



Anston Greenlands Primary School



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dates for your diary

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| September | |
| Thursday 11 th | Y4 swimming begins |
| Monday 15 th | Y6 visit to Dinnington High School (morning) |
| WB 22 nd | Y5/6 Residential visit to PGL Dearne Valley |
| Monday 29 th | Flu vaccinations (nasal spray) for children |
| October | |
| Tuesday 14 th | Y6 visit to Crucial Crew |
| Thursday 16 th | Y3 & Y4 visit to Murton Park |
| Friday 24 th | INSET day – school closed to children (half term holiday follows) |
| November | |
| Monday 3 rd | First day back at school |
| Monday 10 th | Y5 & Y6 visit to Gainsborough Old Hall |
| Wednesday 19 th | Parents' evening |
| Thursday 20 th | Parents' evening |
| December | |
| Wednesday 10 th | Infant Nativity (afternoon) |
| Thursday 11 th | Infant Nativity (afternoon) |
| Tuesday 16 th | Y5 and Y6 Christmas Party (afternoon) |
| Wednesday 17 th | Junior Coffee Morning – A Greenlands Christmas Carol (morning) |
| | Infant Christmas Party (afternoon) |
| Thursday 18 th | Y3 & Y4 Christmas Party (afternoon) |
| Friday 19 th | Last day of school – 2pm finish – Christmas holiday follows |
| January 2026 | |
| Monday 5 th | First day back at school |
| 19 th – 21 st | Bikeability (Y5) |
| February | |
| Friday 13 th | Last day of school – half term holiday follows |
| Monday 23 rd | First day back at school |
| March | |
| Friday 27 th | Last day of school – Easter holiday follows |
| April | |
| Monday 13 th | First day back at school |
| Tuesday 21 st | Parents' evening |
| Wednesday 22 nd | Parents' evening |



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| May Monday 4 th Friday 22 nd | Bank holiday – school closed Last day of school – half term holiday follows |
| June Monday 1 st Tuesday 2 nd Wednesday 24 th Tuesday 30 th | INSET day – school closed to children First day back at school Sports Day (weather dependent) Moving-up morning |
| July Friday 17 th Monday 20 th | Last day of school – 2pm finish – summer holiday follows INSET day – school closed to children |

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to all of our children and families, and welcome for the first time to our new starts in Wrens! We are delighted to have you with us. I hope you've all had a lovely summer. Our first few days at school have started well and there's a very positive feeling around school; all of the children seem to be enjoying their new classes already!

We have a few reminders to start with, including some useful things for our new parents to know. Don't forget to make a note of key dates like INSET days, parents' evenings, Christmas performances and Sports Day from the list above. As any new dates are added through the year, they will be highlighted to make sure you don't miss anything.

Non-uniform days

A reminder that the last day of each half-term is non-uniform. We ask for a voluntary donation of £1 per family on these days, which goes to school funds to help us buy resources to support learning.

Uniform Swap Shop / Second Hand Uniform

If you need to supplement your child's uniform at any point this year, please consider our second hand uniform shop! This can be found on the school website or in school. We encourage our families to buy second hand where possible, for three reasons:

- 1) **It's better for your wallet** – items range from £1.50 to £3.00
- 2) **It's better for the planet** – the clothing industry is accountable for about 8-10% of global carbon emissions and 20% of the world's waste water. It might not seem like a big thing, but buying second hand uniform would be a change for the better
- 3) **It's better for school** – we don't make any profit at all on new uniform. Although we don't charge much for second hand items, the money we raise will help us buy resources like books; every penny we make will be spent on our children's education.

This year, we will once again be running our Uniform Swap Shop during the last week in July. This is the perfect chance to get uniform for the following year, for free! By popular demand, we are also aiming to bring back our World Book Day costume shop – we will be in touch about this closer to the time.

School Shoes

Following the reminders at the end of last year, please remember that our uniform (for non-PE days) is **black shoes or trainers**, and that we do ask for children not to wear brightly coloured trainers. This may seem like an arbitrary request, but in the past we've found that it can lead to unkind comments between children if some come in expensive / name brand trainers and others don't. Easier all round if we keep things simple and stick to plain black! Thank you for your support with this.

Lockdown Drills

Over the course of this year, the children will be taking part in occasional “lockdown drills”, in line with national guidance. These work in a similar way to fire drills, but with a different response from staff and children. I’m sure that, like me, many of you will feel some sadness that such a thing has to be part of primary education, but given events in Sheffield last year, it is only prudent that schools have procedures in place. Please be assured that such drills are completed in a way that does not cause distress to children. Indeed, our younger children complete them as a ‘game’ so as to avoid any upset.

Sports Day

Advance notice for new parents! When Sports Day comes around, we’ll ask the children to wear a t-shirt in their team colour. This is of course a long way off, but better to know now than it be a surprise! Please don’t worry if you don’t have one, however – we’ll have bibs available if necessary.

Trim Trail reminder

We would appreciate your support in not allowing children to use the playground equipment before and after school. There are two reasons for this: firstly, there are some issues around liability when children are using school equipment but are unsupervised by school staff. Secondly, the children in After School Club access this equipment, but are unable to do so until children and parents have left the site. We also ask that children do not enter the forest area outside school time. We regularly speak to the children about this but thought it might be useful to send a reminder to parents too! Thank you for your support with this.

Healthy Snacks

It’s been a while since we’ve had a really big push on healthy eating across school, but after noticing some of the snacks that have crept in over break times, we’ve decided to give it a fresh focus this year! To support our application to renew our Health Schools status, we’d like to ask families to carefully consider the snacks that children bring to school. Fruit is of course perfect – we also recommend items like breadsticks, crackers and healthy bars. **Please note that crisps and chocolate bars are still not allowed as snacks.** We’ll be enforcing this more rigorously this year so please don’t send these items for break time. Such items are allowed as part of a balanced packed lunch. Remember that children in the infants have access to free fruit, and in the juniors our healthy tuck shop is always an option too! Prices for this range from 20p to 40p.

Attendance Certificates

Those of you with older children (and long memories!) will remember that we used to give out certificates for children with 100% attendance. These were stopped during Covid, but we’ll now be reintroducing them, as an added incentive for children to keep their attendance high. Certificates will be given termly, with a special certificate for those children who come to school every day for the entire year!

New Homework Software

Keep your eyes peeled for Doodle, a new homework system we’ll be launching very soon. This interactive software is designed to make short-burst maths homework fun and effective. It cleverly tracks children’s learning and helps them target areas that need a little more support, without it feeling like a chore. We will be sending more information about this very soon – watch this space!

Breakfast and After School Club Pricing

A reminder that club fees have increased slightly, to £3.00 for Breakfast Club (an increase of 10p) and to £8.40 in After School Club (an increase of 20p). This change is in line with rising costs.

INSET dates for next year

Here are our remaining INSET days for 2025-26. Please note that school will be closed to children on these dates:

24th Oct
1st June
20th July

The Green Pages!

Welcome to The Green Pages – a small business directory for our school community!

We are always looking for ways to support the school community, so we thought we'd try a new idea in our newsletters. Do you have your own small business? Perhaps you're a self-employed builder, electrician, accountant, web designer or plumber? If you work for yourself and offer a service that might be of use to other families at school, we'd love to support you by including your details at the end of the newsletter. This simple directory (like the Yellow Pages, for those who remember it!) is completely free and provides a network of local tradespeople and small businesses, which we hope will be useful for the school community.

The following businesses are run by family members from our school community. Inclusion in this directory does not constitute an endorsement from school.*

Business name: **Anston Pest Control Ltd.**

Services: **Pest control service - domestic & commercial**

Phone: **07969329396**

Email: admin@anstonpestcontrol.co.uk

Website: www.anstonpestcontrol.co.uk

Business name: **Hanzen Security Solutions**

Services: **Installation and Maintenance of Intruder Alarms and CCTV Systems**

Phone: **07514267539**

Email: joe@hanzensecuritysolutions.com

Website: www.hanzensecuritysolutions.com

If you'd like to be included in the Green Pages, please get in touch! All we ask is that:

- the business is owned by a parent / carer / grandparent of a child at Greenlands;
- you or a family member aren't employed by the school.

If you'd like to be included in our directory (for free!) please email school (AGP-office@nct.ac.uk) with:

- Your business / company name;
- Your child's name (this will **not** be included in the directory – it's just to make sure we only receive entries from people who have children with us!)
- A very brief description of what you do – please note that this is a directory and **not** an advert, so this will simply appear as e.g. electrician, or electrician – rewires, lighting, fuse board installation etc. and will **not** include any other promotional information.
- Your contact details (phone number or email address – please remember that this will be visible to all parents via the newsletter)
- Your website / Checkatrade link or similar, if you have one.

*Disclaimer

The inclusion of any individual business in this list does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. No warranty, representation, or guarantee is given as to the quality, suitability, standards, or services of any listed business. We accept no responsibility or liability for any loss, damage, or inconvenience caused as a result of reliance on any information contained in this list or the actions or omissions of any listed business.