

NEWINGTON GREEN

NEWSLETTER

19/09/25

ADMIN@NEWINGTONGREEN.CO.UK

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your cooperation and patience this week as we all get used to using the new entrance. Feedback has been very positive overall, with many parents sharing how much safer it is for the children to come in Auriga Mews instead of Matthias Road.

Like anything new, there have been some issues to work through which the team have been working on. However, some things are out of our control, e.g. parking in the area. If you have to drive to school, then please ensure that you do not block access for local residents or disabled parking bays and be respectful of our neighbours. Please be aware that the house on Auriga Mews is private property and children or adults should not be on their property during drop off or collection.

We kindly ask that all communication with the school and around the school is calm, respectful, and aligned with our school values. The vast majority of communication and interactions with parents is great but sadly, some staff and local residents have reported being shouted at by parents when they are frustrated. We do ask that everyone remembers that this is our place of work and all staff deserve to be treated kindly and with respect, whatever concerns you might have. If we get something wrong, then do tell us! We are a friendly and approachable team who are always willing to listen and want to make this school the very best for your children.

It was wonderful to end the week on a sunny note and a successful event to celebrate World Car Free day and the first week of our new entrance and school street.

MESSAGE FROM CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Hello Newington Green community!

My name is Thora Eberts and I am the new Chair of Governors for the Growth Learning Collective. In my role, I have the honour and privilege of working alongside the governing body and senior leadership team to ensure our federation, and Newington Green School, continues to be a place where children learn, thrive and grow. As a Newington Green parent myself, I feel a deep personal connection to our school community and am so chuffed that I get to play a small part alongside Paul, Mairead and Nia to make Newington Green and Rotherfield a great place to go to school.



Every member of the governing body is a volunteer who gives their time freely to support the federation. Parental support is also so important to our school community, and the PTA, past and present, has been doing a fantastic job creatively fundraising for Newington Green to provide further resources for our children. Being part of the PTA makes a real difference to our school, so if any parents or carers reading this newsletter are thinking, 'how can I help make my child's school an even better place to learn?' join the PTA! Everyone is welcome and all volunteers can make a valuable contribution. And if you like organising, we need you! If you'd like to find out more or get involved in the PTA, contact friendsofnewingtongreen@gmail.com.

Here's to a fantastic school year full of learning for our children!

Best wishes,

Thora



NEWINGTON GREEN

SCHOOL COUNCILS FIRST MEETING

This week, our Student Council held its very first meeting of the year. We met with Sandra to talk about one of our school's key goals: attendance. Our weekly target is 96%, and together we discussed fun ways to help everyone reach it. One idea the group loved was introducing a special reward: if we hit the 96% target, the whole school will enjoy a sweet treat at lunchtime! Our Head Boy, Malakai, took on the important role of persuading Mairead and Tiago to agree. He did such a fantastic job that they both said yes! Our very first reward will be chocolate chip cookies with ice cream and chocolate sauce.

Now, we need your help! Families can support us by making sure children come to school on time every day. Let's work together to reach 96% and enjoy that delicious dessert!



MEET THE RIGHTS CHAMPIONS AND OUR NEW SCHOOL COUNCIL



ATTENDANCE AND U CODES

In last week's newsletter, we shared that as part of our whole-school improvement strategy, every PA pupil (under 90% attendance) will now have an individualised attendance plan. Our team will be contacting parents and carers throughout this month to arrange meetings and ensure that these plans are in place.

While reviewing attendance data for these plans, we noticed a worrying trend: a significant number of days lost due to U codes.

What is a U Code?

A U code is used when a child arrives after the register closes at 9:30 AM. When this happens, the child is marked as unauthorised absent for the entire morning – equivalent to half a day's absence. This is not just a late mark. It is recorded as a statutory unauthorised absence, which can have serious implications for both attendance percentages and future referrals.

What Does That Look Like Over a Year?

If a child receives just one U code per week, this adds up to: ½ a day per week x 38 weeks = **19 days lost in a year!**

That is nearly four whole school weeks – just from arriving after 9:30 once a week.

U CODES – WHAT THEY MEAN

Arrive after the register closes (9:30 am) → U code

U code = unauthorised absence for the whole morning (½ day)

1 U code a week = 19 school days of learning lost a year

NEWINGTON GREEN

THE COOKING CLUB IS BACK!

We are very happy to welcome back our Cooking Club for children in Years 1 to 3. This term, our young chefs are rolling up their sleeves and learning how to make delicious food in a fun, healthy way!

For our first lesson we had a vibrant wholemeal pizza recipe. The children mixed their own dough, spread a tomato sauce packed with hidden vegetables (including carrots, butternut squash and cauliflower), and topped their creations with colourful peppers, basil, mushrooms, red onions, and cheese from British farms.

The kitchen was full of energy and creativity as the children worked together, tried new ingredients, and discovered that cooking isn't only about preparing food—it's also about caring for our space by cleaning and tidying up as a team.

The school has made an investment on new kitchen appliances and equipment, so the pupils have tools that fit their very own size, helping with motor coordination and balance.

We're so proud of their enthusiasm and teamwork, and we can't wait to share more of their cooking adventures with you this term!



LET'S TALK ABOUT HEALTHY PACKED LUNCHES

As we are in the process of updating our packed lunch policy across the federation, Chef Tiago will visit all classes next week to have a chat with the children about how we can make better and healthier choices when it comes to lunch boxes. Tiago's visits are part of the effort to improve children's health following the guidelines of NHS and UK's government standards for food in schools.

We are a Bronze Healthy School and we aim to gain the Silver Award this year through this piece of work. A healthy packed lunch is better for concentration, learning and well being.

Tiago recommends the NHS website link listed below for some great recipes and very useful tips on how to prepare fast, healthy and budget-friendly lunch boxes.

[Lunchbox ideas and recipes – Healthier Families - NHS](#)



NEWINGTON GREEN

YEAR 6 TRIP TO HMS BELFAST

This week, our Year 6 pupils visited HMS Belfast as part of their World War II history topic. The ship, which played a vital role in the D-Day landings and the Arctic convoys, offered a powerful insight into life during wartime.

Children explored the decks, engine rooms, and crew quarters, gaining a real sense of what it was like to live and work on board a Royal Navy warship.

This immersive experience helped bring their classroom learning to life and deepened their understanding of how World War II affected people both at sea and on the home front.



BREAKFAST CLUB OFFER AT NG

We are incredibly lucky at Newington Green to have such a fantastic Breakfast Club offer available to our children and families. Every morning, our amazing team – led by the wonderful Lisa – welcomes pupils with warmth, care, and a big smile.

Children enjoy a freshly cooked breakfast prepared by Tiago and the kitchen team, with healthy and tasty options to fuel them for the day ahead. Whether it is toast, cereal, or something warm and filling, there is always something delicious on offer.

Have a look at some of the lovely moments captured this week in the photos below. A huge thank you to Lisa, Tiago, and the whole team for creating such a positive and nurturing start to the day for our children.



NEWINGTON GREEN

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Flu Vaccine, 1st visit - Reception to Yr 6** Tuesday 23rd September
- **Year 3 Science Museum trip** Friday 26th of September
- **Year 4 Science Museum trip** Thursday 1st of October
- **Last day of term** Friday 24th October.
- **Pupils return to school** Tuesday 4th of November

To access the school calendar click [here](#).

For a full list of term dates for the academic year please click [here](#).

STARS OF THE WEEK

Year 1 - Oliver and Alisha

Year 2 - Amelia K and muhammad

Year 3 - Ramzi and Ameera

Year 4 - Evie and Amaya

Year 5 - Yohan and Kailand

Year 6 - Amanda and Yaren



BREAKFAST CLUB

Newington Green Primary School Breakfast Club Plan for week beginning 22.09.2025				
Staff who will be working of Breakfast Club: Lead: Lisa B Playworkers: Asmie & Syrus				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!
Arts and Craft Woolen Flower Making	Maths Activities Odd and Even Numbers	Literacy activities Different Countries Within Europe Crossword	EYFS Focus My Family Tree	Free choice artistry area, colouring, sticking, crafting, etc.
Legot Board games Giant Jigsaw Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legot Board games Giant Jigsaw Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legot Board games Giant Jigsaw Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legot Board games Giant Jigsaw Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legot Board games Giant Jigsaw Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts
Adaptations Small groups of children will participate in activities with adult supervision to gain access and support where needed Menu: Weetabix, Rice Krispies, and Cornflakes. Hot food will be one of the following: Pancakes with syrup, bagel with scrambled eggs, beans on toast and toast/ crumpets with jam & English muffins				

AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

Newington Green Primary School After School Club Plan for week beginning 22.09.2025				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Board and/or card Games	Board and/or card Games	Board and/or card Games	Board and/or card Games	Board and/or card Games
Communication and construction	Construction area - Giant Jenga	Giant Floor Puzzles	Construction-Lego	Construction area - Doll houses
Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles
Communication & Language	Make time with Sannah Fine Motor Skills	Ball Games - Gross Motor Skills	Papercraft Self-Expression	Sensory Play Fine Motor Skills
Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

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 Citizens 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](#)

ATTENDANCE STATS

Whole school attendance this year: **92.8%**

Statutory school attendance: **93%**

National average this year: **95.5%**

Sycamore	96.70%
Mulberry	96.30%
Maple	95.80%
Holly	95.70%
Silverbirch	95.70%
Cedar	94.70%
Willow	93.30%
Rowan	92.50%
Beech	92.30%
Elm	92.30%
Oak	91.50%
Palm	91.00%
Pine	90.00%
Ash	89.00%
Apple	87.20%
Cherry	77.50%

Well done Sycamore and Mulberry who will be receiving a Popcorn Party!