

☆Garden Suburb Infant School☆

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 14, Friday 15th December 2023

HANNUKAH ASSEMBLY: Unfortunately, due to illness, we had to cancel the assembly at short notice. However, we were incredibly well supported by a group of our parents, who stepped up and held mini-assemblies in the classrooms to teach the children about the festival and share doughnuts. A huge thank you to these parents – we really appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. What a great community we belong to!

CLUBS HAVE NOW FINISHED FOR AUTUMN TERM: All the clubs have finished for the term, so all children should be collected at 3.15pm each day next week (except Friday when school finishes at 1.30pm). Bookings for next term's clubs went live a couple of weeks ago; if you want to sign up for a club and haven't yet done so, please check your Parentmail for a communication sent out on 4th December. *Please note some clubs (such as dance) are already full, so please contact the providers (where you book through email) to confirm there is space before making payment.*

REMINDER OF EVENTS NEXT WEEK (WITH INSTRUCTIONS!)

BIRTHDAY ASSEMBLY, MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER: An extra-long assembly to celebrate with those children whose birthday falls between 17th December and 7th January. Parents of these children are welcome to join us. *Please note – due to "human error", we mistakenly did some of the birthdays last week! If your child has a birthday on the dates mentioned, and they said they already had their assembly WE WILL CELEBRATE AGAIN!! So please come to the assembly!*

CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY, TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER AT 9.05AM (YEAR ONE PARENTS INVITED): Year One parents are invited to join us for this special assembly, where the year one children will be leading the singing and helping out Miss Sands as she tells the story of the nativity and Christmas traditions (please wait in the playground until the children are all in class, then you will be welcomed into the school hall for the assembly at 9.05am). Please do not bring buggies or hot drinks into school.

FESTIVE PARTIES - RECEPTION ON TUESDAY 19TH DEC, YEARS ONE & TWO ON WEDNESDAY 20TH DEC: 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.

PTA WINTER FIRESIDE EVENT, TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER: Flyers came home yesterday – this event is free to enter, with refreshments available to buy along with some stalls to buy seasonal gifts, books and other bits. The event is planned to be a lovely festive event where the community can come together- and sing! We hope you can join us!

LAST DAY OF TERM, THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER – PICK UP AT 1.30PM: The children come to school in their Christmas Jumpers (or just their favourite jumper) and bring £1. School will finish at 1.30pm – please collect your child promptly, there is no Funtime after school club that day (breakfast club is still running)

OTHER NOTICES

ABSENCES AT THE END OF TERM: As always, absence is closely monitored. We know some families like to go away for the festive season and choose to leave before the end of term, however the children will be missing out on important learning (and festivities!) which will continue to the end of term. Families who leave for the holidays early, maybe fined. In all cases parents must ask for permission from Miss Sands and it will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. If your child is off sick next week, we will need some sort of proof that they are at home rather than on holiday.

NOTICE OF RESULT OF ELECTION FOR 1 PARENT GOVERNOR: Thank you to both of the parents, who were running for election as a parent governor in our school. In a very closely run election, the results are:

ABIGAIL HAYES **56 votes**
JASON KORSNER **52 votes**

Abigail Hayes is therefore duly elected to the governing board, for the period of 4 years.

SPIRIT OF THE WILD WORKSHOP IN JANUARY: Each year we welcome a host of animals into school through Spirit of the Wild – Ben and Hannah bring animals into school and work with each class to not only show the children live animals (in past years this has included holding some of them, watching owls fly and racing the tortoise!) but also tell them all about the different animal groups, and their features and habitats. It is tailored for each year group, so children who have seen them before will get new information to build on the teaching from last year.

This is a hugely popular workshop, and an important part of the school year and reinforces work in the classroom. We will therefore be asking parents for a donation of £5 per child to cover the cost. Although the event is in January, we are aware that money at this time of year can go up and down, so to help our parents (and maximise donations) we are going to open the donations early next week so parents can pay anytime up to the middle of January when it suits them.

Look out for a Parentmail which will come out with further details early next week.

PANTO AT JW3: If you are looking for some family entertainment over the next couple of weeks, do book to see a performance of “Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Pig” directed by Abigail Anderson (mum to Alexander in Purple). It is a pantomime, a very British theatre tradition: family friendly, lots of songs, jokes and joining in. This panto also has a Jewish twist but is fun for everyone, Jewish or otherwise. Alexander has already given it a big thumbs-up! Just a short ride from Golders Green on the 13 bus. It runs until 7 January at various different times of day to suit all schedules. Hope some of you can make it! <https://www.jw3.org.uk/panto>

ST JUDES ON THE HILL: St Judes have requested that we let our school community know about events over the Christmas period being held at the church. This includes a Family Christingle Workshop & Service next weekend – see the attached flyer for further information.

GARDEN SUBURB LOTTERY: The next draw is this Saturday 16th 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 \(gardensuburbinfant.co.uk\)](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 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 10th and 16th December) a very happy birthday:

Children in Reception Year: Jakob in Red, Zahra in Green

Children in Year One: None this week

Children in Year Two: Muhammad & Safa in Orange, Shaylin in Pink