

☆ Garden Suburb Infant School ☆

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 2, Friday 15th September 2023

Please find attached our Ofsted report, from our school inspection on the 12th and 13th of July, which has now been finalised.

We are very happy with the report, which we feel reflects our school, and our priorities, well. We have one area for development, which is the area we had already identified before the inspection started. As you may know, we have been working on the development of our curriculum, and in the coming year we are focusing on the planning and teaching of Science. Although the report doesn't specify particular subjects, the inspector agreed with our own analysis of where we are and what we need to do next.

We are particularly pleased that the inspector took a "deep dive" into our teaching of reading and art and found them both to be huge areas of strength. We found the inspection process to be a useful one, and we had the opportunity for good professional dialogue with our inspector. Mainly, we were immensely proud of the feedback we received about our school ethos, with the report saying, "This is a happy school. Pupils appreciate leaders' ambition that everyone feels special, has hope and a reason to smile", where "Working relationships between adults and pupils are warm and friendly".

It feels good to start the school year with clear recognition of our strengths, and agreement that we are on the right track as we move forward in our continual process of school improvement.

THIS WEEK we have welcomed our new reception children into school for their first visits to school – it was lovely to meet them all! Next week the reception classes will be building up over the week – reception parents, please check your induction timetable for your child's start date!

PLEASE GIVE EXTRA THOUGHT TO OUR NEW FRIENDS WHEN YOU COME INTO AND LEAVE SCHOOL: To begin with, the new reception children will be lining up and coming in at 9.15am, but soon they will be coming in with all the other year groups. Please do not come inside the gate with your child, even to park a bike or scooter. We will help them if they need help, and you can pass bags and bottles over the fence once they have parked. We want to keep the entrance free for the children, and make sure none of them slip out of the gate once they are in.

NEXT WEEK: We have a few events next week, we hope to see you there!

Monday 18th September, 9.05am: Rosh Hashanah Assembly We are welcoming Mrs Coote and Mrs Saunders back into school to present our assembly next week. Parents are welcome to join us – please wait outside until 9am and then come in and go straight to the school hall,

New Event!! Wednesday 20th September, 3pm: Second Hand Uniform Sale We will be holding a second hand uniform sale after school next Wednesday in the front playground – come along to pick up good quality uniform for only £1 per item!!! *If you are able to help out at the sale, please contact the school office and we'll pass your details to Natalie who organises the Sale.*

Friday 22nd September, 9am: PTA Meeting in Dining Hall with Miss Sands: Each month we hold a meeting with our parents and Miss Sands. This is an opportunity to not only talk about PTA events and fundraising, but also to find out information about things happening in school – we also use these meetings to gain our parents thoughts! All parents are welcome to attend, but at a minimum we ask for at least one parent per class (class rep) so they can spread any news to the rest of the class.

There is a lovely article about our PTA Summer Camp, on the front page of the "Hampstead Garden Suburb News" this month. You can find it here: <https://hgsra.uk/suburbnews/sn155/sn.pdf>

PICK UP FORMS – URGENT!!! We are still waiting for quite a few of the regular pick up forms for our children. It is vitally important that these are completed for every child – even if they were here last year – these forms are not only used by the class teachers but also anyone who is covering the class.

PLEASE complete your form as a matter of urgency as this is a safeguarding matter. Thank you.

LOST PROPERTY: This week we have had to donate 3 black bin liners of uniform and lost property to the PTA and clothing charities. All of the items in the bags had no names on them and have not been claimed since last term!!!

A reminder to parents that all clothing and items that come into school need to be clearly labelled so when items are lost we can return them to the correct child.

GARDEN SUBURB LOTTERY: The next draw is this Saturday 16th September 2023, you could win £25,000! Only £1 per ticket. <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/garden-suburb-junior>. You've got to be in it to win it – GOOD LUCK EVERYONE

For other ways to support the school go to our PTA Fundraising page on our website: [Garden Suburb Junior & Infant School - How we raise money \(gardensuburbinfant.co.uk\)](https://www.gardensuburbinfantschool.co.uk/garden-suburb-junior)

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Birthday Books: We are hoping to set up an Amazon Wish List for the Birthday books, which parents can buy for your child's class to share – we'll let you know when this is ready!

We don't allow families to bring in sweets and treats so this a great alternative way to celebrate – whilst increasing the classroom library!

We wish everyone who celebrated their birthday this week (fall on or between 10th & 16th September) a very happy birthday:

5 years old this week: Frankie in Green

6 years old this week: Elyas in Lilac & Sofia in Yellow

7 years old this week: Hamide & Anya in Orange

A very happy birthday also goes to Ms Kelly & Mrs Pelekanos who celebrated this week.