

☆ Garden Suburb Infant School ☆

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 2, Friday 13th September 2024

THIS WEEK:

Our new reception children have been coming in through the week in their small groups, for their first taste of “big school” and having their first experience in the dining room – it was lovely to meet and get to know them all! Next week the groups will start building up until all the children are in next Wednesday, and then they go to full days next Friday 20th September. *Reception parents – please check your induction timetables so you know which day to start coming in next week.*

We’ve also welcomed new friends to both Years One and Two – and we have more due to start with us next week. We wish them all a very warm welcome! We are very proud of our children, who have it been helpful, kind and understanding towards our new friends, helping them to settle into their new classes.

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.

GATES: We’ve had a number of issues with our pedestrian gate this week, thank you to everyone who has needed access through the school day for their patience – it has certainly kept the office staff fit with sometimes having to come out to assist! Our engineer finally managed to get it working this morning so fingers crossed it is now fixed!

NEXT WEEK: We have a couple of meetings coming up next week, as detailed in the calendar of events sent out last week:

FIRST PTA MEETING WITH MISS SANDS, THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER AT 9.15AM (IN NEW GROUP ROOM – OLD PINK CLASS!): 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. We will start this meeting at 9.15am, so that new reception parents can attend after their children have gone in.

In the meeting next week, we’ll be talking about the events for the coming year and organising the committee for this year as well as finding out how the first few weeks have been for our parents.

YEAR ONE CURRICULUM MEETING, FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER AT 9AM (IN THE SCHOOL HALL): Year one parents are invited into school to find out what their children will be studying throughout this school year and how parents can support their children at home, and also important information regarding routines and expectations in Year One.

Once you’ve dropped your child off on Friday morning, please wait in the playground to be called into the school hall once the children have gone into class.

FUTURE EVENTS (INFORMATION):

Special lunch on Wednesday 25th September: The kitchen will be putting a special menu on for British Food Week. The catering company work hard to source as many ingredients as possible from the UK, in line with their commitment to good quality, sustainability and the environment. For this day there are some popular additions to the menu, including Yorkshire Pudding and Apple Crumble with Custard or Ice Cream. See the attached menu for full details.

If your child normally has packed lunch, but would like a school lunch on this day, then please email admin@gsis.barnetmail.net by next Friday so we can let the kitchen know how many additional meals to prepare.

Harvest Assembly on 22nd October: The children in Years One and Two are starting to learn and practice the songs for our Harvest Assembly. You'll find the soundtrack and words to the songs on our website at [Garden Suburb Junior & Infant School - Music \(gardensuburbinfant.co.uk\)](http://GardenSuburbJunior&InfantSchool-Music(gardensuburbinfant.co.uk)) – do practice at home too!

MEALTIME SUPERVISOR VACANCIES: We currently have two vacancies in our school for Mealtime Supervisors, which would suit adults who would like a part time job in the middle of the day:

Five days a week to work from 11.45am until 1.15pm from Monday to Friday each week (during term time only including some inset days). The role is to start on Monday 7th October 2024, or sooner if possible.

We are also seeking a relief Meal Time Supervisor, to initially work on Tuesdays every week (currently until December) and also to be available for cover in case of other staff absences. Relief staff would be called by 10am (at the very latest – often much earlier!) on the day cover required to get to school by 11.45am.

This is a position involving working for the lunchtime period, supervising a class in the dining hall and helping them to make healthy choices, as well as supervising the class in the playground (or a classroom if it is wet) and supporting their play. If you are interested in working with children, the job description and application form are attached. Please complete and return the application form to Mrs Dobinson on office@gsis.barnetmail.net. The deadline for applications to be returned is **9am on Monday 23rd September**, interviews will be in the following week.

OTHER NOTICES:

TAPESTRY: Parents in Years One and Two received communications earlier this week in regards to their Tapestry accounts. It is important that all children have at least one parent activated on the correct part of Tapestry (KS1 for Years One and Two)

Year One Parents – We can see that the majority of those who were sent activation emails earlier in the week have activated their accounts. If you haven't yet done so, please ensure you activate your account on the KS1 section of Tapestry; your login for the package you used last year has been deactivated, and you need to activate a new account. Check your inbox for the activation email sent out on Tuesday afternoon.

Year Two Parents – homework will be sent out for the first time this afternoon, you will receive a Parentmail and also details will be posted onto Tapestry.

Reception Year Parents – we will be activating everyone on Tapestry in a couple of weeks' time when all the children are in and settled. We'll be in contact when we're ready to send you activation emails for the EYFS Section of Tapestry.

COMMUNICATING WITH THE SCHOOL OFFICE: All communications to the school for parents, once children have started with us, should be directed to admin@gsis.barnetmail.net who deal with all matters concerning attendance, pupil welfare, lunches and everything else concerning the children!

If you wish to contact Mrs Elia (SENCo) directly you can do so by emailing senco@gsis.barnetmail.net

If you wish to contact Mrs Dobinson about anything else, including admissions / transferring to another school, benefit related free school meals, or to contact Miss Sands or Miss Jowsey then email office@gsis.barnetmail.net

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 on Parentmail as a matter of urgency as this is a safeguarding matter. Thank you.

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GARDEN SUBURB LOTTERY: The next draw is this Saturday 14th September 2024, 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://gardensuburbinfant.co.uk)

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

We wish everyone who celebrated their birthday this week (fall on or between 8th to 14th September) a very happy birthday:

Children in Reception Year: Om Aditya & Asal in Red

Children in Year One: Frankie in Turquoise

Children in Year Two: Elyas in Purple & Sofia in Orange

PE DAYS FOR EACH CLASS:

The children should come into school wearing their PE kits, on the days they have PE lesson:

PINK CLASS: Weds and Thurs

PURPLE CLASS: Thurs and Fridays

ORANGE CLASS: Weds and Fridays

YELLOW CLASS: Tues and Fridays

TURQUOISE CLASS: Tues and Fridays

EVENTS FOR AUTUMN TERM (New events in Red)

Thursday 19th September, 9am: PTA Meeting for all parents

Friday 20th September, 9am: Year One Curriculum Morning

Wednesday 25th September: Special Menu – British Food Fortnight

Friday 27th September, 9am: Year Two Curriculum Morning

Tuesday 1st October, 9.10am: Rosh Hashanah Assembly

Thursday 3rd October: Special Menu - Black History Month

Thursday 10th October, 9am: Reception Year Curriculum Morning

Monday 21st October AM: Year One local visit to Alyth Synagogue (further information including permission and request for volunteers will come out a couple of weeks in advance)

Tuesday 22nd October, 9am: Harvest Assembly

Thursday 24th October: Individual School Photographs

Friday 25th October: Special menu – Halloween Spooktacular

HALF TERM HOLIDAY MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER – CHILDREN RETURN ON TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER