

Garden Suburb Junior School

Childs Way • London • NW11 6XU



Tel: 020 8455 3269 • E-mail : office@gajs.barnetmail.net • Website : 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 Andrea Bailey

8th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Assemblies and Curriculum Events

- **Diversity** was the theme of assemblies this week. I particularly focused on how important it was that we treat everyone respectfully. I focused on explaining the medical condition diabetes.
- **Black History Month**
Black History Month has been marked in the UK for more than 30 years. It takes place during the month of October. It happens because so often in the past, the contributions to the community made by black people were ignored or played down. Black History Month aims to address this unfairness, by celebrating the achievements and contributions of the black community over the years. At Garden Suburb Junior School, we have focused on Black History month for many years. We will be incorporating aspects of black history throughout the year across the curriculum.

All year groups began their focus on an aspect of Black History:

Year 3 - Desmond Tutu who was once the curate at Golders Green Parish Church.

Year 4 – Ruby Bridges, the first African-American child to attend an all-white public elementary school in the American South.

Year 5 - Floella Benjamin's book 'Coming to England' and also 'The Windrush'.

Year 6 - Slavery and injustice.

- **Year 6 have been learning about the history of Kenwood House** to mark Black History Month, particularly the importance of Lord Mansfield and his great niece Dido Belle. On Tuesday, Victoria Gordon, from English Heritage, visited the school to present an engaging talk to the children about the stately home and its complicated link to slavery in Georgian times. The children had the opportunity to look at items such as cotton, sugar cane and coffee beans and learnt how these items were part of the growing slave trade at the time. They then learnt about Dido Belle, Lord Mansfield's great niece, who challenged the stereotypes of her times and how her presence impacted her uncle's decisions as Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench. They enjoyed challenging the ethics of the time and were passionate about making positive changes for the future.
- **Year 6 ventured out into Hampstead Garden Suburb on Wednesday to learn about our local area.** They visited St Jude's Church, Henrietta Barnett school and Big Wood Nature Reserve and enjoyed sketching the Free Church in Central Square. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring their area and hunting for blue plaques and were pleased to find local buildings linked to the figures after whom their houses are named: Barnett, Unwin, Melvin and Coates.

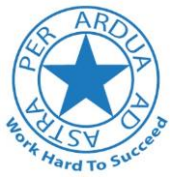
Curriculum Events: Click on the link for more details of some of the curriculum activities that are taking place.

<https://www.gardensuburbjunior.co.uk/news/?pid=258&nid=2>

Save the date for the Year 3 Curriculum Morning: Friday 15th October 9:00am – 11:00am.

We are currently planning a curriculum morning for Year 3 parents on Friday 15th October 9:00am – 11:00am in the Junior School hall. In order to keep this meeting safe and limit numbers, will be inviting just one parent per family. No toddlers allowed. At this meeting will be giving an overview of the Maths and English curriculum and suggestions of how you can also support your child at home. More details to follow.





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Harvest/Sukkot

As part of our focus on Harvest/Sukkot this focus we will be collecting food for **Homeless Action Barnet (HAB)**. Please see below the types of food we are asking for. Please bring donations into school next week. Food will be collected in the main entrance from Monday 11th October – Friday 15th October.

The Food We Would Like:

Tins	Packets/Jars
Vegetables: potatoes, peas, carrots, sweetcorn, tomatoes	Sugar, Rice, Jam, Pasta Cereal
Soup, Fish, Meat, Fruit	Coffee/ Teabags

Parent/Teacher Consultations

We will be holding parent/teacher consultations in school on the following dates:

Tuesday 12th October 3:40pm-6:30pm

Tuesday 19th October 3:40pm- 6:30pm

This will be an opportunity for you to have a 10-minute meeting with your child's class teacher and also to take some time to look through your children's books before the meeting outside the classroom. We are delighted that we are now able to invite parents into school for these very important meetings. Booking details were sent home this week.

PTA Meeting

Please put these two dates in your diary:

1. **PTA meeting at 9:00am on Thursday 14th October in the Junior Dinner Hall.**

2. **Annual General Meeting of the PTA at 9:00am on Friday 5th November in the Junior School Hall**

If you would like to be a Class Representative Please email your details (name and class) to the Chair of the PTA, Rachel Josephs gsjspta@yahoo.com

The Class Representative provides a link of communication between the school and parents/carers.

Thank you to those who have already emailed Rachel. It's not too late to register your interest.

Secondary Transfer Information for Year 6 Parents

Information about Secondary Transfer can be accessed on our website. **Please remember the deadline for completing your application is 31st October 2021.**

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

School Fund

Thank you very much to those who have already contributed. We do appreciate the contribution of £20 per family per year, towards the school fund. This money is spent in various ways for classroom extras. **You will find the item available to pay in your ParentMail shop under Donations > School Fund (Juniors).**

GARDEN SUBURB LOTTERY: The next draw is this Saturday 9th October 2021, you could win £25,000! Only £1 per ticket. <https://www.yourschoolottery.co.uk/lottery/school/garden-suburb-junior>. You've got to be in it to win it – GOOD LUCK EVERYONE

Please check your emails and spam folders to see if you have won as there are 3 people who have yet to claim their winnings!

Yours sincerely

E. Bhavsar

Mrs Eileen Bhavsar | Head Teacher

