

NEWINGTON GREEN

NEWSLETTER

13/02/26

ADMIN@NEWINGTONGREEN.CO.UK

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy half term at Newington Green and our children have engaged positively in their learning and enrichment activities. This week, we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week. Each class had a session to talk about how we can look after our mental health and strategies to support with this. Today, we had a non uniform day, with contributions going towards resources for pupil well being.

Tuesday was Safer Internet Day, an important opportunity to teach children how to stay safe, responsible, and thoughtful online. Through discussions and activities, pupils explored how to make positive choices when using technology. Our Year 6 pupils had a talk from two officers from the Safer Schools Team at the Met Police, who reiterated the message about being safe online.

Continuing on the topic of online safety and phones, just a reminder to parents and carers that we want our playground to be a mobile free zone. Drop off and collection should be a time for conversation between adults and children. Research consistently shows that the first and last interactions of the day play an important role in children's emotional wellbeing.

As the NSPCC notes, regular, open conversations help children feel safer and more able to share worries if they arise. Similarly, the Education Endowment Foundation highlights the impact of everyday talk on children's communication and self-esteem.

Wishing all our children and families a restful and happy half-term break. Children return to school on Tuesday 24th February.

YEAR 1 PARENTS' MORNING – MARY SEACOLE

Year 1 were thrilled to welcome parents and carers into class to share their beautiful books about Mary Seacole. The children proudly showcased their writing and illustrations, demonstrating their learning about her bravery and the important role she played in history. We are very proud of their hard work and confidence.



COOKING CLUB ACHIEVEMENTS

Children have rolled their sleeves up and worked hard this half term in the cooking club.

They learned how to crack an egg and to cook pasta from scratch. From doing a simple cookie to an amazing pizza dough - stretched perfectly by themselves.

Children also learned about food and safety, knife skills and how food can impact the environment. They have improved their motor coordination by flipping pancakes at the same time they were holding a bowl and a ladle for the batches they prepared. Everything made using seasonal and local products! From the eggs to the milk!

It has been a lovely half term, full of apprenticeship and fun, while caring about the world we live in.

Well done, cooking club!



YEAR 4 DT LESSON WITH TIAGO

Rowan and Willow classes had a fantastic time baking with Tiago, as part of their Design and Technology unit. The children made delicious breakfast muffins, carefully measuring ingredients and learning new food preparation skills. The classrooms were filled with wonderful smells, and the finished muffins were a great success. Well done, Year 4.




MILDMAY LIBRARY PETITION

Parents and carers are invited to support a local petition calling for improvements to Mildmay Library, including better facilities for families and young people, longer opening hours and improved community spaces. Please click [here](#) to find out more or add your support.

change.org My petitions Subscription Search Start a petition Log in

Improve Mildmay Library for families, young people and the community.



88⁺
Verified signatures

Sign this petition

First name

Last name

Email

Slingshot, N1
United Kingdom

RAMADAN MUBARAK


We would like to wish all our families observing Ramadan a peaceful and blessed month. If your child will be fasting, please email the school to let us know so that we can support them appropriately during the school day.



PAIRED READING WORKSHOP

Paired Reading Workshop

Friday 6th March
9:30am-10:30am



with **Dr Lottie Devey Smith**
(Educational Psychologist)

What is Paired Reading?

Paired Reading is a collaborative reading technique where parents and children read together to improve literacy skills and foster a love for reading.

What to Expect

It will be an interactive session with practical tips. I will share some information about how children learn to read and how we can use paired reading to support

Why Attend?

- Enhance Reading Skills: Learn a way of supporting your child's reading development.
- Build Confidence: Help your child become a more confident reader.
- Strengthen Bond: Enjoy quality time and strengthen your relationship

THIS WEEK'S BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Books Worth Sharing

This week Hannah, Beech Tree's class teacher, is giving us her book recommendation.

Title: *The Cat Book* by Silvia Borando


★★★★★

Recommended for children aged: 3 - 5years old or 5 - 7years

Hannah thinks everyone should read this book because... It is interactive and the pages of the book come to life as children follow instructions about how to look after their pet cat. All the children I have shared this book with have found it very funny and love to follow the actions.

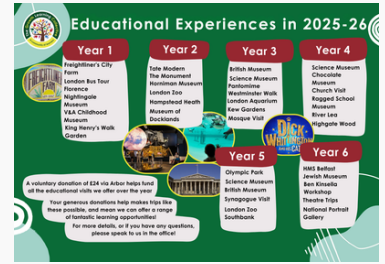
You will enjoy this book if you are ... a reader who enjoys humour and funny stories, fantasy stories set in imaginative worlds and readers who enjoy bright and colourful illustrations.

This book is best... for shared reading.



IMPORTANT DATES

- **World Book Day 2026 (dress-up)** Thursday 5th March
- **Parent Reading Morning** Friday 6th March
- **Parent Reading Workshop with Lottie (EP)** Friday 6th March: 9.30am - 10.00am



STARS OF THE WEEK

- Year 1** - Elena and Rayhan
- Year 2** - Caysey and Michele
- Year 3** - Haimi and Angelica
- Year 4** - Mohamed N and Eleni
- Year 5** - Cienna and Zeynep
- Year 6** - Khalila and Ted

ATTENDANCE STATS

- Whole school attendance this year: 95.5%**
- Statutory school attendance: 94.8%**
- This week's average: 94.3%**
- National average this year: 94.6%**

Newington Green Primary School

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 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 Islington 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 a mutually agreeable time.

Yours sincerely,

Newington Green Primary School

GOOD ATTENDANCE
 MEANS BEING IN SCHOOL AT LEAST 94% OF THE TIME... OR HAVING NO MORE THAN 8 DAYS OFF!

0 DAYS ABSENCE (100% ATTENDANCE)
 MORE TIME IN SCHOOL MEANS MORE TIME TO LEARN, DEVELOP & GROW!

8 DAYS ABSENCE (96% ATTENDANCE)
 LESS TIME IN SCHOOL MEANS LESS TIME TO BECOME THE VERY BEST YOU!

19 DAYS ABSENCE (90% ATTENDANCE)

29 DAYS ABSENCE (85% ATTENDANCE)

38 DAYS ABSENCE (80% ATTENDANCE)
 POOR ATTENDANCE MEANS DRASTICALLY REDUCED LIFE CHANCES!

47 DAYS ABSENCE (75% ATTENDANCE)

EDUCATION + ATTENDANCE + EFFORT = ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES!

Don't book appointments during school time!