

☆ Garden Suburb Infant School ☆

Weekly Newsletter

Issue 32, Friday 22nd May 2026

REMINDER: SCHOOL IS CLOSED NEXT WEEK FROM MONDAY 25TH MAY TO MONDAY 1ST JUNE - CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 2ND JUNE 2026

THIS WEEK:

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FAIR: Last Friday after school we held our annual International Food Fair – the weather was kind and the children and their families had a wonderful time sampling dishes, bouncing on the castle, having their faces painted and trying their luck on the Tombola.

As always, this event wouldn't have happened without the hard work of the PTA, parents and staff; a big thank you goes to Caroline, Iva and Laura for their organisation of the event and to all the parents who donated dishes, ran stalls and helped to set up. We'd also like to thank Mr Shepherd for running around all afternoon and helping to pack it all up afterwards, along with the staff who set up and ran the tombola, supervised the bouncy castle and painted faces until their hands ached!

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK: This week the children have been reporting on how they came into school every day, and they've also taken part in an art competition where they made maps of their journey to school; the entries have been magnificent, and obviously taken lots of time and work - it was very difficult to choose our winners!

The winners of the art competition are:

Green Class: Teddy is the winner with Gabriella as the runner up.

Red Class: Meryam is the winner with Star as the runner up.

Turquoise Class: Noah is the winner with Bella as the runner up.

Yellow Class: Ethan was the winner with Omar as the runner up.

Orange Class: Lydia is the winner with Isacc is the runner up.

Pink Class: Hafsa is the winner with Diana as the runner up.

This week, rather than having a "Walk on Wednesday" reward we've got the winners of the overall activity through the week, with the class who has increased their activity the most and really engaged with Walk to School Week and we're pleased to announce that Pink class are the winners!

Well done everyone for engaging so well with all the activities, we gave out the prizes in assembly yesterday afternoon.

STANLEY STICKS INTERACTIVE STORY WORKSHOP: As part of the National Year of Reading, the KS1 children enjoyed watching a musical version of the story accompanied by a live orchestra. We were especially excited that our school, Garden Suburb Infant School, received a special mention for sharing an imaginative idea about *Stanley's Stick* getting a call from Kenwood House. Our idea was selected and featured in a brand-new live version of the story on Wednesday! Here is the link to the video — our special mention appears at 17:38, so do take a look if you have a chance: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yC76vPYMC5M>

FAREWELL TO MR OSMAN: Today we said farewell to Mr Osman, who has been working with Pink Class for the last 12 months plus, as he moves onto his next adventure. Mr Osman has been an extremely valued member of our team, and the children and staff will all miss him! Thank you to Buddy's mum for sharing a beautiful cake with the class, we all enjoyed a slice!

LOOKING AHEAD – EVENTS FOR NEXT HALF TERM

We have a number of events coming up next half term, a full list is detailed below – as always, this list is subject to change and may be updated so do check the list each week. Further details of all the events will follow in the newsletters prior to the events.

Thursday 4th June @ 9am, PTA meeting with Miss Sands. All parents are welcome, but please try to ensure one parent from each class attends.

Tuesday 9th June @ 6pm, Junior Transition Meeting for Current Year Two Parents: Parents of children transferring to the junior school in September are invited to an important meeting in the Junior School to meet their child's new class teacher and find out more about life in Year Three!

Monday 15th June, Space Explorer Dome Workshop for Years One and Two: An annual event for our year one classes where the children experience space up close and personal. This year we are extending it to Year Two, so they can build on their knowledge gained from the workshop last year. We will be asking parents for a £5 donation towards the cost of the workshop, further information and the payment item will be sent out straight after half term.

Wednesday 17th June, PE Day: Children in all year groups will take part in different sporting activities for the morning. If it is raining, we will postpone to the following day.

Wednesday 24th June @ 6pm, New Reception Parents Meeting: An opportunity for parents of children starting Reception Year in September 2026 to meet the team for September, find out more about the transition process, receive their induction timetables, as well as other important information about the transition to "big school"

Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th June @ 9am, Year Two Show for Parents: The Year Two will be presenting their end of year show to their parents over two performances (it is the same show on both days – so please only come to one so everyone can see!).

Thursday 2nd July, @ 9am, PTA meeting with Miss Sands. All parents are welcome, but please try to ensure one parent from each class attends.

Saturday 4th – Sunday 5th July, PTA Summer Camp: The last PTA event of the year, families camp out in the school field

Wednesday 8th July @ 9am, Meeting with Year One Teachers for Current Reception Year Parents: An opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and find out more about what will happen in Year One next year

Thursday 9th July @ 9am, Meeting with Year Two Teachers for Current Year One Parents: An opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and find out more about what will happen in Year Two next year

Tuesday 14th July @ 9.05am, Year One Birthday Assembly (for birthdays that fall 12th July to 31st August): Parents are invited to join this assembly for children in Year One celebrating in the last week of term, or over the holidays

Wednesday 15th July @ 9.05am, Year Two Birthday Assembly (for birthdays that fall 12th July to 31st August): Parents are invited to join this assembly for children in Year Two celebrating in the last week of term, or over the holidays

Thursday 16th July, Children's End of Year Tea Party: We will be holding a special end of year tea party during the afternoon, for the children and staff only, which the PTA will be supporting. Party Clothes that day!

FRIDAY 17TH JULY, LAST DAY OF TERM (CHILDREN TO BE COLLECTED AT 1.30PM)

Please note that although the official last day of term is Monday 20th July, this as a staff training day so children will finish on Friday 17th July.

School reopens on Thursday 3rd September for our Year One and Two children. Our new reception children will start the term with visits on either Thursday 3rd or Friday 4th September, starting school from Monday 7th September.

TRANSITION TIME!

Over the summer term we will be preparing for, and supporting, the transition to the next year group for all our children. There will be various meetings and class visits in July to ensure the children have a smooth transition, and so parents know what to expect from September (see event list below for meeting dates).

It is vital that we know of your plans if your child is not going to be coming to our school in September:

Current Reception & Year One Children: Children in the first two years of school will automatically transfer up into the next year group from September and there is no further action you need to take.

However, if your child will be leaving us at the end of the school year then please email admissions@gsis.barnetmail.net so we can ensure your child has the correct transition for their circumstance, we will then send you a leavers form to complete so we have all the relevant information.

Year Two Children: Everyone has now accepted their offers for the junior school, and initial data has been transferred (with our parents' permission). The Junior School have already been in contact with our Year Two parents by email (on 14th May) inviting them to a meeting on Tuesday 9th June at 6pm where you will be given more information about the transition, life in the juniors and meet your child's new class teacher.

All Families: As always, if your plans are not firm yet we do ask that you still speak to Mrs Dobinson (in confidence) so we know of all possibilities, this information will not be shared with anyone outside the infant school until you are ready for us to do so. ALL communications regarding transition, admissions or if you are leaving our school should be directed to admissions@gsis.barnetmail.net

OTHER NOTICES

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](#)

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 and during the half term (fall on or between 17th to 30th May) a very happy birthday:

Children in Reception Year: Nyra in Red

Children in Year One: Edward in Yellow

Children in Year Two: Jamie 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!

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](#)

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**: <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 just 1 event 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.

SUMMER CAMP, WEEKEND OF 4TH/5TH JULY (in the school field and front playground, camping out overnight) – further information to follow in middle of June

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)