



I am very aware we are only a few days away from the Easter break and yet it has only been three weeks since all children have returned. For some families, I appreciate the Easter holiday might have come all too soon as it feels we have only just gotten back to a more normal routine. This return to school has given the children and staff team an invaluable time to reconnect and settle back into school life, ready for a positive start in the summer term.

I know it looks unlikely that all the familiar summer term events will take place but the Wensum Trust schools are looking really carefully at potential transition opportunities. We know we will need to follow government guidance, which can and does change. We are all in the process of thinking about how we can find a way to plan for transition events, despite potential restrictions. As we move into the summer term and have a clearer idea about what might be possible, we will let you know more.

Thank you for taking part in the Google survey to share your experience of remote learning and the return to school. It is really helpful to get your parental perspective and it helps us think about how to develop and build on what we currently do. This has been another challenging term and I would like to say thank you again for your understanding and support. The whole team is looking forward to a wonderful summer term and hopefully some super weather, which makes everything feel so much better.

Whatever your plans are for Easter (even with rather limited options) we hope you manage to enjoy some lovely family time and get a chance to relax and rest. For those of you who have seen the Easter HSA video, you know I have my Easter sorted with far too many chocolate Easter eggs!

Dates

Last day of Spring Term:
Friday 26th March 2021

Back to school on:
Monday 12th April 2021

June Half Term Holiday:
Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June 2021.

The academic calendar can be found on the school website

<https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/ardengrove-term-dates>

Becoming Brain Scientists – For the last few years, we have placed a focus on helping children to become more able to name and identify their feelings and start, at an age-appropriate level, to understand and talk about their emotions. This focus has been so helpful in the pandemic and the return to school. Talking about emotions plays a significant role in our curriculum, our Code and in all of our day- to-day interactions. You will be aware of the children talking about the emotion of anger / frustration in relation to ‘Flipping their lid’ as well as thinking about how to cope with big feelings. Our next step is to work on deepening the children’s understanding of the feeling of ‘calm’ and how they can find ways to feel calm. We have attached some information about this and some activity ideas to support (attached to email). Feelings and emotions are all connected to the brain and so we will be doing a lot more to explore this and how amazing our brains are (hence Brain Scientists). We will share this learning as it develops and start to create a space on our website to provide you with helpful information.

Safeguarding & Online Safety

This is a super website with great advice and top tips to keep our children safe when using technology.

https://www.internetmatters.org/?gclid=CjwKCAIjwOGCBhAIEiwA7FUXkrExagqa260EtnPVan15dGWRBp61x2HJcDzFcljBuD-00VxKBNRbhoCWJQAvD_BwE

Home School Association Reminders: If you haven’t seen it already, there is a rather funny Easter video, of the staff team. The HSA are getting creative and have found some super ways to raise funds, with the help of technology! There is still time to take part and you can sign up for it, on Scopay, until Wednesday 24th March. Don’t forget, **Your Schools Lottery** is a great source of fundraising for the school too. Parents, friends, relatives can all sign up. For every £1 ticket bought 40p will go back to the school and you could be in with the chance of winning a local cash prize or the big Jackpot!! To sign up go to: www.yourschoollottery.co.uk and search **Arden Grove**.

Helpful Website

<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk>

This website has really developed over the last few years and has a wealth of content families might find helpful.

Special Educational Needs (SEN): If you want to get in contact with Jennie Gregson, our Special Education Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENDCo), her email address is senco@ardengrove.norfolk.sch.uk

This is a single point of access for the Norfolk Healthy Child Program and it can provide advice and signposting for lots of things, including parenting questions or worries you might have in relation to your child’s physical health or wellbeing.

RSHE:
(Relationships, Sex & Health Education)

We have been using the remaining three weeks of this half term to find out how the children are feeling and if they have any worries or questions about what has been a very different and confusing time for all. It has been really important to capture the children’s voice as everyone has had a different experience of Covid and lockdown. Children have had the opportunity to talk about any worries, share thoughts and questions. This is helping us add to our summer RSHE curriculum to ensure it is really relevant and supports our children in the current climate. Children are understandably thinking about being back with their friends and starting to feel curious and a bit apprehensive about the next school year. Knowing this means we can really shape our provision to help the children and we will give regular RSHE curriculum themes and updates in the weekly Communication diary, on Tapestry.