



Garden Suburb Junior School

Childs Way • London • NW11 6XU



Tel: 020 8455 3269 • E-mail : office@gsjs.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

3rd October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers)

Thank you to those who attended the Y3 and Y4 Curriculum Workshops today. The presentation is attached and this may be a useful reference for those who could not attend.

Assemblies and Curriculum Events

- **National Poetry Day:** This week in assemblies the children learnt about the power poetry has in capturing ideas and emotions. Poetry about homes was a focus in order to prepare the children for our collection of food for the homeless next week. A link to Black History Month was also made as we looked at the words to the classic song by the Isley brothers 'Harvest for the World'. We also discussed the poem 'I know why a Caged Bird Sings' by Maya Angelou.

Today is National Poetry Day and the children have been focusing on poetry in class. I have encouraged the children to discuss poetry at home with you - so please share your favourite poems with your children this weekend.

- **Talk on Tuesday:** Please encourage your child to discuss the theme, for example, with the family at dinner time. The theme this week is:
Benjamin Zephaniah said, 'Poetry is power.' What do you think?
- **'World Mental Health Day' is next week:** The importance of taking care of our mental health was discussed in assembly on Thursday. Children were made aware of the importance of telling someone if they felt anxious or unhappy, as well as being a good listener to a friend. See details of 'Inside Out Day' below.
- **'Inside Out Day' Thursday 9th October:** In order to focus on the importance of being aware of our feelings and those of others, we are encouraging the children to wear their school top inside out on Thursday 9th October to mark 'World Mental Health Day'.
- **Y6 Suburb Quest:** As part of their Geography/History work on the local area, the children followed a route around Hampstead Garden Suburb to learn more about the architecture and history of the area since it was developed in early 1900. Y6 visited Central Square, Henrietta Barnett school, St Judes, Big/Little Woods and other points of interest along the way, taking note of any blue plaques.
- **Year 6 Visit to Kenwood:** On Wednesday, Year 6 visited Kenwood House. They had a lovely day walking around the grounds and sketching points of interest, namely the 'Thousand Pound Pond' and sculptures by Henry Moore. They also attended an informative workshop in the mansion house where the children focused on the paintings of Dido Belle and the Murray family who used to live at the house during the 1700s. Dido Belle lived at Kenwood House for 31 years. Her position was unusual because she was born into slavery according to colonial law. Lord and Lady Mansfield brought her up as a member of the Murray family. This workshop introduced the children to the Y6 topic on slavery and injustice linked to this month's Black History focus. The children were really engaged and asked and answered lots of interesting questions.





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Harvest/Sukkot

As part of our focus on Harvest/Sukkot we will be collecting food for Homeless Action Barnet (HAB). 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 6th October until Friday 10th 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

Health and Welfare

Parents are reminded that it is important that you keep us up dated on the medical needs of you children so that we can take care of them whilst at school. This includes if your child has the need to wear a sling or has a suspected brake or sprain. Please contact Mrs Alvares Tel: 020 8455 3269 option 1

Email: welfare@gsjs.barnetmail.net

Flu Vaccine: Friday 17th October 2025

Just a reminder that the flu session for Garden Suburb Junior School is taking place in the afternoon of Friday 17th October. Once again this year they will be offering the flu nasal spray to all children as well as the porcine free injectable alternative for immunocompromised children or children who cannot have the nasal spray for religious reasons. Click on the link below to complete the consent form.

<https://ncl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/barnet>

Please complete the consent form even if you DO NOT want your child to have the flu vaccine.

If you feel you have made a mistake on the form or if you have any questions, please contact the Vaccination UK team on 020 8150 7505. Attached is a flyer from Vaccination UK for more details.

Managing Anxiety

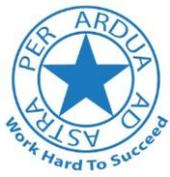
Thank you to the parents who attended the presentation 'Managing Anxiety in Children' on Monday and our Y3 and Y4 curriculum talk today. The presentations are attached.

Kind regards

Mrs Eileen Bhavsar /Head Teacher

Please see some general information below





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Arbor– Keep informed!

If you need any help activating or logging in to your account, please contact the school office as soon as possible: admin@gsjs.barnetmail.net.

Newsletters will be sent electronically **every Friday by email** - please look out for them! Arbor is used for all other communication from the school, including emergency messages regarding school closures etc., either by text, or by email. It is your responsibility to keep your Arbor account updated with any contact detail changes. ***Please remember to also notify the school office with changes in contact details for our own records system.***

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 Tuesday. Forms can be requested from Mrs Alvares welfare@gsjs.barnetmail.net 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 new 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.

Year 3 Monday and Wednesday

Year 4 Tuesday and Thursday

Year 5 Tuesday and Thursday

Year 6 Wednesday and Friday

Secondary Transfer and School Journey

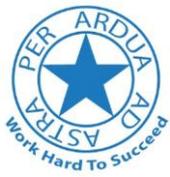
Information on secondary transfer is on the website at:

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

Information on school Journey on the website at:

<https://www.gardensuburbjunior.co.uk/page/Default.asp?title=School+Journey&pid=1760&action=saved>





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Making contact with the school

We always like to hear from parents and carers in our community but would ask that all **non-urgent** messages be sent to the school by email and directed to the following contacts below:

Emails for class Teachers: 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 should go to Welfare or the school office.

Class Teacher	Email
Year 3	
Miss I Clarke (Year Group Leader)	3S@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Ms N Aziz	3G@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Year 4	
Mr J Morrissey (Year Group Leader and Assistant Head)	
Ms C James	4J@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Miss E Woods	4S@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Miss P Bowry	4G@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Year 5	
Mrs K Margolis (Year Group Leader)	5S@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Miss E Bannan	5G@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Miss B O'Connor	5J@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Year 6	
Mrs L Berger (Year Group Leader and Deputy Head)	
Miss J Jouhal	6G@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Miss N Fernando	6S@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk
Miss H Buck/Miss G Atkinson	6J@gsjs.barnet.sch.uk

Welfare, attendance, absence, pick-up arrangements Mrs Alvares, welfare@gsjs.barnetmail.net

Senco Support: Mrs Goldman - senco@gsjs.barnetmail.net

Clubs, Arbor queries and Free School Meals enquiries - admin@gsjs.barnetmail.net

Other messages and to contact the Head Teacher or a member of the Leadership Team please email Ms Bailey, our business manager: - office@gsjs.barnetmail.net

