

☆ Garden Suburb Infant School ☆

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 29, Friday 1st May 2026

THIS WEEK:

RECEPTION YEAR SHOW: On Tuesday morning the reception classes performed their show to their parents. We were pleased to welcome so many parents, to listen to their children singing. There are a few photographs from the front row that have been uploaded onto Tapestry, so do log in to have a look. Thank you to the Reception Team for organising and preparing for this event; the children have learnt so many words to the songs, and they really seemed to enjoy performing!

KENWOOD HOUSE TRIP POSTPONED TO WEDS 13TH MAY: Unfortunately, English Heritage (who own Kenwood House) made the decision on Tuesday to close the site to the public due to forecasted high gusts of wind, which meant that we needed to postpone this trip. Fortunately, both Kenwood and the Coach Company were able to fit us in for 13th May, so although delayed at least we didn't have to cancel! Permission slips and donations will transfer to the new date, and we are in contact with the volunteers to see if they can support us on the new date. We would like to thank the office and year one staff for reorganising this all at such short notice.

YEAR TWO STAY AND READ: Yesterday afternoon we welcomed our Year Two parents into school where they were able to explore how we teach reading comprehension in Year 2, discovered strategies to support their child at home, and enjoyed reading together with their child. Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend; we hope you found it useful.

NEXT WEEK & LOOKING AHEAD:

SCHOOL CLOSED ON BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY (4TH May): Due to the annual May bank holiday next week, school will not be open on Monday. Children should come in as normal from Tuesday morning – we hope you enjoy the long weekend!

MONTHLY PTA MEETING WITH MISS SANDS, THURSDAY 7TH MAY @ 9AM: We are holding our next PTA meeting with Miss Sands next Thursday – at the last meeting we had no parents from Year Two, and we would like to encourage at least one parent from each class to attend. This is your opportunity to find out more about what is going on in school, chat with Miss Sands and other parents, as well as discuss upcoming PTA initiatives.

ANIMAL DRESS UP / NON-UNIFORM DAY, FRIDAY 8TH MAY – SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH'S BIRTHDAY AND TOMBOLA COLLECTION! As you will be aware from last week's newsletter, we are holding a non-uniform day next Friday to collect items for the staff Tombola stall at the international food fair.

It is Sir David Attenborough's 100th Birthday next Friday, and as he is such an important figure who has advocated the natural world throughout his lifetime, we are changing the non-uniform day to celebrate his life and messages around climate and planet earth. So rather than just not coming in uniform, we would like the children come to school dressed up as an animal, we will watch some clips of his programmes in class and each class will make a birthday card that will be sent to him. We will also be decorating a "100" stencil with 100 things about planet earth!

RECEPTION TRIP TO ALDENHAM, 13TH MAY: Letters came home earlier in the week, and the trip is on Arbor for parents to give permission and make their donation. Parents are reminded that they need to return their forms with their lunch options as well as give permission on Arbor - the deadline to complete the paperwork was today! If you haven't yet done so then please ensure you log into Arbor over the weekend, and return your form to us first thing on Tuesday morning so we can order lunches later that day. Volunteers will be contacted next week as well. *To find the trip on Arbor, go to "Activities"*

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FAIR: Tickets have been live for a week now on Arbor, we strongly encourage families to buy tickets in advance by the deadline of Wednesday 13th May. *To find the tickets on Arbor, go to "School Shop"*

We also really need parents to sign up to volunteer to support at this event! We rely on parents to join with friends to run a stall for their country, or to contribute a dish of that cuisine. To get involved, you can:

- Talk to friends and choose to run a stall! If you would like to do this, please let Caroline (PTA Chair) know via email (pta.infant.school@gmail.com, or whatsapp https://chat.whatsapp.com/F14OPOg0Ar86pVNmRtistr6?mode=gi_t. Caroline can then give you all the help and information you may need and put other people who may like to contribute a dish to your stall in touch with you.
- Contribute just one dish of a particular cuisine. Again, please let the PTA know. All help is appreciated.
- Volunteer to help organise on the day and/or at the event itself, for example setting up, hanging bunting, serving at the bar etc.

Please note volunteers & organisers will still need to purchase tickets for themselves and their children.

We cannot run these events without parent volunteers, and we were disappointed that we had to cancel the Treasure Hunt due to lack of support. If you feel you can get involved in any way, please do email the PTA on pta.infant.school@gmail.com or join the WhatsApp group through this link: https://chat.whatsapp.com/F14OPOg0Ar86pVNmRtistr6?mode=gi_t

OTHER NOTICES:

CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS: As detailed in the email sent out yesterday, these are now ready to order online at [Churchbury Photographic](#). You will need the class code sent out with the email to access your child's class photograph. If you order online by 18th May then there will be no delivery charge as they will be sent to school. Orders after this date will incur a charge for them to be sent to your home.

YEAR TWO TRANSFER TO JUNIOR SCHOOL – IMPORTANT! All Year Two parents should now have logged into [eAdmissions](#) and accepted their place as the deadline was yesterday. If you haven't yet done so, then you must do this over the weekend as the admissions team in Barnet will soon be offering places to the next children on the list. In addition to this, a [google form](#) came out earlier this week regarding the transfer of your child's data to the Junior School – we must have permission from parents to share your child's information before they leave the Infant School, so please complete the form over the weekend if you haven't already done so, as we would like to start the transition process next week.

CONSULTATION ON AMALGAMATION OF INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL, DEADLINE TO RESPOND 10TH JUNE: Barnet are now running the formal consultation for the proposed amalgamation of Garden Suburb Infant and Junior Schools. To have your say, please click on the following link to view the documentation and submit comments in the questionnaire towards the bottom of the page:

[Proposed merger of Garden Suburb Infant and Junior Schools into Garden Suburb Primary School | Barnet Council](#)

NEWSLETTER FROM SCHOOL CATERING COMPANY: Please see the attached summer newsletter from our Catering Company which they have asked us to share with our parents.

WOW – WALK ON WEDNESDAYS: Pink Class were the winners this week, and Turquoise Class were 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 26th April and 2nd May) a very happy birthday:

Children in Reception Year: Haruto in Red Class, Gabriella and Khozo in Green Class

Children in Year One: Mia in Yellow Class

Children in Year Two: None this week!

A very happy birthday also goes to Mrs Liu 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 – SUMMER TERM 2026 (1st Half)**

Please note items in red – either updated or new events

Monday 4th May, School Closed due to May Bank Holiday

Thursday 7th May @ 9am, PTA Meeting with Miss Sands: Monthly meeting with parents, all are invited but we do ask for at least one parent from each class so they can feed back to the rest of the class.

Event updated! Friday 8th May, Animal Dress Up / Non-Uniform Day – Bring a gift for the tombola! In preparation for the International Food Fair, and to celebrate Sir David Attenborough's 100th Birthday, we will be holding a non-uniform day where we ask children to dress up as an animal and bring in a prize for the tombola stall at the Food Fair (items should be a new, unused gift item for child or adult, such as toiletries, books or games (but no glass bottles!). We will be doing activities throughout the day around Planet Earth and David Attenborough's birthday.

Wednesday 13th May, Reception Year Trip to Aldenham Park: The children will visit Aldenham and explore the Hundred Acre Wood and visit the farm. Letters will come out week beginning 27th April with deadline of Friday 1st May, parents will be asked for a £25.00 donation towards the cost of the coach, entry and activities on site.

Wednesday 13th May, Year One Trip to Kenwood: The children will visit Kenwood for the morning, postponed from 29th April.

Friday 15th May, International Food Fair from 3.30pm: The big annual event for the whole school, families share food from their home countries and we have lots of activities going on in the rear playground. This event requires lots of parental support, so do look out for communications which will start coming out next week!

Week beginning 18th May, Walk to School Week: A national week to encourage children to walk to school – watch this space!

Monday 25th May to Monday 1st June, School closed for Half Term: School finishes at the normal time on Friday 22nd May, and children return to school on Tuesday 2nd June

PTA EVENTS AND NOTICES

SCHOOL LIBRARY FUNDRAISER: Given it is the National Year of Reading, the PTA is raising money towards the purchase of books for the school library. The school is continually upgrading and supplementing its stock of books for the children, but this year it is also specifically intending to convert one of the spare classrooms into a designated library, which it hopes will be a real asset for the children and cement their understanding and interest in books and reading.

In the spring term, we had a couple of “bucket” collections held on World Book Day and the last day of term. Parents have also been very generous supporting through the options below. These options are still open, and if you would like to further support this fundraiser than you can still do so:

Ongoing Donation Options:

- 1) Make an Online Donation in the **Arbor School Shop**; log into your Arbor account and go to the School Shop where you will find a standing item called “PTA Fundraiser for Infant School Library” in which you can donate at any time in multiples of £5
- 2) The PTA Chair, Caroline Zabeti, has set up a **Collective fundraising account**, which will be open for the next 10 days. The link is: <https://pay.collectiv.com/gsis-pta-library-books-project-58635> This link has also been circulated through the parent WhatsApp community;

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!

UPCOMING PTA EVENTS: We have 2 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.

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.

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)