

☆ Garden Suburb Infant School ☆

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 17, Friday 16th January 2026

SPIRIT OF THE WILD NEXT WEEK: Thank you to those parents who have already donated towards the cost of the animal visits, which are taking place next Wednesday. So far only 1/3 of the school have contributed to the cost of these workshops, and we would urge everyone to donate what they can - they are really good value! A trip to an actual zoo would cost approx. £20 per child, but with these workshops the children get up close to the animals and learn so much from them; have a look at the photos on our website from a couple of years ago to get a feel for this event: [Garden Suburb Junior & Infant School - Spirit of the Wild - Animal Encounters!](#)

The deadline for online donations has been extended to Tuesday 20th January, go to your trips in the Arbor App/Portal. Cash donations can be made until the day of the workshop to the school office.

Thank you for your support.

NEW EVENTS COMING UP

We have a few new events to put in the diary as follows (they have been added to the list below and highlighted in red):

Friday 30th January, PTA AGM @ 9am in JUNIOR SCHOOL HALL: Our annual general meeting of the PTA where we go through events from last year, plans for spending and upcoming events. We also elect the new committees of both the Infant and Junior School. Everyone is welcome!

Monday 9th February @ 4.30 – 5.30pm, “Online Safety” Talks for Parents (to be held online).

Perryn Jasper, Barnet Prevent Co-ordinator will deliver a meeting for our parents in both the Infant and Junior Schools on **Online Safety**

The session will raise awareness of online risks for young people and will focus on:

- General online advice and guidance and how to reduce risk
- Generative AI risks
- Safe Gaming and appropriate sleep patterns
- Social media and popular apps to avoid
- Exploitation
- Cyberbullying
- Grooming
- How to reduce the threats and where to seek advice and support

This meeting will be online, and there is no need to register beforehand; a further email with the link will come out to all parents on the morning of 9th February

Friday 13th March, Norwuz Assembly (Iranian New Year): Parents are invited to join us for this assembly, doors will open at 9am once the children have come in.

Tuesday 17th March, Ramadan Assembly: Mrs Kesavji will lead our assembly, and parents are invited to join us (doors open at 9am). On that week, birthday assembly will be held on Monday 16th March.

OTHER NOTICES

SPARE TROUSERS AND PLASTIC BAGS: We are running very low on spare school trousers for ages 4-7 because ours are not being returned. If your child comes home with some of our clothes please wash and return them as

soon as possible. If you return them with the tear off form, which was sent home with them, we are able to tick off that we have them back. We have also run out of plastic bags again so, if anyone has some at home that they don't need we would be very grateful for them.

FUNTIME HOLIDAY CAMPS: Funtime will be running through the February half term, and also during the first week of the spring break. To book please contact Sharon on 07506 030 037

LITTLE VOICES HOLIDAY CAMPS: Little Voices are running holidays camps through February Half Term at The Orion School and then in the second week of the Spring break in April here at Garden Suburb. There is an Early Bird offer available – for February half term you have until midnight tonight (so don't delay) and for the spring break the offer is available until 7th March (there is also a discount for children who currently attend the after-school club). To book and get further information click here: bookwhen.com/lvnlholidaycamps

WOW – WALK ON WEDNESDAYS: Turquoise Class won first place, with Orange in second place.

PE DAYS FOR EACH CLASS:

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

YEAR ONE - YELLOW CLASS & TURQUOISE CLASS: Monday & Friday

YEAR TWO - PINK CLASS & ORANGE CLASS: Wednesday & Friday

RECEPTION – RED CLASS & GREEN CLASS: Thursday

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

We wish everyone who celebrated their birthday this week (fall on or between 11th and 17th January) a very happy birthday:

Children in Reception Year: None this week!

Children in Year One: None this week!

Children in Year Two: Sophia in Orange

PLEASE NOTE: Birthday Assembly is for children in Years One and Two only, and is held every Tuesday morning at 9.05am, for children with birthdays that week (Sunday to Saturday). Y1/2 Parents are welcome to attend their child's Birthday Assembly, so please make a note in your diary!

GARDEN SUBURB INFANT SCHOOL

SCHOOL EVENTS - SPRING TERM 2026

Please note items in red – either updated or new events

Wednesday 21st January, Spirit of the Wild Workshops: Parents will be asked for a donation of £5 towards the cost of the workshop.

Wednesday 28th January 9am, Autism Advisory Coffee Morning for Parents on emotional regulation for Infant and Junior School parents (please come to Blue Room after the children have come in)

Friday 30th January, PTA AGM @ 9am in JUNIOR SCHOOL HALL: Our annual general meeting of the PTA where we go through events from last year, plans for spending and upcoming events. We also elect the new committees of both the Infant and Junior School. Everyone is welcome!

Week beginning 2nd February, National Story Telling Week: A week focusing on story telling throughout the school.

Thursday 5th February, Monthly PTA / Parent meeting with Miss Sands @ 9am in Blue Room

Thursday 5th February, PTA Disco for Years One and Two (please note there is no Taekwondo club on this date)

Week beginning 9th February, National Children's Mental Health Week: A week focusing on children's wellbeing and mental health.

Monday 9th February @ 4.30 – 5.30pm, Online Safety Talks for Parents: Online meeting, a link will be sent to all parents in the morning.

Tuesday 10th February – Safer Internet Day

Friday 13th February, Special Menu "Pancake Day" - children who normally have packed lunch are invited to have a school lunch on this day to enjoy the special menu which will be serving pancakes with a variety of toppings, if your child would like to take part (and normally has packed lunch), please ensure you email admin@gsis.barnetmail.net by Monday 9th February so we can let the kitchen know.

Monday 16th to Monday 23rd February – School closed for Half Term.
Children return to school on Tuesday 24th February

Tuesday 3rd March, Year Two Boat Trip up the Thames. Parents will be asked for a donation of £25 towards the cost of the boat trip (coach and entry), and the upcoming Great Fire of London workshop (see below) combined

Wednesday 4th March @ 9.00am, Barnet Parent Carer Forum Coffee Morning

Thursday 5th March, World Book Day: Children will dress up as characters from their favourite books and share stories in class.

Thursday 5th March, Special Menu "World Book Day" - children who normally have packed lunch are invited to have a school lunch on this day to enjoy the special menu, if your child would like to take part (and normally has packed lunch), please ensure you email admin@gsis.barnetmail.net by Monday 2nd March so we can let the kitchen know.

Friday 6th March, Monthly PTA / Parent meeting with Miss Sands @ 9am in Blue Room

Tuesday 10th March, Year One Trip to Kew Gardens. Parents will be asked for a donation of £15 towards the cost of the trip (including coach and entry)

Wednesday 11th March @ 2.30pm, Reception Year Parent Drop Ins: An opportunity for parents to step into their child's class, and for children to share work they are proud of.

Thursday 12th March @ 2.30pm, Year One Parent Drop Ins: An opportunity for parents to step into their child's class, and for children to share work they are proud of.

Friday 13th March @ 2.30pm, Year Two Parent Drop Ins: An opportunity for parents to step into their child's class, and for children to share work they are proud of.

Friday 13th March, Norwuz Assembly (Iranian New Year): Parents invited to join us for this assembly, doors will open at 9am once the children have come in.

Tuesday 17th March, Ramadan Assembly: Mrs Kesavji will lead our assembly, and parents are invited to join us (doors open at 9am). On that week, birthday assembly will be held on Monday 16th March.

Wednesday 18th March & Thursday 19th March, 3.30 – 6.30pm: Parent Consultations with class teachers

Sunday 22nd March: PTA Treasure Hunt

Tuesday 24th March @ 9.10am, Easter Assembly

Wednesday 25th March, Year Two Great Fire of London Workshop: Children will spend the day taking part in activities and drama based around life in 1666, the cost of this workshop will be covered by the donation made for the Boat Trip on 3rd March and subsidised by the school.

Thursday 26th March @ 9.10am, Passover Assembly

Friday 27th March, last day of term. School finishes early at 1.30pm

Children return to school on Monday 13th April at the normal time

PTA EVENTS AND NOTICES

GARDEN SUBURB LOTTERY: The lottery is drawn every Saturday, with a prize of £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://Garden Suburb Junior & Infant School - How we raise money (gardensuburbinfant.co.uk))

We have 6 events throughout the year run by the PTA, to not only raise vital funds for the school, but to also give the children and the school community experiences and memories to last a life time! More information will be given nearer the events, but do pop them in your diary for future reference.

DISCO FOR YEARS ONE & TWO, THURSDAY 5TH FEBRUARY (after school, inside the hall and classrooms)

TREASURE HUNT, SUNDAY 22ND MARCH (held from lunchtime for the first half of the afternoon, in school and around the suburb!)

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FAIR, FRIDAY 15TH MAY (after school, in rear playground)

SUMMER CAMP, WEEKEND OF 4TH/5TH JULY (in the school field and front playground, camping out overnight)

If you are able to volunteer for any of the events (whether on the day or in the organisation) your help would be much appreciated! Just speak to your class rep or a member of the PTA committee.