

☆ Garden Suburb Infant School ☆

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 22, Friday 27th February 2025

PARENT CONSULTATIONS LIVE ON ARBOR: This morning communications came out regarding the upcoming parent consultations taking place in a few weeks' time. Please note that the consultations will now be on **Tuesday 17th March and Wednesday 18th March**. The booking window for all children is now open, and you can book your appointment with your child's class teacher through App or Parent Portal online. If you have any problems, please pop into the office.

NEXT WEEK

YEAR TWO BOAT TRIP UP THE THAMES, TUESDAY 3RD MARCH: Everything is ready for the trip on Tuesday next week! Year Two children need to be in school on time to ensure they have time to go to the toilet, collect lunches and get to the coach to leave promptly. The children should come to school with the following:

- Wear their uniform with the school logo on their chest
- Wear a waterproof coat and sensible shoes as we'll be walking along the embankment to the lunch area
- Bring a back pack for carrying their lunch and water bottle – if your child is having a lunch from home, please place it inside the back pack before coming to school, those who are having a school packed lunch will have this put in the back pack when they arrive in school.

The children will return in time for normal pick up / clubs

BARNET PARENT / CARER FORUM COFFEE MORNING, WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH @ 9.15AM: As part of the PINS project (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) The Barnet Parent Carer Forum will be hosting a coffee morning for parents of children in Garden Suburb Infant and Junior Schools to introduce the project and the forum. This meeting will be held in Blue Room in the Infant School. No sign-up is required.

WORLD BOOK DAY, THURSDAY 5TH MARCH:

We have a lot going on for world book day, as we continue to celebrate the national year of reading!

Dressing up as your favourite character from a book: Children are invited to come to school in a costume based on their favourite character from a book – remember they can be home made, and they don't need to be too extravagant! Just let your imaginations take over. We will have a special assembly where we will share our favourite books, as well as doing activities through-out the school day. All children will come home with a £1 voucher to spend on a book at stores taking part in the promotion.

Potato Character Competition! As detailed in the message that went out earlier in the week, we would love you to transform a potato into a character from your favourite book and bring it into school by Thursday 5th March. Get creative and bring a well-known story character to life using a potato as your base! You can use paint, fabric, paper, or any craft materials you like to decorate your potato. Please make sure your creation is clearly linked to a book character. There will be prizes for the most creative, colourful, and recognisable characters, see the attached competition poster for more details. We can't wait to see your amazing potato creations!

Special Menu: The kitchen are putting on a special menu on Thursday next week, see the attached menu for details. As always, if your child normally has packed lunch, and they would like to have this special menu for the day, just email admin@gsis.barnetmail.net by the end of Monday 2nd March so we can let the kitchen know.

PTA Fundraising for the School Library: The PTA is raising money for purchasing books for a school library; as detailed in the communication that came out last night, the PTA have set up a collective fundraising account, which will be open until the end of next week, and they will also be taking donations by cash or card on the gate on World Book Day next Thursday.

LOOKING AHEAD

UPCOMING EVENTS: A reminder of the events this half term are at the bottom of this newsletter. Please note in particular the parent drop ins on 11th – 13th March where parents will be able to come into school to see some work that the children would like to share with you. The following week, we have the parent consultations (as detailed above), we have a number of assemblies, and there are also various trips, a workshop and a treasure hunt! Do check the list below and make sure you have all the dates in the diary.

YEAR ONE TRIP TO KEW GARDENS – DEADLINE TO GIVE PERMISSION AND RETURN FORM IS MONDAY 2ND MARCH: Letters came out this week to the year one children about their upcoming trip to Kew Gardens taking place on 10th March – well done Year One parents you have been very quick to respond! Three quarters of the year group have already sent their forms in. If you haven't already, please ensure you make your donation/given permission on Arbor over the weekend and return your form by Monday morning.

OTHER NOTICES:

SPRING BREAK HOLIDAY CLUBS: Please see details below of both Funtime and also Little Voices Theatre Camp, these are running on consecutive weeks in the holidays – please ensure you sign up in good time as if there are not sufficient numbers they may need to cancel.

FUNTIME, 30TH MARCH – 2ND APRIL: In the first half of the spring break, Funtime will be running their holiday camp. Please contact Sharon for further details and to book a slot

LITTLE VOICES EASTER THEATRE CAMP, 7TH – 10TH APRIL: In the second half of the spring break, Little Voices will be running a camp in school. They will be working on and performing is called “The Hawaiian Roller Coaster” and will be inspired by Lilo and Stich. Please see the attached poster for further information; there is an Early Bird offer available until March 7th. Click the following link to find out more and book: [APRIL HOLIDAY CAMP AT GARDEN SUBURB SCHOOL](#)

MESSAGE FROM BARNET COUNCIL – ONLINE Q&A SESSION FOR PARENTS ON SEND WHITE PAPER:

You may be aware that the Government released details of their intentions for SEND reform on Monday in their Schools White Paper. A link to the White Paper is below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/every-child-achieving-and-thriving>

We know you are likely to have concerns and questions about what this may mean for your children and we are therefore delighted to let you know that we are running an online Q&A session next **Thursday 5th March from 6-7.30pm** at which Kim Miller, Head of SEND and Inclusion in Barnet, will explain what we know so far.

Please note that much of the detail is yet to be released so it may not be possible to answer detailed questions at this stage. We will however run more sessions as more information comes to light. There is no need to pre-register for the session. The link to join is below. We hope you can join us for this very important session.

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 373 921 719 527 6

Passcode: ku3PV72U

WOW – WALK ON WEDNESDAYS: Pink class are the winners this week (well done year two for knocking year one off the top spot!) with Yellow Class are runners up

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 22nd to 28th February) a very happy birthday:

Children in Reception Year: David in Red Class, Daniel & Jorelle in Green Class

Children in Year One: Gaille in Yellow Class

Children in Year Two: None this week!

A very happy birthday also goes to Ms Iva who celebrated this week.

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!

FUNTIME BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CHILD CARE: Funtime provides extended childcare for the children in both the Infant and Junior schools. Breakfast Club runs from 7.50am until 8.45am when they are taken to class and costs £5 per session; After-School Club collects children from the playground (or after clubs such as football/Art club) and runs until 5.50pm at a cost of £14 per sessions, they also do a shorter session to 4.30pm at a cost of £7.00. For further information or to enquire about a place please contact Funtime directly by text or phone on 07506 030 037. Details about all our after-school clubs/childcare can be found on our website [HERE](#)

GARDEN SUBURB INFANT SCHOOL
SCHOOL EVENTS - SPRING TERM 2026 (2nd Half)

Please note items in red – either updated or new events

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 POSTPONED~~

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, Nowruz 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.

Tuesday 17th March & Wednesday 18th March ~~Thursday 19th March~~ 3.30 – 6.30pm: Parent Consultations with class teachers, for all children

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://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.

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.