

☆ Garden Suburb Infant School ☆

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 23, Friday 6th March 2026

During very concerning times for so many of our families, we are protecting our children in school from worrying news, and sharing the very positive signs and celebrations of this spring season. We pride ourselves on being a diverse multi-cultural school community, and use every opportunity we can to learn about the similarities and differences between our many-varied faiths and nationalities. We have a lot of celebrations coming up!

Friday 13th March, Nowruz Assembly (Iranian New Year): Miss Sands and Mrs Behboodi will lead this springtime celebration.

Tuesday 17th March, Ramadan and Eid Assembly: Mrs Kesavji will lead our assembly, along with Rehana Rela (Noah's grandma).

Tuesday 24th March, Easter Assembly: Miss Sands will lead our assembly, and the children are invited to decorate an Easter bonnet (hat) at home to add some springtime colour to our celebration.

Thursday 26th March, Passover Assembly: Miss Sands will lead this assembly, along with her team of parent helpers.

Parents are invited to attend all of these assemblies, to be part of the celebration and broaden our knowledge of these festivals. **Doors will open to parents at 9am each day, ready to start at 9.10am.**

AMALGAMATION OF SCHOOLS – PARENT GOVERNOR MEETINGS & CONTACT DETAILS FOR WORKING PARTY: Further to the letter that came out from the Governing Body earlier this week, we would like to remind parents about the upcoming meetings with the Governors, where you can find out more about the plans and ask any questions. The meetings are on:

Wednesday 11th March at 9am in Blue Room in the Infant School

Monday 16th March @ 6pm in the Junior School Hall

We are also now able to share a contact email for the Governors, which you can use to ask any questions:

primary@gsjs.barnetmail.net

THIS WEEK:

YEAR TWO RIVER CRUISE: The Year Two classes travelled down to the London Eye and took a boat cruise along the Thames, looking at the famous landmarks they have been learning about in class. Everyone had a wonderful time, and we would like to say a huge thank you to the team for organising this event, and all the parents who came along to help out. If you haven't already, check out the photos on Tapestry!

WORLD BOOK DAY: The school came alive with different book characters yesterday; the children were admiring each other's costumes, talking about the books that inspired them, and during the break times they were playing really imaginatively. In class they were sharing stories and doing activities such as art work and creating their own books.

We started the day with our Assembly led by Mrs Kesavji, about the importance of reading, and our favourite books and characters, with the children showing off their costumes. She also announced the winners of the Potato Competition and gave out prizes to the winners and runners up:

The winners were: Ollie in Green Class, Edward in Yellow Class, Yotam in Orange Class

The runners up were: Amelia in Red Class, Helena in Turquoise Class, Buddy in Pink Class

Everyone else who took part will be bringing a certificate home this afternoon, together with their creation.

You can see some photos of the potato creations on our website here:

<https://www.gardensuburbinfant.co.uk/gallery/?pid=1630&gcatid=3&albumid=1144>

The children really engaged with the whole day, and really seemed to enjoy the experiences we planned; Thank you to everyone for taking part in this lovely event.

PTA COLLECTION FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY: At the start of the day, the PTA held a collection for the school library and they have also been doing an online collection through a collective fundraising account. So far parents have raised a fantastic £595! If you would still like to donate, the fundraising account will be open for a few more days, click <https://pay.collectiv.com/gsis-pta-library-books-project-58635> if you would still like to donate.

NEXT WEEK:

MONDAY 9th MARCH at 9.00AM: PINS COFFEE MORNING FOR PARENTS/CARERS: As part of the PINS project (Barnet's Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) we are inviting Parents and Carers to Blue Class for a Coffee Morning on Monday 9th March that will be led by Speech and Language therapist, Julia Mansell, and Occupational Therapist, Mardian Vries who will be discussing the following:

Speech and Language Focus:

- What is Speech and Language therapy?
- What can I do to help my child?
- What language should I speak in?
- What tech helps my child?
- How can I manage transitions?
- How can I get Speech and Language therapy for my child?

Occupational Therapy Focus:

- Sensory based functional need
- Environmental supports

There is no need to sign up, just come along on Monday morning.

A big thank you to those parents who attended the Barnet Parent/Carer Coffee Morning on Wednesday 4th March, **if any parents are interested in other sessions, which are held online, please see the list below in "Other Notices"**

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH, YEAR ONE TRIP TO KEW GARDENS: Everything is ready for the trip on Tuesday next week! Year One 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 around the park and greenhouses
- 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

PARENT DROP-IN SESSIONS, NEXT WEEK FOR ALL CLASSES: An opportunity for parents to come into the classroom and see some work the children would like to share with you. Please try to ensure that at least one parent comes for each child – the children are very disappointed if no one comes along to look at their work. Siblings are not invited due to space.

- **RECEPTION DROP INS ARE ON WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH @ 2.30PM**
- **YEAR ONE DROP INS ARE ON THURSDAY 12TH MARCH @ 2.30PM**
- **YEAR TWO DROP INS ARE ON FRIDAY 13TH MARCH @ 2.30PM**

LOOKING AHEAD

PARENT CONSULTATIONS, REMINDER TO BOOK: A quarter of parents are still due to book their parent consultations online for their meetings week beginning 16th March. We strongly urge all families to sign up for a meeting, if you are having any problems, please come to the office so we can help you book an appointment.

YEAR TWO GREAT FIRE OF LONDON WORKSHOP, WEDS 25TH MARCH – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Letters came home this week to all our Year Two families, asking for volunteers to help out on the day. It is essential we have at least 12 parent volunteers to help run the different activities, the fewer volunteers we have the fewer activities the children can take part in! If you are able to help out, please complete the form and return it to the school office by Friday 13th March. Thank you for your continued support.

BARNET PINS ONLINE SESSIONS:

Please see below a list of online sessions parents are invited to, with the links to the meetings:

1. Understanding Roles of Specialist Teams (Speech & Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Educational Psychology)

Facilitator: Joann Moore Date: 23rd March Time: 18:00–19:00

MS Teams link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/35558646357229?p=GRThKmoRgybltTX9Ti>

2. Positive Relationships & Behaviour

Facilitator: Lucy Baker Date: 24th March Time: 18:00–19:00

MS Teams link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/39919696954079?p=sJqCiWa8H5Dq6PAIDj>

3. Energy Accounting & Zones of Regulation

Facilitator: AAT – Luci Rose Date: 14th April Time: 13:30–14:30

MS Teams link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/33402220141406?p=SmvHe4punoPcpbFRuc>

4. Adaptive Teaching & Supporting Social Connections

Facilitator: Joann Moore Date: 17th April Time: 13:00–14:00

MS Teams link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/33592623255152?p=jaXMt8wG5hctlmLoF>

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 a production called “The Hawaiian Roller Coaster” and will be inspired by Lilo and Stich. Please see the attached poster for further information; click the following link to find out more and book: [APRIL HOLIDAY CAMP AT GARDEN SUBURB SCHOOL](#)

WOW – WALK ON WEDNESDAYS: Year One have come out on top again, with Yellow as the winners and Turquoise as the 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 1st and 7th March) a very happy birthday:

Children in Reception Year: Kayla in Green

Children in Year One: Minh in Yellow

Children in Year Two: Oscar in Orange, Erika in Pink

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](#)

PLEASE NOTE FUNTIME WILL NOT BE RUNNING AFTER SCHOOL ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM; FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

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 \(gardensuburbinfant.co.uk\)](#)

We have 3 events left this academic 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.

GARDEN SUBURB INFANT SCHOOL
SCHOOL EVENTS - SPRING TERM 2026 (2nd Half)
Please note items in red – either updated or new events

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

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.

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. Parents invited to join us for this assembly, doors will open at 9am once the children have come in. Children are invited to decorate an Easter Bonnet (hat) at home and wear it to the 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. Parents invited to join us for this assembly, doors will open at 9am once the children have come in.

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

Funtime will be running the breakfast club on this day, but not the after-school club

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