

# SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



## WELCOME BACK

We hope you all had a good summer break - we cannot believe that it is September again already but I'm sure you are all pleased! Anyway, welcome back for a new school year and a particularly warm welcome to all of our new children and their families. We hope you all settle in quickly and without any problems - don't forget to come and ask any of us if there is something you are worried about.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUB - NEW NAME

Our After School Club will now be known as 'GREEN DRAGONS'.

When you pay through our online payment system (Tucasi), please use the 'Green Dragons' tab.

## WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

Don't forget that all of the information you need about our school is on our website

[www.garrickgreen.co.uk](http://www.garrickgreen.co.uk)

The calendar and newsletter sections are there for any information you may have forgotten or that you need to know in advance. The calendar for the autumn term will be completed as soon as possible and some of the spring and summer dates will also be put in if you want to look ahead.

If you click on an item on the calendar it will give you more details of the event.

The newsletter is also always on our Facebook page (Friends Of Garrick Green), together with reminders of different things going on. Please use this page to contact other parents with questions but if you need to speak to a member of staff, please wait until the morning if possible, or check the newsletter or website to see if that answers your question. Not all of our staff members use Facebook and even if they do, I am sure that you can appreciate that they need to switch off from school during the evenings.

## BIKES AND SCOOTERS

We always encourage our children to walk, bike or scoot to school but please remember that they need to get off their bike or scooter outside the gate and walk with them to the racks behind the mobile.

## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

### SUPERVISION

Before school please make sure that you supervise your child and make sure they do not run on the playground. Please make sure your child does not go on the grass at all in the morning.

## SPARE CLOTHES

Each child needs a full set of spare clothes on their peg for emergencies - this could be if they've had a toilet accident, got wet or muddy at playtime, got messy with glue or paint etc. It should be left at school.

## SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

Because of our day to day contact with the children we are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. We have a duty to protect children from abuse; however, our role is in recognition and referral, not investigation or intervention. We are required by law to follow procedures laid down by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children Board if we see signs which suggest that one of our pupils may have been the victim of abuse. Use of the procedures in this way is an obligation placed on the school by legislation and in no way infers that any parent/carer is being accused of wrong-doing.

## ATTENDANCE

As you should be aware by now, we are not allowed to authorise any holidays during term time unless the circumstances are exceptional. All planned absence during term time should be applied for in writing at least a week before the absence and you will receive a written response.

You should have received a letter earlier in the week explaining the attendance system in more detail.

Last year our attendance was below the national average and we are setting a target to be at least in line with the average this year - we can only do this with your support.

## P.E KIT

In Y1 and Y2 please make sure your child has a P.E kit in school every week. They need a t-shirt and shorts but will not need plimsolls or trainers until the Summer Term. Long hair needs to be tied back and earrings need to be removed or covered with micropore tape or a wide elasticated hair band which you should provide.

## LIBRARY VAN

The library van will visit school on WEDS 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER so make sure your child has their library card if they wish to borrow a book.

## READING

As you know, it is essential for children to practise their reading skills at home, if they are to make good progress. Please remember to sign the yellow reading diary every time you listen to your child read, or when you read to them.

Children are encouraged to borrow a 'sharing book' from the library as often as they like and don't forget that we have some of these in foreign languages as well.

## BOOK SWAP SHED

Our Book Swap Shed on the playground has been sorted and replenished. We have books for adults as well as children in there and the idea is that you or your child can bring a book from home that you know longer want, and swap it with one from the shed. If you would rather make a donation then there is a plastic wallet attached to the inside of the shed door.

## VOLUNTEERS

We really value the volunteers that we have in school over the year so if you have a spare hour or two per week on a regular basis, come and talk to us about what you can offer.

DINNERS

As you know all of our children are entitled to a free school meal and children have a choice between a home packed lunch, a school packed lunch with a choice of ham, cheese or tuna for their sandwiches, a cooked school dinner, a cooked school vegetarian dinner or a jacket potato with cheese, tuna or beans.

New Reception children received a new menu during the summer term and Y1 and Y2 children should have got one on Wednesday. If you can't find it, it is available at the website below:

[http://www.ncsgrp.co.uk/catering\\_educational\\_catering.htm](http://www.ncsgrp.co.uk/catering_educational_catering.htm)

NUT ALLERGIES

Please remember that peanut butter and any peanut products are banned from snacks and packed lunches due to an increasing number of children who have allergies. Of course there are so many products that have a 'may contain nuts' warning so we need you to use your own common sense and if you are in any doubt, please ask.

DRINK BOTTLES

Children in Chloe Rayfield's, Helen Prophet's and Rachel Ellis' classes need a water bottle at school each day. The other classes have a water fountain.

WELLIES

All children need to have a pair of named wellies in a bag on their peg please, especially as the grass is quite wet in the mornings and we don't want to spoil our carpets with muddy shoes.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After School Clubs for children in Year 1 and Year 2 will start the week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> September. Letters about each club will be issued on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September and we will be in the hall from 8.40am on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> to take bookings (you do not have to pay on that day, just book places).

Initially each child can join one club only but we will have a waiting list for all clubs in case the places are not filled. Places will be issued on a first come first served basis. Forms and payment must be returned to school by FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER or the place will go to someone on the waiting list.

Some of our clubs are run by school staff and volunteers and others are run by outside sports coaches.

Apart from singing club, all clubs run for half a term only and then change.

Please make sure you make a note of who to pay and also of any weeks the club will not be running.

We will also be selling secondhand uniform on a separate table on the same morning (Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>)— all items 50p

STUDENT TEACHER

We welcome Miss Jolie Morton to Rachel Ellis' class this year - she will do an autumn term placement and a summer term placement as part of her teacher training programme. She will come to meet the class and get to know the school for a week starting on 11<sup>th</sup> September and her placement starts at the beginning of October.

**INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR RECEPTION PARENTS**

You may recall from the new intake visits back in July that I said that you would be encouraged to attend a parent information session which would give you a greater insight into what your child does at school. Dates for these sessions are below so please choose any one of them and sign up in the classroom:

TUES 3<sup>RD</sup> OCT 9-10.15 AM

WEDS 4<sup>TH</sup> OCT 9-10.15 AM

WEDS 4<sup>TH</sup> OCT 1.45-3 PM

They will take place in the hall.

**INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR Y1 PARENTS**

Y1 parents are encouraged to sign up for an information session to find out about the Y1 curriculum and how we make sure the transition from Reception to Y1 is as smooth as possible.

TUES 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 9-10 AM

MON 16<sup>TH</sup> OCT 9-10 AM

**INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR Y2 PARENTS**

Y2 parents are encouraged to sign up for an information session to find out about the difference between Y1 and Y2 and about how we prepare your child for the end of year national assessments and the transition to Junior School.

MON 2<sup>ND</sup> OCT 1.45-3 PM

MON 9<sup>TH</sup> OCT 9-10.15 AM

Apologies for mentioning 'Christmas' this early but we are going to be making Christmas cards right at the beginning of October. On WEDS 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER from 3 - 4 pm and on THURS 12<sup>TH</sup> OCT from 8.30-8.55 you will be able to view these and place any orders. We have to do it this early to guarantee delivery well before the end of term. Further details of prices will follow in the October newsletter.

**CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2018**

If you know anyone whose child is due to start school next September, please encourage them to come and have a look round. They can email or phone to make an appointment. Even if they don't live in the local area, they still have a chance of a getting a place. Thank you!

**HALF TERM**

School closes for Half Term on THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER and the children come back on MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER