



🍁 Welcome Back, Arden Grove Families! 🍁

We hope you all had a wonderful October half term — full of rest, fun, and a few autumn adventures! It's lovely to see all those bright smiles and excited faces back in school again. This half term is always such a special one, with lots of learning, laughter, and festive fun ahead. We can't wait to jump back into our routines, explore new topics, and make some magical memories together. Here's to a brilliant start to the second half of our autumn term!

With warmth and smiles, Mr Cook and the Arden Grove Team

### School Values

At Arden Grove we have six special values which we have chosen as we believe these are fundamental for happy children to have to become happy adults. Each half term we celebrate a value and may have special days, events or activities to promote this linked to this value.

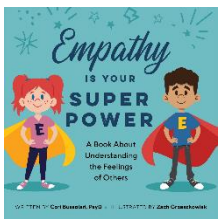


This half term we will be focusing on our school value of **Empathy**. Thinking of how we can help others.

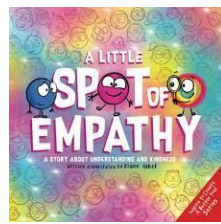
**Empathy: I can understand and share feelings and thoughts of others.**

Being empathetic is important because it helps us make friends and keep friends by being part of a team or community and understand more about my own and others feelings, thoughts and actions. It helps us get along with other people.

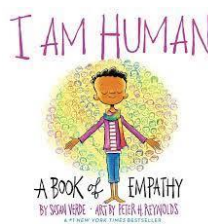
### Stories to share about EMPATHY



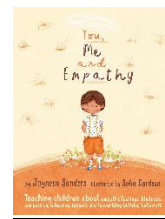
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9TCpbqohcl>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBFHr6Zi39g>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FoXIKTmL8q0>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dG4Mq-81qdl>

### Other videos and songs about Empathy



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9\\_1Rt1R4xbM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_1Rt1R4xbM)

Empathy Song  
Song by Mosaic Project



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsn4Hz1kMesm>



Our Relational Approach  
**THE THREE C's**



**CONNECT**   **COMMUNICATE**   **COLLABORATE**

with curiosity  
and compassion

with courtesy  
and courage

calmly and  
creatively

I'd like to take a moment to remind everyone of the importance of maintaining a positive and respectful atmosphere at Arden Grove.

I understand that school life and school runs can sometimes feel busy or stressful, but it's essential that all interactions between parents, carers and staff reflect our trusts relational approach — **connecting with curiosity and compassion, communicating with courtesy and courage, and collaborating calmly and creatively** and our school values of Respect and

Empathy.

All our staff work incredibly hard to care for and support our children each day, and they deserve to be treated with kindness and respect. If you have a question or concern, please contact the school office so that we can arrange a time to discuss it properly and constructively. Conversations at the door should remain brief and courteous so that staff can focus on the children's safety and wellbeing.

Thank you for helping us uphold the caring and respectful community we are so proud of at Arden Grove.



As many of you know, we've been working hard over the past year to raise funds for a **Trim Trail** for the children. Thanks to your incredible support — through bake sales, school discos, the Mother's Day shop, Father's Day chocolate bars, refreshments, ice creams, spooky spoons, Bingo Night, and most recently, the Band Night — we're thrilled to announce that **we've reached our goal!**

We are now in discussions with the School and the Wensum Trust to have the Trim Trail installed as soon as possible.

It's been a fantastic year, and we've really enjoyed all the events and community spirit. We're already looking forward to future fundraising projects to continue supporting our children. We had a very positive and successful AGM to share and celebrate what we have achieved this year!



**CHILDREN IN NEED**

We will be raising money for Children In Need on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November** - children can wear spots to school for a suggested donation of £1. Taking part in this is entirely optional but if children do not take part, they need to wear their school uniform as normal.



## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Our overall attendance so far this school year is **94.5 %** which is lower than we would have hoped for as the National target 96% .

Thank you everyone for your support in ensuring your child is attending school regularly. All the research shows that school attendance makes a big difference to children's long-term outcomes which is why attendance is something you'll hear us talking about quite a lot!



There are 11 children who fall into the persistently absent category (90% or lower) and staff will discuss this with parents at their parent/teacher interview. We know that at this point in the year, 90% can be because of illness or one holiday. We also know that 90% attendance sounds like it's really good! However, if a child's attendance is 90% over the whole school year, this means they've missed around 19 days of school which is nearly four weeks of learning. Every day in school really does make a difference — not just for learning, but for friendships, routines, and confidence too.

There are some children who are not persistently absent from school, but who are persistently late instead. This has a knock-on effect for both those who are late and on the rest of the class as well as on office and kitchen staff.

Children need to be in and ready for the register and dinner register at 8.50am and then as soon as they are done, learning starts. Children who arrive once the teaching and learning has started cause disruption to everyone including themselves, so we urge you to be on time for school.

If for any reason you cannot help being late one day, please make sure you sign your child in properly on the screen.

However, as the weather changes and there are more coughs and sneezes in school it can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

The NHS have provided this helpful information: [Is my child too ill for school?](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/)

*There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about health protection and managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK. These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. More advice can be found here : <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>*

*If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school on the first day before 9am to let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason. If your child is still unwell, please call again on the following day(s). If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.*

Remember we will not keep children in school who are too poorly to be here. If we are unsure we will contact you if your child's condition changes or we think they will be better resting at home.



### A gentle reminder about dogs on school grounds



For the safety and comfort of all our children and families, we kindly remind parents and carers that **dogs are not permitted on school grounds**, including when on a lead or being carried. This is in line with **Norfolk County Council's Health and Safety guidance** and the **Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996**, which supports schools in maintaining safe, hygienic environments for children. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our school grounds welcoming and worry-free for everyone.

### Parking Reminder



We kindly ask all parents and carers to park safely and considerately when dropping off and collecting children. Please be mindful of our neighbours and avoid blocking driveways or restricting access. Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe and respectful.

### KEY DATES FOR AUTUMN 2 HALF TERM

November		
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	First day Back	
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening	
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	SEND Parents evening with Shelley Leggett (SENCO)  Children in Need	Email <a href="mailto:senco@ardengrove.norfolk.sch.uk">senco@ardengrove.norfolk.sch.uk</a> for more information or to make an appointment
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 trip to Duxford	
December		
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	HSA Christmas Disco	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	ArdenForAll Café in the Mobile with the Family Hubs and MHST	More information to follow
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Christmas Performance	From 2pm
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Trip to see 'Cat in the Hat'	
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Christmas Event	From 2pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch	
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Term	
Christmas Holidays 22 <sup>nd</sup> December – 5 <sup>th</sup> January <b>First day back: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>		



# Mental Health Support Teams



Support available for Primary School Children

## Virtual Parent-Led Groups

Learn how to address your child's "Fears & Worries" or "Behaviour Difficulties".

Consists of 6 x 1 hour sessions & is easily accessible online

## Single Sessions

A focused problem-solving session, guided by a mental health professional

Receive guidance and signposting with options for follow up support.

## Online Self Study

Our Online Support Intervention is a self study course that empowers parents to support their child with anxiety.

## School Consultations

With parent/carer permission we can provide advice to school staff about how to support your child.

Speak to your school mental health lead for more info or visit our website:



[www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/mhst/](http://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/mhst/)



See below for their upcoming events



Mental Health Support for Children, Young People & Families

## SLEEP: Supporting healthy sleep patterns

### Parent/Carer Webinar



Friday 5th December 10:00  
Wednesday 10th December 18:30

Join online via the following link:  
[nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhst-webinars](https://nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhst-webinars)

[www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/mhst/](http://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/mhst/)



Mental Health Support for Children, Young People & Families

## BIG EMOTIONS: Supporting positive behaviours

### Parent/Carer Webinar



Wednesday 12th November 18:30  
Friday 14th November 10:00

Join online via the following link:  
[nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhst-webinars](https://nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhst-webinars)

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Mental Health Support for Children, Young People & Families

## ANXIETY: Helping your child with fears & worries



### Parent/Carer Webinar

Wednesday 19th November 18:30  
Friday 28th November 10:00

Join online via the following link:  
[nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhst-webinars](https://nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhst-webinars)

[www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/mhst/](http://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/mhst/)



Mental Health Support for Children, Young People & Families

## Parent & Carer Webinars

### Anxiety: Helping your child with fears & worries

18:30 | Wednesday 12th November  
10:00 | Friday 14th November

### Big Emotions: Supporting positive behaviours

18:30 | Wednesday 19th November  
10:00 | Friday 28th November

### Sleep: Supporting healthy sleep patterns

10:00 | Friday 5th December  
18:30 | Wednesday 10th December

Join online via the following link:  
[nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhst-webinars](https://nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhst-webinars)