

NEWINGTON GREEN

NEWSLETTER

04/09/26

ADMIN@NEWINGTONGREEN.CO.UK

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope everyone had a fantastic summer break. It has been wonderful to see the children return to school, and we are delighted to share that the first couple of days have gone extremely well. The children have settled quickly into their new classes and routines, and there has been a real buzz of excitement and learning around the school.

A special welcome to our new reception pupils and their families. We hope the first couple of days have gone well and that your child is happy here.

This year, we are looking to improve our playground and enhance opportunities for imaginative play. We would be very grateful for any donations of dressing-up clothes that your children no longer use. If you have any items you would like to donate, please drop them off at the school office on Friday.

Next week, we will be holding short Meet the Teacher sessions to give you an opportunity to say hello, hear about what the children will be learning this term and how you can support your child at home. Please see the dates section of the newsletter for details. We hope to see many of you there!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

NEW BEHAVIOUR POINTS ON ARBOR

At the start of each school year, we remind children of our behavior expectations and set targets for the year ahead.

This year, we are really focusing on promoting positive behavior across the school. We have introduced our Green Goals, a simple set of behavior expectations designed to help all pupils understand what positive behavior looks like in every area of school.

Our Green Goals include Legendary Lines, Magnificent Manners, Wonderful Walking, and Calm Corridors. You may have already heard the children talking about these at home.

We will be celebrating children who demonstrate these expectations by awarding positive behavior points on Arbor, our communication app.

The infographic adjacent gives you some further information on the points system.

Please ensure that you can access the Arbor app on your phone. Any issues, then please come and speak to a member of the admin team.



REMINDERS:

A very warm welcome to all of our new families joining us this year, and a friendly reminder for those who are already part of our school community. The information below contains some important reminders to help ensure that all children have a happy, safe, and successful year at school.



To help keep all children safe, Newington Green Primary School is a nut-free school.

Please do not include any nuts or products containing nuts in packed lunches or snacks, including peanut butter, chocolate spreads containing nuts, nut bars, or bags of nuts.

We encourage families to provide healthy packed lunches that support children's wellbeing and learning throughout the day.

Thank you for helping us create a safe environment for all pupils, including those with severe allergies.



Our school uniform was designed by the children and is an important part of our school identity. We expect all pupils to wear it with pride.

Uniform includes:

- Green school sweatshirt
- Green school polo shirt
- Black trousers or skirt
- Plain black shoes or trainers
- Black or green socks or tights
- Green checked summer dress (optional)
- Plain black or green headscarf (optional)

PE Kit:

- School PE T-shirt
- Black shorts or black jogging bottoms
- Black trainers or plimsolls

Please note the following items are not permitted in school:

- Shoes with wheels or high heels
- Crocs, sliders or other slip-on sandals
- Large earrings (studs only)
- Hats or headwear worn indoors (unless for religious reasons)
- Necklaces or bracelets (unless for religious or cultural reasons)

Any prohibited items will be removed and returned at the end of the school day.



To minimise distractions and avoid items being lost or damaged, children should not bring toys or other personal items into school.

Any items brought into school may be collected by the class teacher and returned to the child at the end of the day.

Please Note: Squishies

Many squishy toys have recently been subject to safety recalls and health concerns. For this reason, squishies should not be brought into school.

The only exception is where a squishy forms part of a child's support plan or where arrangements have been agreed in advance with a teacher or member of the pastoral team. Any unauthorised squishies will be removed and returned at the end of the day.



The DfE have now issued statutory guidance, which schools must follow from 1st September, which states that schools should be mobile free environments.

We recognize that some older students may require a mobile phone for their commute to and from school.

Key Guidelines:

- All mobile phones **must** be submitted to a staff member or the school office upon arrival.
- Phones should be collected at the end of the school day.
- Devices must remain switched off while on school grounds.

Additionally, the use of mobile phones by adults, including parents, is not permitted in the presence of children.

FOOD MENUS FOR THIS TERM

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?					
WEEK 1					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN (OPTION 1)	Tomato, Basil and Cherry Tomatoes Pasta WHEAT (GLUTEN)	Chicken Biryani SULPHITES, MILK	Fresh Tomato & Mozzarella Pizza WHEAT (GLUTEN), CELERY, SULPHITES & MILK	Spaghetti Bolognese GLUTEN & SULPHITES	Slow-Cooked Honey BBQ Chicken SULPHITES, SOYA
MAIN (OPTION 2)	Tomato Red Rice with sweetcorn, spring onions and parsley WHEAT (GLUTEN), FISH & SULPHITES	Chickpeas and Veg Biryani SOYA, SULPHITES, MILK	Pizza with Mushrooms	Lentils Bolognese GLUTEN & SULPHITES	Honey BBQ Halloumi and Butter Beans SULPHITES & DAIRY
SIDES Where main includes, portion will be offered as optional extra	Focaccia WHEAT (GLUTEN)	Golden Basmati Rice WHEAT (GLUTEN) Mint, Cucumber and Yogurt Sauce MILK	Warm Couscous with Parsley WHEAT (GLUTEN)	Bread GLUTEN	Long Grain Rice
VEGETABLES	Hearty Fine Beans Grilled Aubergine and Spinach salad Green Olives SULPHITES	Sweetcorn and Roasted Peppers SULPHITES	Lettuce and Tomato salad Mushrooms, herbs and roasted onions SULPHITES	Green Beans Broccoli and Cauliflower Black Olives SULPHITES	Roasted Carrots and Garden Peas Tomato, Red Onions and Cucumber Salad
EXTRAS	Monday/Tuesday/Thursday = Yoghurt with Fruit Compote or Homemade Smoothie Wednesday = Banana Cakes w/ Caramel Sauce GLUTEN (WHEAT) Friday = Fruit Salad GLUTEN (WHEAT), EGGS All meats and poultry served in our school are Halal Week 1 Menu starting the 2nd, 14th and 28th September, 5th and 19th October 2026				

Wherever possible, all food is homemade on site from local, British ingredients. Allergen free options will always be available

WHAT'S FOR BREAKFAST/ AFTER SCHOOL CLUB?					WEEK 1
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKFAST CLUB	Toasted Crumpets with Butter GLUTEN (WHEAT)	Sunny Side Egg on Toast GLUTEN (WHEAT), EGG	Top Your Own Porridge Bar GLUTEN (WHEAT), SULPHITES & MILK	School Made Banana Bread GLUTEN (WHEAT), MILK	French Toast with Sliced Banana & Honey GLUTEN (WHEAT), EGG & MILK
AFTER SCHOOL CLUB	Baked Potato with Baked Beans, Cheese & Roasted Carrots MILK & SULPHITES	Tomato Sauce Pasta, Cheese, Fine Green Beans GLUTEN, SULPHITES	Diced Chicken Stew SULPHITES & MILK or Chickpeas and Veg Stew SULPHITES Rice and Sweetcorn	Hidden Veg Pizza, Potato Wedges, Tomato and Basil Salad GLUTEN (WHEAT), CELERY, MILK & SULPHITES	Chicken Hot Dogs or Veg Hot Dogs, Vegetables GLUTEN (WHEAT), SOYA, SULPHITES, EGG
EXTRA	Breakfast is served with a selection of cereals, toast, fresh fruit, and yoghurt After school club meals are served alongside fresh fruit and salad or vegetables All meats and poultry served in our school are Halal Week 1 Menu starting the 2nd, 14th and 28th September, 5th and 19th October 2026				

Wherever possible, all food is homemade on site from local, British ingredients. Allergen free options will always be available

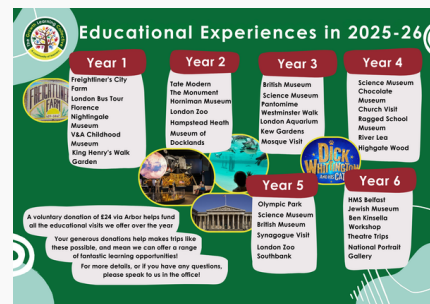
WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?					
WEEK 2					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN (OPTION 1)	Italian Pasta 'al Pomodoro' GLUTEN, SULPHITES	Singapore Stir-Fried Chicken SULPHITES	Tomato Mac 'N' Cheese CELERY, SULPHITES, GLUTEN AND MILK	Chicken Sausages SULPHITES, WHEAT	Fish & Chips WHEAT (GLUTEN)
MAIN (OPTION 2)	Bibb's Tuna Bake MILK, SULPHITES, FISH, GLUTEN	Singapore Stir-Fried Veg SULPHITES	Paninis Pasta with Cherry Tomatoes, Herbs and Lemon Sauce GLUTEN, CRUSTACEANS	VEG SAUSAGES WHEAT, SULPHITES	Feta (or Lentils) & Peas Fillers MILK
SIDES Where main includes, portion will be offered as optional extra	SB/BB Baguette WHEAT (GLUTEN)	Yellow Noodles GLUTEN	Wholemeal Bread GLUTEN	Mashed Potato MILK Gravy SULPHITES	Chips Tartare Sauce Homemade Ketchup SULPHITES
VEGETABLES	Sweetcorn and Spinach Salad Chef's Special Veg	Carrots and Green Beans Soy Sauce Pak-Choi and Bell Peppers Salad SOYA	Mixed Leaves and Cucumber Salad Olives and Sun-Dried Tomatoes Mix	Roasted Carrots and Herbs	Garden Peas with Butter Cauliflower with Garlic and Chilli Flakes
EXTRAS	Fresh Fruit Platter and Greek Yoghurt/Smoothie with Fruit Compote Available Daily Wednesday = Apple Cakes with Lemon WHEAT (GLUTEN) Friday = Fruit Cake WHEAT (GLUTEN), EGGS All meats and poultry served in our school are Halal Week 2 Menu starting 7th and 21st September, 5th and 19th October 2026				

Wherever possible, all food is homemade on site from local, British ingredients. Allergen free options will always be available

WHAT'S FOR BREAKFAST/ AFTER SCHOOL CLUB?					WEEK 2
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKFAST CLUB	Scrambled Eggs EGG	Blueberry Muffins GLUTEN (WHEAT), GLUTEN, MILK	Top Your Own Porridge Bar GLUTEN (WHEAT), SULPHITES & MILK	Eggs and Baked Beans on Toast EGG, GLUTEN, MILK	Pancakes with Berries & Honey GLUTEN (WHEAT), EGG & MILK
AFTERSCHOOL CLUB	Pitta Pizza, Celery Sticks & Cucumber GLUTEN (WHEAT), CELERY, SULPHITES & MILK	Baked Potato with Cheese & Beans, Sweetcorn MILK & SULPHITES	Chicken or Veg Curry, Rice & Roasted Carrots GLUTEN (WHEAT), MUSTARD, SOYA & SULPHITES	Tomato Pasta with grated cheese and Vegetables GLUTEN (WHEAT), MILK, SULPHITES	Selection of Sandwiches, Fruits, Crudites or Roasted Veg GLUTEN (WHEAT), SOYA, FISH, MILK
EXTRA	Breakfast is served with a selection of cereals, toast, fresh fruit, and yoghurt After school club meals are served alongside fresh fruit and salad or vegetables All meats and poultry served in our school are Halal Week 2 Menu starting 7th and 21st September, 5th and 19th October 2026				

Wherever possible, all food is homemade on site from local, British ingredients. Allergen free options will always be available

- **Individual photos (Whole school)** Tuesday 8th of September
- **Year 6 parent meeting** Tuesday 8th of September @ 3.15pm
- **Year 1 & Year 2 parent meeting** Wednesday 9th of September @3.15pm
- **Nursery & Reception parent meeting** Thursday 10th of September @3.15pm
- **Year 3 & Year 4 parent meeting** Friday 11th of September @3.15pm
- **Year 5 parent meeting** Thursday 17th of September @3.15pm
- **Year 6 trip to HMS Belfast** Thursday 17th of September
- **Inset day (Children **Not** to attend school)** Friday 2nd of October
- **Half Term holiday** Monday 26th of October - Friday 30th of October
- **Inset day (Children **Not** to attend school)** Monday 2nd of November



Every minute of learning counts. School gates open at 8:45am, and children should be in class and ready to learn by 8:55am. The gates close promptly at 9:00am.

Children arriving after 9:00am are recorded as late. Repeated lateness can have a significant impact on learning. Just five minutes late each day can add up to approximately three days of lost learning across the school year.

Please see our punctuality pyramid for further information.

Parents and carers are reminded that holidays and travel during term time will not normally be authorised. Leave of absence can only be granted in exceptional circumstances and requests must be made in advance.

Unauthorised absence may result in a penalty notice being issued by the Local Authority.

Please read the Term Time Leave letter for further information.



Where a child is absent through illness for more than three consecutive days, the school may request medical evidence. This can include confirmation of a GP appointment, clinic attendance, or other evidence from a healthcare professional.

If families are experiencing difficulties accessing medical services or need support, please speak to the school and we will be happy to help.

Please read the adjacent letter for further information.

Do you qualify for free school meals (FSM) status. Anyone who hasn't applied or whose circumstances may have changed please apply on Islington's Citizen portal to see if you are eligible. [Free school meals](#) | Islington Council

SUPPORT WITH CHILDCARE

If you are a working parent and require help with Childcare please use the links to see what help is available.

Eligibility checker | Best Start in Life

Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK

Free Childcare for Working Parents: Overview - GOV.UK

Newington Green Primary School

Matthias Road, London N16 8NP
Tel: 020 7254 3092 Fax: 020 7275 9061
Email: admin@newingtongreen.co.uk / Website: www.newingtongreen.co.uk
Executive Headteacher: Paul Thomas
Head of School: Mairead McDonnell

Important Notice for Parents and Carers

RE: TERM TIME LEAVE, UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE AND MEDICAL ABSENCE

Dear Parent/Carer

Along with all sibling schools, Newington Green Primary has a legal duty to ensure that pupils' attendance is as good as possible, and to investigate all absence so that the reasons are fully understood. Regular attendance is essential in ensuring that every child receives the education and care they are entitled to.

We are pleased to see that attendance at Newington Green Primary has been improving, and we are grateful to the many parents and carers who consistently support the school by ensuring their children are present and punctual every day.

However, one of the most frequent causes of absence continues to be unauthorised holidays and leave during term time, including travel abroad. These absences most commonly occur at the beginning or end of each term, and they significantly disrupt children's learning.

Please be reminded that it is against the law for parents or carers to take children out of school for holidays or other unauthorised leave during term time. Leave can only be granted in exceptional circumstances, in line with Islington guidance. Please note that exceptional circumstances do not typically include travelling abroad to visit sick relatives. Any requests for leave must be made in advance and will be considered on an individual basis.

We strongly advise parents not to book holidays, travel, or flights during term time under any circumstances. The school will closely review all absence requests, and where applicable, consider any evidence submitted regarding exceptional circumstances. Parents who choose to take unauthorised leave, including overseas travel, may be issued with a warning and a penalty notice by the Local Authority of £80 (rising to £160 if unpaid on time) per parent per student.

In addition, please be aware of our strengthened procedures regarding illness. The school will not authorise illness-related absences lasting more than three days unless medical evidence is provided by a healthcare professional.

Acceptable forms of evidence include:

- A medical certificate or sick note (if issued), or
- A printout from the clinic or GP reception confirming the date of your child's appointment or visit

If you are unable to secure a medical appointment or leave your property, please inform the school. In these cases, we can arrange a home visit from our safeguarding team to support you and verify your child's wellbeing.

Our aim is to avoid any parent or carer being placed in a position where penalty notices or attendance actions become necessary. This letter is to ensure that all families are fully aware of the rules and expectations around attendance, term-time leave, and illness evidence requirements.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to discuss any part of this letter with a member of staff, please contact the school office or email the school and a member of staff will contact you back at your preferred time.

Yours sincerely,
Safeguarding Team
Newington Green Primary School