



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

WELCOME BACK

I'd like to warmly welcome you all back to a new school year at Garrick Green – and an especially big welcome to all of our new children and their families who are joining us for the first time.

I'm really looking forward to starting my new role as Head of School and feel incredibly proud to continue to be part of such a wonderful community. Garrick Green is a special place, and I'm excited to build on all the fantastic things that already make our school so unique.

Just a quick note to let you know that I'll be teaching in Lime Class on Thursdays and Fridays. While I'll always do my best to be available, I may not be able to respond to queries as quickly on those days – thank you for your patience and understanding.

We hope all of the children settle in smoothly and happily over the coming days. If you have any worries or questions – no matter how small – please don't hesitate to speak to us or get in touch via email.

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break – here's to a great year ahead!

My email address is head@garrickgreen.norfolk.sch.uk

Best Wishes,

Liz Banner

HELLO FROM SARAH

I'm so pleased to be joining the Garrick Green and Lodge Lane teams this year. It's been a lovely start, meeting the children and staff in what I like to call my *extended school family* – as I'm also still Executive Head at Arden Grove Infant & Nursery, where I've worked for 11 years, including the last 5 as headteacher.

I'm passionate about creating happy, nurturing schools where children feel safe, valued, and excited to learn. For me, school should be a place where curiosity is encouraged, successes are celebrated, and children grow in confidence and I know this is the ethos of the three schools I will be part of.

The children will know me as Sarah – it's how I've introduced myself – and although I'll be splitting my time between three schools, I want the children to feel I'm part of the team even if they don't see me every day. I'll usually be at Arden Grove on Mondays, Garrick Green on Tuesdays, and Lodge Lane on Fridays, though

We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST

LEARN TO BE HAPPY – BE HAPPY TO LEARN



there will be some flexibility. Please keep using your usual ways of contacting the school; the team will always keep me updated.

Over the coming weeks, I'll be spending time in classrooms, out on the playground, and hopefully chatting with many of you at drop-off. Please do say hello – I'd love to hear your thoughts and ideas.

Thank you for such a warm welcome already. I'm excited for the year ahead and feel very lucky to be part of these wonderful school communities.

Warm regards,

Sarah Waterfield

Executive Headteacher



STAFFING

Please see the attached document to see the teaching staff for each class. We have made the decision this year for all adults in school to be called by their first name. It's taking a bit of getting used to but the children seem to like it!



Rosie Stephen

We are delighted to share some lovely news - Rosie is having a baby! It has been a long time since we've had a Garrick Green staff baby so we are all very excited for her. Therefore, she will only be with us for a short time this year up until October half-term. We will let you know when we have recruited a new member of staff to cover her maternity leave.

WEBSITE, APP, FACEBOOK AND BLOG



Don't forget that all of the information you need about our school is on our website www.garrickgreen.co.uk and our app [school app](#)

Class blogs are updated weekly on our website with information that is specific to your child's class -

<https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/garrickgreen/learning/class-blogs>

We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

LEARN TO BE HAPPY – BE HAPPY TO LEARN



The calendar and newsletter sections are there for any information you may have forgotten or that you need to know in advance. Most dates are on the calendar already and any extra dates will be added as they are set.

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

Newsletters are emailed to you each month.

Our Facebook page 'Garrick Green Infant School' has posts each week showing things we have been doing in recent days/weeks. Please comment, like and share these posts so that we reach a wider audience.

Our other Facebook page 'Friends of Garrick Green' is a private group and reminders and other information will be posted here. If you have not yet joined, please do so if you can, and remember to answer the membership questions so that we know who you are.

VOLUNTEERS

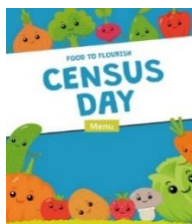
If any of you or a family member or friend could spare a couple of hours a week to volunteer at our school then we would be very grateful.

We need volunteers to listen to children read, play games and practise different skills.



If you are interested in either of these roles or any other voluntary role that you think you'd like to offer then please email Liz Banner head@garrickgreen.norfolk.sch.uk and she will discuss it with you.

CENSUS LUNCH



Thursday 2nd October is school census day. This is a day when we get funding secured according to how many children have a school lunch that day. We need as many children as possible to have a dinner provided by school so we may swap the Thursday and Friday menu around that day. We will confirm nearer the time what the lunch options will be.

We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

LEARN TO BE HAPPY – BE HAPPY TO LEARN



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. It does not have to be school uniform. Don't forget to replace the spare clothes if they get used!



WELLIES

All children need to have a pair of named wellies that stay at school, especially as the grass is quite wet in the mornings and we don't want to spoil our carpets with muddy shoes after playtime and lunch time.



COATS

The weather seems to be becoming more unpredictable each year so all children need a waterproof coat in school every day. We try to get outside at playtime and lunchtime unless it's a really heavy downpour.

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 Partnership 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.

Garrick Green is registered with Operation Encompass. This means that Norfolk Police will contact the school concerning any domestic incidents which involve the families of our children the day after the incident occurred.

Whilst we are happy for you to take photos of your child and their friends on the school premises, please remember that there are some parents who would prefer their child's photo not being shared via Whatsapp, Facebook etc, so just double check first. Thank you!

We are part of...

WENSUM TRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

LEARN TO BE HAPPY – BE HAPPY TO LEARN



CONTACT DETAILS

Please remember to let us know if any of your contact details change or if you want school newsletters and other letters to be emailed to more than one parent.

ATTENDANCE

You will be receiving a letter about attendance and it is something that we monitor carefully.



We are constantly trying to keep our school attendance in line with the national average but we need your support to do this. We are aiming for 95% attendance and we achieved this last year. A lot of absence was due to genuine illness, but a lot was also due to holidays or odd days off here and there which we are really trying to avoid.

If your child is too ill to attend school, please ring the office to inform us. If they are off because of sickness or diarrhoea, then they must stay off for 48 hours after the last 'incident' .

CAR PARK



Just a reminder that the school car park is only for staff so please do not use it at drop off or pick up times. The carpark should not be used for those attending Breakfast Club but it can be used to collect from After School Club. Thank you!

DRINK BOTTLES AND SNACKS



All children need a named water bottle every day – please stick to water and not juice. Children in Jade class will also have access to milk if they would like it.

All children are provided with a fruit or vegetable snack for playtime and usually at the start of term - this is a pack of raisins. If you would prefer to send your own snack in, please make sure this is fruit or vegetables as well.

We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST

LEARN TO BE HAPPY – BE HAPPY TO LEARN



INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PARENTS

As always, we will be holding meetings for parents in each year group to talk about the curriculum and tell you what you can expect the children to be doing this year. You will receive an email and a google form about these so please sign up for a session. Dates and times are in the diary dates section below.



AFTER SCHOOL



We are more than happy for you to stay and use the school field with your child after school but please remember that you are responsible for your child as soon as we hand them to you at 3pm. We would expect children to follow school rules whilst still on the premises, for example not climbing trees or going on the top of the climbing

frame! We will ring the bell when it is time for us to lock the gate. We need to do this to keep the children from Green Dragons safe and to enable after school sports clubs to take place outside.

CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026

If you know anyone whose child is due to start school next September, please encourage them to come and have a look around. We will be doing tours for prospective parents and they just need to phone 01603409078 or email office@garrickgreen.norfolk.sch.uk to book an appointment.



Even if they don't live in the local area, they might still have a chance of a getting a place. Thank you!

ALLERGIES



Please remember that we are a **nut free** school - some types of chocolate spread and cereal bars contain nuts so please check the ingredients before you send any of these products to school. Please be especially mindful of this when giving treats to the class to give out for birthdays.

We are part of...

WENSUM TRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

LEARN TO BE HAPPY – BE HAPPY TO LEARN



PE KIT

Children in Lime, Teal and Sage classes need a **plain white** short sleeved polo shirt and **plain black** jogging bottoms, leggings or shorts and an official school sweatshirt or cardigan with Garrick Green logo (In Year 1 and 2 P.E. kit is worn to school on the specific day the class does P.E. and Yoga)



Long hair needs to be tied back and earrings removed or covered please!

HALF TERM

School closes for Half Term on FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER and the children come back on MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

LEARN TO BE HAPPY – BE HAPPY TO LEARN



DIARY DATES FOR THIS TERM

SEPTEMBER			
15TH	AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS START	Y1 AND Y2	
25th	FLU IMMUNISATIONS		
29TH	INFO SESSION FOR TEAL AND SAGE PARENTS		2 - 3
OCTOBER			
2ND	CENSUS LUNCH		
6TH	PHONICS SESSION FOR JADE PARENTS		2 - 3
13TH	INFO SESSION FOR LIME PARENTS		2-3
24TH	LAST DAY		

We are part of...

WENSUMTRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES