

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

WELCOME BACK

We hope you've all had a wonderful summer and are feeling ready for the new school year ahead! It has been lovely to welcome everyone back, and we'd like to give a particularly warm welcome to all of our new children and their families as they join our school community.

Starting somewhere new can feel like a big step, so we hope our new children settle in quickly, make lots of new friends and soon feel right at home. If there's anything you're unsure about or you have a question or concern, please come and talk to us or drop us an email - we're always here to help.

STAFFING

As we begin the new school year, we have made a few changes to our staffing arrangements. Please find attached an updated teaching staff list, which reflects our current team and the arrangements we have in place for the coming weeks.



We are continuing to recruit for a number of positions and will keep you updated as new members of staff join us. We expect these arrangements to remain in place until at least the October half term, although we will let you know if there are any further changes before then.

Thank you for your understanding as we get the new school year underway.

MENU CHANGE



Due to some delivery issues, there will be a couple of changes to next week's menu.

- Tuesday's hot dinner option will be chicken and vegetable meatballs with pasta.
- Wednesday's roast will be gammon.

We're sorry for any inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.

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WENSUMTRUST

LEARN TO BE HAPPY – BE HAPPY TO LEARN



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. This includes what the children are learning about, any reminders and ideas for how you can support at home - <https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/garrickgreen/learning/class-blogs>



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. Please note down any important dates.

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 you or a family member could spare a couple of hours a week to volunteer at our school, we would be very grateful for your help.

There are lots of ways you can get involved, including listening to children read, playing games and helping them practise different skills.

Our gardening club also takes place after school each week, and we're always keen to welcome volunteers who would enjoy getting involved. We've been lucky enough in the past to have some

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FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

wonderfully green-fingered grandparents come along and help too! So, if you have a passion for gardening, we'd love to hear from you.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Liz Banner at head@garrickgreen.norfolk.sch.uk and we will be in touch with further information.

SPARE CLOTHES

Each child needs a full set of spare clothes in a bag 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/carers is being accused of wrong-doing.

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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.

Just a little reminder that we ask parents not to take photographs or videos while on the school premises, unless this has been specifically agreed as part of a school event or activity.

We appreciate your understanding and support in helping us protect the privacy of all our children and families. Thank you for helping us to keep our school community a safe and comfortable place for everyone.

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 96% 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 just 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!

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DRINK BOTTLES AND SNACKS



All children need a named water bottle every day - please stick to water and not juice. Children in Lime and Jade classes 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.

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.



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL



Before school, please stay on the main playground until the bell is rung. Children should not go onto the grass, use any of the play equipment or play in the Reception outdoor area before school.

After school, you are very welcome to stay on the school field so that children can enjoy some extra time playing with their friends. However, the Reception outdoor area is not available for children to play in after school, so please make your way around to the main playground after collecting your child.

Once your child has been handed over to you at 3pm, they are your responsibility. We ask that you please continue to support our school rules and safety expectations while you are on the school grounds. For example, please remind children not to climb the trees and to use the climbing frames safely and appropriately.

We will ring the bell when it is time for the school gates to close. This helps us to keep all of our Green Dragons safe and also allows our after-school sports clubs to use the outdoor spaces without disruption.

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Thank you so much for your support and for helping us to keep everyone safe while making the most of our school grounds.

BIKES AND SCOOTERS

If your child rides a bike or scooter to and from school, there are racks available near the front gate where these can be safely left.



Please remember that bikes and scooters should not be ridden once you enter the school grounds. This includes the path near the car park, where we ask that children walk with their bikes or scooters to help keep everyone safe and prevent any accidental damage to parked cars.

CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2027



If you know anyone whose child is due to start school next September, please encourage them to come and have a look round. 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.

Allergy Aware School



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PE KIT



Children in Olive, 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!

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all of the children and families who sent in cards, gifts and shared such lovely messages with our staff at the end of the summer term. Your kindness and thoughtful words were very much appreciated and meant a great deal.



We did our very best to thank everyone at the time, but we know that in the busyness of those last few days we may have missed some of you. So, if we didn't get the chance to say it then, please know that your kindness was truly appreciated. Thank you!



HALF TERM

School closes for Half Term on Thursday 22nd OCTOBER and the children come back on MONDAY 2nd NOVEMBER

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DIARY DATES FOR THIS TERM

SEPTEMBER			
24th	FLU IMMUNISATIONS		
28TH	INFO SESSION FOR TEAL AND SAGE PARENTS	TEAL AND SAGE PARENTS	2 - 3
OCTOBER			
1ST	CENSUS LUNCH - DETAILS TO FOLLOW		
5TH	INFO SESSION FOR LIME AND JADE	LIME AND JADE PARENTS	2 - 3
7TH	FLU VACCINATION CATCH-UP		
12TH	INFO SESSION FOR OLIVE PARENTS	OLIVE PARENTS	2-3
22ND	LAST DAY		<u>THIS IS A THURSDAY!</u>

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