

☆Garden Suburb Infant School☆

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 13, Friday 8th December 2023

SEASONAL FAIR: This morning, children learnt how to shop, use money and make decisions about the best gifts to buy for their families – and had a great time doing so! This annual event is both a great learning experience and a way of raising money for the school.

As always this event cannot take place without the generosity and hard work of many members of our school community. We are very grateful to the parents who have worked so hard to organise and coordinate the event; to all the parents who came in to decorate the hall and set up the stalls; baked cookies; counted and sorted the money; all the parent volunteers who have been here all morning to help the children to do their shopping and, thank you also to Santa and his elf for joining us for the morning.

Thank you to everyone for your support with the Seasonal Fair, it was a wonderful experience for all!

It was also great to have our official photographers at the event! Thank you! We have already received the photos from Shigeru Ichihashi, and we have put these on Tapestry. **Do log on to Tapestry and take a look!** More photos will follow.

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION: You should have received ballot papers for voting for a Parent Governor, to sit on our governing body. There is one ballot paper for each parent. Thank you to all the parents who have returned their votes so far; all ballot papers must be returned by 3.30pm on Wednesday 13th December.

REMINDER OF EVENTS TO THE END OF TERM: We have quite a lot going on over the last few weeks of term, as we enjoy the festive season. Here are details of the events happening – there are some new ones so do check them all!

Wednesday 13th December at 9.10am, Hannukah Assembly: Parents are welcome to join us. Please wait in the front playground until 9am, when we will let you in to the hall.

Wednesday 13th December, Christmas Lunch: If your child normally has a packed lunch and they'd like a school meal that day, make sure you email admin@gsis.barnetmail.net by 9am on Monday so we can order them a meal.

Monday 18th December, Birthday Assembly for children whose birthday falls between 17th December and 6th January

Tuesday 19th December at 9.10am, Christmas Assembly Year One parents are invited to join us – wait outside until the children are all in class, then you will be welcomed into school.

Tuesday 19th December, PTA Seasonal Event after school: The whole infant school community gather in the rear playground from 3.30pm until 5pm for some festive cheer!

Festive Parties:

- **Tuesday 19th December, Reception Year Party**
- **Wednesday 20th December, Year One and Year Two Parties**

On their day the children can come to school in their own clothes. The children will have time in the hall to play party games and dance to music. We are asking all parents to send in £2 on the day, so we can provide some party snacks and drinks.

Thursday 21st December, Last Day of Term: Children will come to school in their Christmas Jumpers and school will finish at 1.30pm.

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO FUNTIME AFTER SCHOOL ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM, AND NO CLUB DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS. FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES RUNNING IN BARNET WHICH ARE FREE FOR OUR CHILDREN GO TO [Barnet Youth – Child and Family Early Help Service - Positive Activities - Positive Activities](#)

HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB CHRISTMAS DESIGNER MARKET Saturday 9th December, 9am – 5pm: If you're looking for a bit more festive cheer this weekend, you might like to go to St Jude's church for their festive market on Saturday. Housed in one of the U.K.'s most spectacular ecclesiastical buildings, Hampstead Garden Suburb Christmas Designer Market is a feast for all the family. Packed with over 50 stalls of unique designer gifts, a pop-up café offering mouth-watering lunches, barista coffee and mulled wine, and Santa's Grotto. Find out more here: <https://www.stjudeonthehill.com/event-details/christmas-designer-market-1>

YEAR TWO TRANSFER TO JUNIORS IN SEPT 2024: All children in Year Two need to apply for a place at Garden Suburb Junior School (or another junior / primary school) for next September. If you do not complete the application by the deadline (15th January 2024) then your child will be without a school next year!

Applications are done through www.eadmissions.org.uk – if your child started with us in September 2021 then you will already have a login, just reset your password. If your child started with us after September 2021 and you completed an in-year admission when starting in our school, then you will need to create an account as it is a different application process.

DO YOU HAVE A YOUNGER CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1ST SEPTEMBER 2019 AND 31ST AUGUST 2020? If so then they are due to start school next September, and the deadline to apply for a place to start reception next year is 15th January 2024. Applications should be completed at www.eadmissions.org.uk . If your older child started with us from October 2021 to now and you completed an In-Year admission, you will need to register to use this service. If your older child started with us in September in their reception year (when they were 4 yrs old) then you can use your previous log in – just reset your password if you can't remember it!

OTHER NOTICES FROM BARNET SERVICES

THE BIG AMBITION SURVEY: The Children's Commissioner for England are running a survey for the children of England to tell policy makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election. The survey is open to all children and young people in England aged between 6 and 18 years old. Adults can answer on behalf of a child or young person aged 0 to 18 year old. Children and parents can find out more information and complete the survey here: [About this survey : The Big Ambition - Have your say! \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk)

FREE DR BIKE SESSIONS: Barnet Council's Parking team has arranged free Dr Bike sessions run by qualified bicycle mechanics in December. Members of the public can take along their bicycles to have a free, full safety check, which includes the condition of tyres, rims, gears, brake function and tyre pressure and adjustments can be made if required. Both adult and child bicycles can have a free safety check

The sessions will take place on the following dates between 9am and 3pm.

9th December: Stapylton Car Park, Barnet EN5
10th December: Marsh Drive Car Park, West Hendon, NW7
16th December: Watling Avenue Car Park, Burnt Oak, HA8
17th December: Lodge Lane Car Park, North Finchley, N12
23rd December: Marsh Drive Car Park, West Hendon, NW7
30th December: Stapylton Car Park, Barnet, EN5

GARDEN SUBURB LOTTERY: The next draw is this Saturday 9th December 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 \(gardensuburbinfant.co.uk\)](http://www.gardensuburbinfant.co.uk)

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 read!

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 3rd and 9th December) a very happy birthday:

5 years old this week: Agnes in Red;

6 years old this week: Leo in Lilac;

A very happy birthday also goes to Miss Ilia who celebrated this week.