  
 Come along, have fun and see if your team can take the crown.

**Tickets are limited – grab yours before they run out!**

# Diversity Role Models visit GCS



Diversity  
Role Models

At the start of February, Gladesmore's PSHE Team were proud to have the opportunity to demonstrate our communities deep commitment to inclusivity and diversity by welcoming 'Diversity Role Models' to present to our Year 8 students.

Diversity Role Models are a UK-based charity that embeds inclusion in education by hosting workshops with LGBTQ+ and ally volunteers, aiming to end identity-based bullying in schools. Since 2011, they have engaged over 200,000 young people and trained over 24,000 staff to foster empathetic, inclusive environments. The program includes tailored secondary sessions, free resources, and staff training to tackle prejudice.

## Key Aspects of Diversity Role Models' Activities:

- **Workshops & Storytelling:** Volunteers share lived experiences to help students empathize with others, reducing bullying related to sexual orientation and gender identity.
- **Impact & Scale:** In 2023-24, the charity delivered 1,389 workshops in 268 schools, impacting over 45,323 students.
- **DfE Support:** The Department for Education in England has funded Diversity Role Models to implement the 'Embracing Difference, Ending Bullying' project.
- **Resources:** They offer free, downloadable resources for classrooms, including the "Upstander" animation series, designed to promote kindness and inclusion.

The presentation was hugely informative and well-received. We very much look forward to welcoming Diversity Role Models back to Gladesmore in the future.



# Included, Respected, United: Gender Equity at Gladesmore

This half term, students took part in a series of assemblies and PSHE lessons focused on gender equity, as part of our ongoing commitment to inclusion, student voice and personal development.

To ensure that students felt safe, supported and able to speak openly, separate assemblies were held for boys and girls, led by trusted members of staff. The girls' assembly was led by Ms Norton and the boys' assembly by Mr Wilks. These sessions provided a safe space for students to explore important topics, ask questions and reflect honestly.

In the girls' assembly, students explored the message that there are no limits to what young women can achieve. The session looked at how gender stereotypes can sometimes affect confidence or ambition, particularly in areas such as leadership, sport and STEM subjects. There was a strong focus on self-belief, representation and encouraging students to pursue their aspirations with confidence. We want every girl at Gladesmore to know that her voice matters and that her ambitions are valid.

The boys' assembly focused on masculinity, responsibility and respect. Students discussed how ideas about "being a man" can be shaped by society and the media, and how some of these messages can be restrictive or unhelpful. The session encouraged boys to think about their role in creating a fair and respectful society, including challenging harmful language or behaviour and supporting women and girls. Strength was explored as showing integrity, empathy and accountability.

These discussions were developed further in PSHE lessons, where students examined how language, peer relationships and social media can influence attitudes to gender. Students were encouraged to consider how they can contribute positively to a culture of mutual respect in school and beyond.

At Gladesmore, gender equity is about fairness and opportunity for all. It means recognising barriers, challenging stereotypes and ensuring that every student, regardless of gender, has the support they need to thrive. Supporting our girls goes hand in hand with helping our boys to develop confidence, emotional literacy and respect for others.

This work links closely to our REACH ethos and our belief that personal development is key to academic success. We are proud of the maturity and thoughtfulness shown by our students throughout these sessions.

We encourage parents and carers to continue these conversations at home by talking about aspirations, respectful relationships and equality in everyday life. Together, we will continue to build a school community where every young person feels included, respected and empowered to reach their full potential.



## Safeguarding Update: Haringey Prevent Team Assembly



We recently welcomed the Haringey Prevent Team into school to deliver a safeguarding assembly for our students as part of our ongoing commitment to student wellbeing and safety.

The assembly was age-appropriate and informative, focusing on helping young people build resilience, think critically about online and real-world influences, and understand where to seek support if they feel worried or unsafe. The Prevent Team deliver this work in a calm, supportive and proportionate way, and we value the positive contribution they make to keeping young people safe.

### What is the purpose of the Prevent Team?

The Prevent Team's role is to safeguard children and young people by offering early support and advice when concerns arise. Their work is centred on:

- Helping young people understand and manage external influences, including online content  
Supporting emotional wellbeing and resilience
- Encouraging open, informed discussions and critical thinking
- Providing early help to prevent harm before issues escalate

Prevent is part of the UK's wider safeguarding framework and is not about labelling or criminalising young people. Instead, it focuses on care, education and early intervention, working closely with schools, families and local services to ensure young people receive the right support at the right time.

### Support for Parents and Carers

Parents and carers can also access confidential advice and support through the Haringey Prevent Team, including:

- Guidance if you are worried about your child or another young person
  - Advice around online safety, wellbeing and managing concerns
- Signposting to appropriate local support services.

If you would like further information or support, please contact the school's safeguarding team, who can provide guidance and help you access local services.

We hope you all have a great and safe half-term.

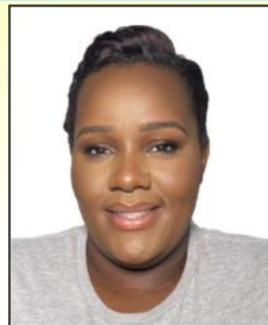
## THE GCS SAFEGUARDING TEAM

The safeguarding of our children is our school's highest priority. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility at Gladesmore Community School.

Please do reach out if you are worried or in need of support. Children, parents, carers, we know that it can be challenging to come forwards when things are difficult, but please get in touch so that we can help.



**Ms T. Marshall**  
*Designated  
Safeguarding Lead*



**Ms Cope**  
*Safeguarding  
Officer*



**Ms Moaka**  
*Safeguarding  
Officer*

: [safeguarding@gladesmore.com](mailto:safeguarding@gladesmore.com)

or,

: **0208 800 0884**

# Reading Reward: Visit to the British Library

Each year, our Key Stage 3 students take part in a Reading Assessment designed to evaluate their comprehension, analysis and interpretation of both fiction and non-fiction texts. On 22nd January, as a reward for their excellent performance, a group of high achieving students enjoyed a visit to the iconic British Library.

Located in the heart of London, the Library houses over 13.5 million printed books and literary artefacts, representing a rich diversity of languages, faiths and cultures from around the world.

During the visit, students explored a range of fascinating exhibits, including a special exhibition marking the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth. They also saw examples of William Caxton's ground breaking printing work from 1476, the sixteen-foot-long scroll of the Buddhist text the Diamond Sutra, printed in China in 868 AD, and one of the original 1215 copies of the Magna Carta issued under King John.

As part of the day, students also took part in a creative workshop, where they designed and made their own individual artists' books to take home.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable and enriching experience, with students describing the visit as both informative and inspiring. We are incredibly proud of their achievement and the exemplary conduct they demonstrated throughout the trip.



**WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY**  
5 MARCH 2026

**GSC World Book Week is coming . . .  
Thursday 5th ~ Wednesday 11th March 2026**

During World Book Week there will be book themed tutor group activities.

On Thursday 5th March, World Book Day, there will be a lunchtime book themed fair with stalls offering fun activities and chances to win fantastic prizes. To take part students will need tokens which must be purchased before the event and will be available 2nd ~ 4th March in the school library at lunchtime.

One token will cost 20p and three tokens will be 50p.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME DATES & EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- Monday 16th ~ Friday 20th February ..... Half Term Holiday
- Tuesday 17th/Wednesday 18th February ..... Ramadan begins\* (*\*to be confirmed*)
- Monday 23rd ~ Friday 27th February ..... Year 11 Trial Exams 2: Week 2
- Monday 23rd February ..... Staff Moderation Day  
Year 11 Trial Exams  
Timetable suspended for all Years 7, 8, 9 & 10
- Tuesday 24th February ..... 8:35am ~ All Year Groups return to school
- Thursday 26th February ..... Year 9 Parent/Carers' Evening
- Friday 27th February ..... 9:20am start for students
- Thursday 5th March ..... World Book Day
- Thursday 5th ~ Wednesday 11th March ..... GCS World Book Week
- Wednesday 18th March ..... Ramadan ends\* (*\*to be confirmed*)
- Thursday 19th ~ Friday 20th March ..... Eid al Fitr\* (*\*to be confirmed*)
- Thursday 26th March ..... Year 11 Parents'/Carers' Evening 2
- Friday 27th March ..... 9:20am start for students  
Last day of term  
Day ends at midday, lunch is available in the Glade Diner
- Monday 30th March ~ Friday 10th April ..... Easter Holiday
- Monday 30th March ~ Wednesday 1st April ..... Year Transition Holiday Club
- Monday 13th April ..... 8:35am ~ All year groups return to school
- Thursday 23rd April ..... Year 8 Parents'/Carers' Evening
- Friday 24th April ..... 9:20am start for students
- Monday 4th May ..... May Day Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 5th May ..... 8:35am ~ All year groups return to school
- Tuesday 5th ~ Friday 8th May ..... GCSE Exams ~ Week 1
- Thursday 7th May ..... Year 6 Induction Evening
- Friday 8th May ..... Year 11 Timetable ends
- Monday 11th ~ Friday 15th May ..... Cooperation Week  
GCSE Exams ~ Week 2
- Monday 18th ~ Friday 22nd May ..... GCSE Exams ~ Week 3
- Monday 25th ~ Friday 29th May ..... Half Term Holiday
- Tuesday 26th ~ Wednesday 27th May ..... Eid al Adha (to be confirmed)
- Monday 1st June ..... 8:35am ~ All Year Groups return to school
- Monday 1st ~ Friday 5th June ..... GCSE Exams ~ Week 4
- Monday 8th ~ Friday 12th June ..... GCSE Exams ~ Week 5
- Thursday 11th June ..... Year 7 Parent/Carers Evening
- Friday 12th June ..... 9:30am start for students
- Monday 15th ~ Friday 19th June ..... Year 10 Trial Exams: Week 1  
GCSE Exams ~ Week 6
- Thursday 18th June ..... Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition
- Friday 19th June ..... Year 11 Graduation & Prom  
Year 10 Exams  
Timetable suspended for Years 7, 8 & 9 not involved in the Activities Day
- Monday 22nd ~ Friday 26th June ..... Year 10 Trial Exams: Week 2
- Wednesday 24th June ..... Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
- Thursday 25th June ..... Teacher Training Day 4  
Year 9 Transition Day  
Year 10 Trial Exams  
Year 9 attendance by appointment. Timetable suspended for Years 7 & 8
- Monday 29th June ~ Friday 3rd July ..... Hard Work Week
- Thursday 2nd July ..... Year 6 Induction Day 1  
Year 10 Geography Field Trip 1
- Friday 3rd July ..... Year 6 Induction Day 2  
Year 10 Geography Field Trip 2

'REACH' HALL OF FAME Student of the Week 2025 ~ 2026

Congratulations to the following students:

15/01/26

Sumayyah Endris, 10CGT

22/01/26

Arwin Faramarzian, 9BKY

23/01/26

Nadia Aden, 7S

05/02/26

Sumaira Islam, 7R

06/02/26

Harpreet Singh, 9HSN

12/02/26

Victor Hugo Oliveira, 8R

13/02/26

Jazmin Zambrano Reinoso, 10CGT

