

Garden Fields J.M.I School

Townsend Drive
St. Albans
Herts
AL3 5RL
Telephone 01727 890440



Growing Hearts and Minds

Headteacher : Ms R. Palmer

- ◆ E-mail : admin@gardenfields.herts.sch.uk
- ◆ Website : www.gardenfields.herts.sch.uk



9th June 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the final half term of this academic year and it promises to be our busiest yet. We have lots of events where we will be able to welcome you all on to the site, from our Year 6 and Year 2 performances, to our sports days, Summer Fair and Celebration Evening. It would be great to see as many of you as possible supporting us and your children at these events.

I am delighted to report that it has been another fantastic week here at our school. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time over the last half term and who have already promised their time for trips this half term. Your support really helps make the days such a success and it is much appreciated by all our staff.



Sunhats, sun cream and water bottles

I would like to remind everyone of the amazing outdoor space that we have here at our school. Our children have been making the most of this wonderful resource; enjoying games, sports and other activities in the fresh air and sunshine. It is so important for children to have access to outdoor

space and I am proud that we are able to provide this for our pupils. Please help us to ensure that the children are able to use it safely by sending them into school with sun cream applied, sunhats on and full water bottles.

Really Exciting News..

We have welcomed a new member to the Garden Fields team! We are proud to introduce Doodle, our School Dog. Doodle is a Coton Noodle (a Coton de Tulear and Miniature Poodle cross). We chose this breed because of its hypoallergenic coat, fun-loving and playful nature. Coton Noodles are smart, sweet-natured and very responsive to training; they thrive having people around.

We are always mindful of wellbeing at Garden Fields and Doodle will be introduced to the school very gently, both for her wellbeing and that of the children. We have attached a letter explaining more and it includes a link to a google form that we need you to complete, please.



As this is the first newsletter of this half term, I wanted to start with a few reminders which will hopefully help everyone to have a positive half term...





Parking

Sadly, we have received complaints from the school's neighbours regarding inconsiderate parking in the mornings and afternoons, including parking across private driveways. We have also had concerns raised within our Garden Fields community about parents and children not crossing the road with due care and attention which might put themselves, other pedestrians and the drivers of any cars near the school in danger.

We speak to the children regularly about road safety and keeping safe when crossing the road in our assemblies and in our PHSE

lessons. Please can you help us to ensure children have a happy and safe journey into school each morning by considering one of the following:

Walking wherever possible

Not only is this a healthy way to get some exercise, but it supports the local community with congestion. In addition, it is much better for the environment.

Cycling or scooting

We have plenty of spaces to lock a bicycle or scooter inside the school gates.

Car-sharing

Does anybody else live near you? Could you take it in turns to drive in to collect your children to ease the congestion outside the school at key times during the day?

Parking responsibly

If you do need to drive to drop off or collect your child, please park considerately and ensure you are not obstructing drives, garages or access to roads. Please be respectful of our neighbours and remember that parking on zig-zag lines at any time of the day is prohibited.

I know that you will all work with us on this as your children's safety is our main priority and this includes their journey to and from school. We really would appreciate your support in this matter.

Scooters on site

Please dismount at the gate and walk your bike or scooter whilst on site. There should be no children riding on scooters or bikes on the school site. We really need to keep everyone safe. Please remember that any bikes or scooters brought to school are stored outside at the bike rack or scooter park.

Balls

Some children have started to bring balls in from home, there is no need for the children to do this as we have equipment on the playgrounds for them to use.

As always, I am grateful for the support of our parents and community members. Together, we are creating a safe, nurturing and inspiring environment for our children to learn and grow.

Have a lovely weekend,

Ms Palmer and the Garden Fields Team