



Garden Suburb Infant & Junior School

Childs Way • London • NW11 6XU

Infant Tel: 020 8455 8198 • Junior Tel: 020 8455 3269 • Website : www.gardensuburbschools.co.uk



Head Teacher: Mrs Eileen Bhavsar BA (Hons) MSc • Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Lisa Berger BEd (Hons)
Business Managers: Mrs Alexia Dobinson officeinfant@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk Ms Andrea Bailey officejunior@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk

23rd October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Staffing News

Today marks the retirement of Sharon Fisher, our long-serving Meal-Time Supervisor in the Infant School, after an incredible 22 years of dedicated service. Earlier this week, we held a special assembly to celebrate Sharon's contribution and to wish her well for the future. The children sang their Harvest songs, which they have been practising over recent weeks. The songs focused on where our food comes from and the importance of eating *five a day* - a particularly fitting tribute, as Sharon has spent many years encouraging children to make healthy choices at lunchtime.

We are immensely grateful for Sharon's care, commitment and kindness over the years. She has been a valued member of our school community and will be greatly missed. We wish her a long, happy and well-deserved retirement.

PTA Meeting: Friday 4 November at 9:00am in the Junior dinner hall

All parents and carers are invited to our PTA meeting. We will be planning and discussing fundraising events for the remainder of the term and the rest of the year.

The PTA plays a vital role in supporting the school, and getting involved is a lovely way to contribute to school life while helping to raise much-needed funds for the benefit of our children. *Everyone is welcome, and we look forward to seeing you there.*

PTA Events for your diary for all year groups – volunteers will be needed!

Seasonal Fair: Friday 4th December – Our tradition shopping event for the children which happens during the school day.

Winter Fireside: Wednesday 16th December 3:30-5:00pm – enjoy mulled wine and mice pies with some seasonal singing.

More details about these events will follow after half term

Photographs

The photographs for Reception, Y1 and Y2 are now available to purchase online, please see the email that came out through Arbor earlier this week with details of how to order. Photographs for Y3 to Y6 have been sent home this week with the children.

Lunch Menu change from November.

The Autumn/Winter menu will start in the kitchen straight after half term. A copy of the menu is attached, and as always, you can find it on our website [HERE](#) for future reference. Next half term we will be arranging food tasting session for parents. More details to follow.

Secondary Transfer – Don't miss the deadline!

It has been drawn to my attention that many of our Y6 parents have not yet submitted their application for secondary school. **The deadline is 31st October.** Please see the website for details of how to apply.

<https://www.gardensuburbjunior.co.uk/page/?title=Secondary+Transfer&pid=250>

Please put a reminder on the class WhatsApp group to ensure everyone meets the deadline.



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Assemblies and curriculum Events

- **Winners of the Poetry Competition:** There was a fabulous response to the poetry competition. Well done to everyone who participated in this event and thank you parents for supporting your children too. Two assemblies took place Y3-Y6 and Y1-Y2 to celebrate the winners. Each class were also given a lovely book for their book corner with the entries for their class. Thank you to Mrs Margolis for co-ordinating this event.
- **House Captain Assemblies:** Today, the Year 6 House Captains delivered fabulous presentations to their houses. For the first time, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils also attended the house assemblies. This was a great success, and the younger children made many thoughtful contributions. The House Captains spoke about the origins of their house names and explained the different ways children can earn house points for their teams. They also discussed the learning behaviours we expect to see around the school and how demonstrating these behaviours can help children gain additional house points. Being part of a house helps to develop a strong sense of belonging and community. It encourages children to work collaboratively, support one another and build lasting friendships, all of which are an important part of school life.
- **Talk on Tuesday:** As part of our focus on developing oracy skills, the theme is:
'What is your favourite meal and what makes it special?'
Please encourage your child to discuss the theme at home, for example with the family at dinner time.

Class Assemblies - Save the dates

I am particularly keen to provide more opportunities for children to showcase their talents and achievements during assemblies and for parents to come into school and celebrate these successes with us. This is a new initiative for Reception and Y1 and Y2 children.

We are ensuring that plenty of notice is given, so that families can plan these dates into their busy calendars. Please make every effort that you can to attend your child's assembly.

All classes will be presenting an assembly to their parents/Carers.

Please see the Y1 and Y2 class assembly dates below.

Parents invited to attend their child's class assembly at 2:45pm in the Infant Hall.

Y1 Class Assemblies	Y2 Class Assemblies
Yellow Class: Monday 16 th November	Orange Class: Monday 30 th November
Turquoise Class: Monday 23 rd November	Pink Class: Monday 7 th December

Dates for the other year groups will be published when they have been set.

New Reception Sept 27

Do You Have a Younger Sibling Due to Start School in September 2027?

If your child has a younger sibling born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023, it is now time to apply for a Reception place for September 2027.

The application deadline is 15 January 2027. Applications should be completed online at:

www.eadmissions.org.uk

Once you have submitted your application, please let Mrs Dobinson know by emailing admissions@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk This helps us keep track of sibling applications when we receive the admissions lists from Barnet in the spring term.

We would also be grateful if you could share this information with friends or family whose children are due to start Reception next September. We run school tours most weeks and would be delighted to welcome prospective families and show them around our school.

To book a tour or find out more about Garden Suburb Primary School, please contact admissions@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk and Mrs Dobinson will be happy to help.



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And finally, we made it through the first half term! Thank you to our staff and parents for your support as we have embraced this new chapter for our schools. Your encouragement, patience and positivity have helped to make the transition such a success.

We are all enjoying the opportunities that come from having the double doors open, allowing us to work more closely together and strengthen links across both schools. It has been wonderful to hold whole-school events and bring children together for shared experiences, helping to foster a greater sense of community and belonging.

As we come to the end of a busy and successful half term, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support and wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Children return to school on Tuesday 3rd November.

Kind regards

Mrs Eileen Bhavsar
Head Teacher



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School Communications and General Information

Welfare Email: welfare@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk

Please use the above email for all welfare matters including attendance, absence requests, pick-up arrangements and school lunch.

Admin Email: admin@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk

Please use the above email for all Arbor matters, clubs, trips, payment queries and requests for letters

Mrs Gonzalez - will usually manage Infant queries (R, Y1 and Y2)

Mrs Alvares - will usually manage Junior queries (Y3,Y4,Y5,Y6)

Miss Jedrzejowska – supports with admin queries

Office: Please use the emails below for admissions queries, financial support and Benefit Related Free School Meals, as well as contacting a member of the leadership team, including the head teacher. Continue to direct queries to:

Infants: Mrs Dobinson - Infant School Business Manager Email: officeinfant@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk

Juniors: Ms Bailey – Junior School Business Manager Email: officejunior@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk

SENDCO:

Our SENDCOs work closely together but they will continue to support the separate key stages.

Infants: Mrs Elia Email: sencoinfant@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk

Juniors: Mrs Goldman Email: sencojunior@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk

To ensure that your queries are dealt with promptly, please label any emails as follows:

Child's class, full name and reason e.g. 5G Zara Jones - Absence Request

This will help to avoid a delay in responding to your query.

Emails for class Teachers (Y3-Y6): Please note: due to teaching commitments, class teachers may not be able to view or respond to emails on the day that they are sent. Urgent messages and Reception -Y2 should go to welfare or the school office.

Class Teacher	Email
Year 3	
Ms N Aziz (Year Group Leader)	3G@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk
Miss P Bowry	3S@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk
Year 4	
Mr J Morrissey (Year Group Leader and Assistant Head)	
Ms C James /Mrs Solden	4S@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk
Miss E Woods	4G@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk
Year 5	
Mrs K Margolis (Year Group Leader)	5G@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk
Miss J Jouhal	5S@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk
Miss G Atkinson	5J@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk
Year 6	



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Mrs J Richter (Year Group Leader)/ Miss H Buck	6S@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk
Miss J Quinn	6J@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk
Miss N Fernando	6G@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk

Lone Travellers - Parents need to complete a 'Lone Travelling' form if children are travelling to or from school without an adult. **This is only permitted for Y5 and Y6 pupils.** All Y5 and Y6 children will bring home a Lone Traveller form to complete on Thursday. Forms can be requested from Mrs Alvares welfare@gardensuburbprimary.co.uk if arrangements change throughout the year.

Mobile Phones

Most schools now are **not** allowing pupils to bring in mobile phones for safeguarding reasons. Exceptional circumstances will be considered for Y5/Y6 pupils and a request should be put in writing using our 'Mobile Phone Parental Request Form'. Smart phones with cameras and access to the internet will not be permitted.

PE Kit – It is important you make a note of your child's PE days

When your child has PE, **they need to come into school wearing their PE kit.** They will wear it for the whole day. If you have not yet purchased the PE Kit, please ensure that your child wears plain blue coloured track suit bottoms (no branded kit). Our aim is that over time everyone will purchase the school kit, as they will get a lot of wear out of it.

Reception	Thursday
Year 1	Tuesday, Friday
Year 2	Tuesday, Friday
Year 3	Monday, Thursday
Year 4	Tuesday, Wednesday
Year 5	Wednesday, Thursday
Year 6	Wednesday, Friday