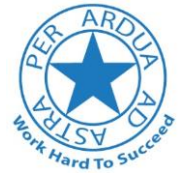




# Garden Suburb Junior School

Childs Way • London • NW11 6XU



Tel: 020 8455 3269 • E-mail : [office@gsjs.barnetmail.net](mailto:office@gsjs.barnetmail.net) • Website : [www.gardensuburbjunior.co.uk](http://www.gardensuburbjunior.co.uk)

Head Teacher: Mrs Eileen Bhavsar BA (Hons) MSc • Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs Lisa Berger BEd (Hons)  
Administrator / School Business Manager: Ms Julia Chalfen

7<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

I hope you have had a good week.

## Home Learning

I am pleased to report that we have now managed to contact all families and as a result we have increased the support to children and parents in a variety of different ways.

We have provided:

- feedback to parents on the home learning reflection sheets
- telephone and email support to families - over the next few weeks, teachers aim to speak to all families
- differentiated resources for EAL and SEND pupils
- paper copies of resources to those without technology
- replacement exercise books for those who have used up their books
- additional places for vulnerable pupils who would benefit from coming to school

We do expect all families to stay in touch weekly now and, as this is a safeguarding requirement, **we will be concerned if we do not hear from you**. Please email your child's teacher **every week including the reflection sheet if possible**. If we do not hear from you, we may have to involve our Educational Welfare service. Please also be aware that it is very time consuming for teachers if they have to 'chase you' to get in touch.

Teachers may also contact you by phone and this may be from their mobiles at home. They will usually call between 9:00am - 3:30pm so please do answer if you get a call from a withheld / private number. Teachers are aiming to call all families over the next couple of weeks.

I am aware that some parents would like the teachers to video or use Zoom/ Teams to do live lessons. Currently we have no plans to do this for a variety of reasons but primarily safeguarding and time constraints. We are constantly reviewing our provision and are now awaiting Sunday's announcement about the way forward. Please also be aware that we have 18 members of staff who are self-isolating, for a variety of reasons. Staff are also managing their own personal circumstances and wellbeing issues that Covid-19 has forced upon us. *Please be assured that we are working as hard as we possibly can to support our community.*

## Wellbeing

The children are missing the social aspects of school very much. As parents, you can also set up class Zoom meetings to enable your children to stay in touch with each other. Some classes have already been doing this. **Please be aware that any online social networking activity needs to be closely supervised and monitored by adults**. Check the website for new online safety guidance. You can also complete these [Online Safety packs](#) created by Thinkuknow.

Parents need to be aware

- How much time their children spend on WhatsApp chats
- With whom they text
- The risk of sharing videos / photos
- When their children are on their phones





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## **Garden Suburb E-Safety Poster competition**

Miss Larsen is holding an e-safety poster competition. Create a colourful, clear poster about how to communicate safely with others online during this home learning time. Ask an adult to send a photo of your poster to Miss Larsen at [4j@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk](mailto:4j@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk) The deadline for entries is Friday 15th May. Miss Larsen will announce the winners soon after. Keep your posters and bring them to school when we re-open so we can all see them.

## **SUPPORT AVAILABLE:**

In these difficult times we wanted to share some contact details for organisations who can help.

**CITIZENS ADVICE BARNET HELP AVAILABLE DURING CORONAVIRUS (COVID -19) PANDEMIC:** We've received the following message from Barnet Citizens Advice which we would like to share with you:

*We realise that there is a great deal of uncertainty around employment, benefits, debt and other issues at the moment and want to reassure you that we are still able to offer our advice to anyone who lives, works or studies in Barnet. While we have had to suspend all our face to face services until further notice, we are still offering the same advice services as before, over the phone and by e-mail.*

*Although our offices remain closed, our staff and volunteers are now home working. Advice appointments are now by telephone and you can rest assured that we have the right systems in place to do this effectively. Our service is free, confidential, impartial and independent and information can be found*

*at <https://barnetcab.org.uk/>*

*For advice, please complete the online form [here](#). Or telephone our Helpline on 0300 456 8365.*

*We have dedicated coronavirus advice webpages [here](#) and these are constantly kept up to date as new things are announced by the government.*

*If you need help claiming Universal Credit call us on 0800 1448 444*

*We can help you apply to the EU Settlement Scheme - [click here for further information](#)*

*We wish you safety and good health at this difficult time.*

## **BARNET 0-19 HEALTH VISITING AND SCHOOL NURSING SERVICE**

Due to Covid-19 the Barnet 0-19 Health Visiting and School Nursing service is offering a 7 day a week advice line between 9am-5pm. Please call 0208 200 2500. Press Option 1 to access this advice line if you have concerns regarding your child's health, wellbeing or development such as eating, sleeping, behaviour, talking.

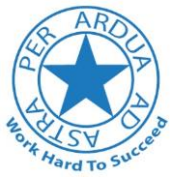
## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (men or women):**

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/directories/directme/solace-womens-aid>

Tel: 0203 874 5003    [advice@solacewomensaid.org](mailto:advice@solacewomensaid.org)    <https://www.solacewomensaid.org>

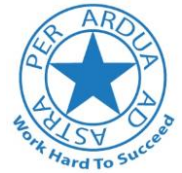
**FINANCIAL HARDSHIP** including Discretionary Housing Payment, Covid-19 Hardship Fund Allocation, Crisis Fund, Council Tax Discretionary Relief: <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-information-and-advice/benefits-and-financial-help-covid-19/covid-19-0#content>





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**HOUSING ADVICE FROM SHELTER DURING COVID-19** including Eviction and notices, rent payment problems, benefits and other financial help, homelessness, mortgage arrears and repossession: [https://england.shelter.org.uk/housing\\_advice](https://england.shelter.org.uk/housing_advice)

Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend.

We are missing you all. Stay safe.

Yours sincerely

*E. Bhavsar*

Mrs Eileen Bhavsar | Head Teacher

