



Ward Green Primary School Newsletter – Spring 1 Half Term 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school for 2024!!! Children have settled back into our school routine of exciting learning after the Christmas Holiday period. This half term is a very short one (blink and we will miss it!) we have events taking place – please see the **School Events Calendar** at the end of this newsletter to keep you up to date.

ARBOR APP – Please remember that information and messages from school come out in the form of emails and text messages through the **ARBOR** App ie, newsletters, trip letters etc. Payments for school dinners, trips etc are also made using the Arbor App. Please ensure you have logged on to your child/dren's account and if you have any issues, please contact the School Office for assistance.

WINTER WEATHER - We are still in the middle of winter, so the weather is still cold, frosty, wet and windy. Therefore, it is still important that every child has a coat in school every day to keep dry and warm when playing outside. We will endeavour to take the children out every day for some fresh air, so children will need appropriate clothing and footwear.

During the winter months school will attempt to remain open at all times. If school does need to close, we will attempt to text all primary contacts on the child's emergency contact list to inform you. Therefore, please ensure you keep school updated with your telephone/contact details, if you do change you telephone/contact number please let school know as soon as possible. We will also put details on the

WGPS COMMUNICATION PLATFORMS

YEAR GROUP	USERNAME
YEAR 6	@WGPS_2024
YEAR 5	@WGPS_2025
YEAR 4	@WGPS_2026
YEAR 3	@WGPS_2027
YEAR 2	@WGPS_2028
YEAR 1	@WGPS_2029
FOUNDATION STAGE	@WGPS_2030

CLASS X (PREVIOUSLY TWITTER) DETAILS

WGPS EMAIL
WARDGREEN@HCACADEMYTRUST.EDUCATION

SCHOOL OFFICE : 01226 286510 TO LET US KNOW IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT, IF YOU ARE RUNNING LATE OR YOU NEED SUPPORT WITH ARBOR APP

Seesaw

SEESAW – IF YOU NEED TO SEND A QUICK MESSAGE DIRECT TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASS TEACHER

HOMEWORK APPS

Spelling Shed

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

school X (*formerly Twitter*) account, and we will notify the local authority, who will record this on the 'Barnsley Council School Closures' website page:

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/schools-currently-closed/>

CHANGES TO FINES FOR UNAUTHORISED HOLIDAY DURING TERM TIME –

Earlier this month we updated parents/carers with regards to the changes from January 2024 regarding fines for unauthorised holidays taken during term time – see below:

*In accordance with the authorities changes on the issue of Penalty Notices for Schools and Academies, with effect from January 2024, if parents/carers take children on an unauthorised holiday during term time for 5 days or more, the new ruling is that **BOTH** parents/carers with parental responsibility will receive a £60 fine each, per child.*

SCHOOL START TIMES - Please see the **School Opening/Closing Times**.

May we remind you that learning commences at 9am prompt, however, we are having some children arriving at school after learning has commenced. Late arrivals can impact on learning and progress and can disrupt classroom routines for the class as well as the late pupil.

Our **Breakfast Club (for KS2 children)** starts at 8am to assist parents/carers dropping off children to ensure children arrive at school on time. Children are able to have a delicious breakfast, read in the quiet corner, do arts and crafts, play games and socialise with their friends.



SCHOOL OPENING/CLOSING TIMES

Morning Nursery - 8.45am to 11.45am

Afternoon Nursery - 12.30pm to 3.30pm

FS2 Reception - 8.45am to 3.15pm

KS1 (Years 1 & 2) - 8.50am to 3.20pm

KS2 (Years 3,4,5 & 6) - 8.50am to 3.25pm

PARKING AROUND SCHOOL – This is a polite reminder to parents/carers when dropping off and picking up your child/ren from school - please could we ask that you be mindful and courteous when parking near the school as we have recently had a number of complaints from residents near the school regarding parking, parking on private grass verges and driveways being blocked.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – Our **Spring 1 Half Term After School Clubs** started on the first week back in school e.g. **W/C 8th January 2024**. They will end on the week commencing **5th February 2024**. Please see the link to our website for details:

<https://www.wardgreenprimary.org>

Our after-school clubs this half term are now all fully subscribed. However, we will have new clubs available in the **Spring 2 Half Term** for children to attend **after the February Half Term Holiday**. Keep a look out on Arbor messages for further details on the week before the February Half Term Holiday for the new clubs.

We have recruited **Grassroots Sports Academy Yorkshire** (Barnsley based), who work with other schools within our Trust, to provide an after-school provision on a Tuesday and a Thursday from 3.30pm until 5.30pm. They are due to commence 26th February 2024. Further details will be provided in the very near future.

NURSERY & RECEPTION PLACES – We currently have a number of Nursery and Reception places available from September 2024. To arrange a school visit, please contact the school office – see the above contact details.

PLAYGROUND SAFETY BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL – For safety reasons – could you please remind your children that they should not be riding their bikes/scooters on school grounds or play on the climbing frames and tyres before coming in to school or after they have left their classroom at the end of the school day.

RUDOLPH RUN – A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who help our school raise over £400 for Barnsley Hospice with donations for the Rudolph Run.

YEAR 4 SWIMMING LESSONS – Swimming lessons will start for Year 4 classes as from **FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY 2024**. Children will have 15 sessions every Friday and the last session will be 21st June 2024. Children will need a swimming costume/swimming trunks (no bikini/no shorts) and a towel. **All jewellery should NOT be worn on swimming lesson school days – e.g. Earrings should be taken out and left at home as well as watches.**

Children in **Mrs Bell/Mrs Burkill's class** should **ARRIVE AT SCHOOL FOR 8.45AM** prompt as the coach leaves school at 8.50am prompt. Miss Cryer's class will swim mid-morning and will be back for lunch.

SCHOOL EVENTS/CALENDAR – We will continue to add school events/activities to the website School Calendar :

<https://www.wardgreenprimary.org/paternt-information/calendar/>

We will also message parents/carers via email and our school's **ARBOR APP** of any events/information. Teachers also pass information to parents/carers via **'SEESAW'**



Are you looking at options for where to send your child when they start Nursery or full-time school in Reception from September 2024?

WE WARMLY WELCOME YOU TO VISIT WARD GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL WHERE YOU WILL GET THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A SCHOOL TOUR AND MEET STAFF.

We currently have Nursery places available and Reception places from September 24.

To book a school visit please contact the school office and ask to speak to our EYF5 Team who will be more than happy to help.

Tel: 01226 286510

@wardgreenschool
wardgreen@hccacademytrust.education
www.wardgreenprimary.org



and we also have our **School and Class Twitter Pages** with details of things happening in school.

Key dates/events – Spring 1 Half Term (January to February 2024)

1st February 2024 – Tempest Class Photographs

5th to 9th February 2024 – Online Safety Week

8th February 2024 – Parents Coffee Workshop (SEN) (2.30-3.30pm)

12th February to 16th February 2024 – SCHOOL CLOSED HALF TERM HOLIDAY

19th February 2024 – SCHOOL RE-OPENS for Spring 2 Half Term starts

22nd February 2024 – Year 6 Parent’s SATs Workshop

23rd February 2023 – Year 4 Swimming Lessons start on Fridays

26th February – 28th February 2024 – Y6/HSTW Marrick Residential Trip

28th February – 1st March 2024 – Y6/HM Marrick Residential Trip

5th March 2024 – Curriculum Showcase (2.30-3.30pm)

6th March 2024 – Y5 Trip to Lyceum Theatre

7th March 2024 – Y6 Trip to Lyceum Theatre

7th March 2024 – World Book Day

11th to 15th March 2024 – Science Week

11th to 15th March – Year 5 Bikeability (class TBC)

12th March 2024 – Year 4 Mrs Bell/Mrs Burkill’s class trip to Leeds Museum

13th March 2024 – Parent’s Evening

15th March 2024 – Comic Relief Day

18th to 22nd March 2024 – Year 5 Bikeability (class TBC)

19th March 2024 - Year 4 Miss Cryer’s class trip to Leeds Museum

19th March 2024 – Parent Coffee Workshop (9-10am)

25th March 2024 to 5th April 2024 – SCHOOL CLOSED EASTER HOLIDAYS

8th April 2024 – SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET DAY

9th April 2024 – SCHOOL RE-OPENS – Summer 1 Half Term starts

(more dates/events will be added asap & we will keep you posted throughout the school year)

Mrs K Trickett

Executive Head Teacher

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