

Message from Miss Baverstock

It has been a great pleasure to welcome all the children back to school for the new academic year. There are changes as always but of course many things remain the same. A key part of our ongoing work is to reinforce the importance of the school values across the school day and throughout our school community.



Assemblies this week have focused on Independence – ‘I think for myself. I grow in confidence. I work things out.’ This of course can be applied to many situations, including looking after belongings, completing work in class, and managing yourself in the lunch hall.

The new academic year is well underway with the termly themes starting, and class assemblies and trips already booked in. Islington’s sporting calendar has arrived and as ever we will sign up for as many tournaments and competitions as possible. Applications for librarians are open and School Councillors will be elected soon.

This newsletter is a big one! It contains lots of information for the beginning of the school year – including information about after school club booking, attendance and effective lines of communication. I hope you find it useful.

Wishing you all a safe and happy weekend – hopefully the rain will stay away!

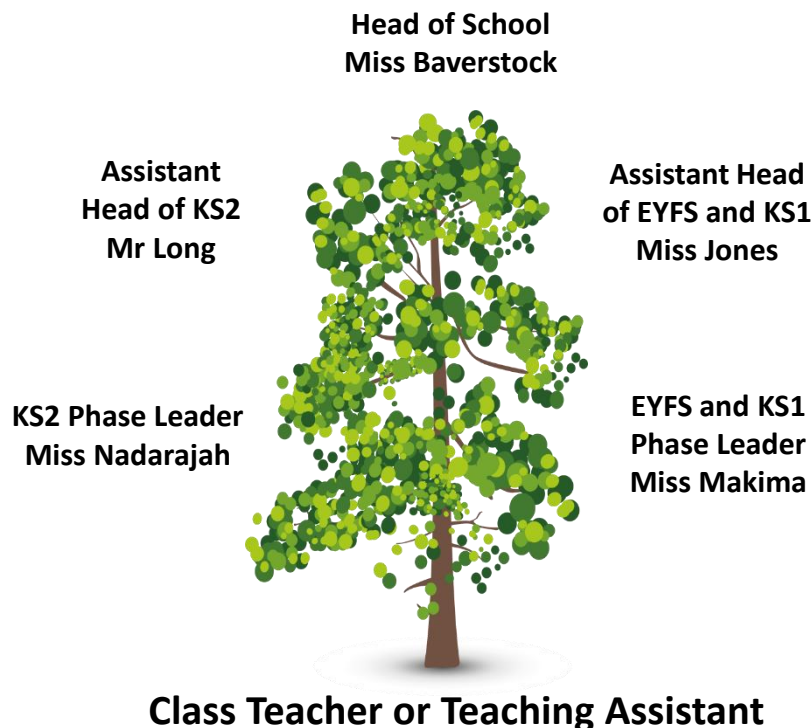
Upcoming events

- Mon 29th Sept Indigo - Natural History Museum
Autumn Cupcake Sale
Year 6 Cardfields Meeting
- Tue 30th Sept Cyan - Natural History Museum
- Wed 1st Oct Violet - Natural History Museum
- Fri 3rd Oct Purple – Spitalfields Farm
- Tues 7th Oct Parent Consultations
Lime - Spitalfields Farm
- Wed 8th Oct Parent Consultations
Orange - Spitalfields Farm
- Thur 9th Oct Flu Vaccine - Reception to Year 6
KS1 Fire Safety workshops
Friends of Hargrave Park – AGM
- w/c 13th Oct Violet Class swimming each day
- Wed 15th Oct Purple Class Assembly
- w/c 20th Oct Year 6 to Cardfields
Purple Class swimming each day
Year 5 – Bikeability
- Wed 22nd Oct Red Class Assembly
- Thur 23rd Oct Spooky and Sparkly Disco!

w/c 27th Oct Half term holiday – school closed

In the Newsletter today:

- P1- Message from Miss Baverstock, dates;
- P2 – Communication;
- P3 – After School Club bookings; making contact with us;
- P4 – A message from our library;
- P5 – Friends of Hargrave Park;
- P6 - Handwriting and Presentation;
- P7 - Attendance Matters;
- P8 – Supporting attendance;
- P9 – school day, term time holidays, fines
- P10 FOHP – looking ahead to the Winter fair
- P11 - Working with families, Bright Start



If you have a concern about your child's learning

Communication begins at the start of the tree with the person who spends the most time with your child - the Class Teacher or Teaching Assistant

If you don't feel like you have been heard you can escalate your concern following the channels on the Communication Tree.

Child Protection

If you would like to speak with someone about a personal situation regarding your family, or any safeguarding matter, please speak with a member of the safeguarding team. The office team can signpost you.

About an Incident that happened whilst in school

You can email parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk or make contact with the office - they will then ask the person who dealt with the incident to contact you.

You can speak with a member of the leadership team in the playground at the beginning or end of the day – they will take appropriate steps to resolve the issue – this may mean passing your query to another member of staff.

How to make contact

You can speak with the Class teacher at the end of the day or by emailing the office parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk

If you wish to speak with the class teacher at the end of the day, please wait for them to dismiss all of the children first.

If you contact the office, the office team will arrange a phone call with the class teacher.

If you don't feel like you have been heard you can escalate your concern following the channels on the Communication Tree.



After School Club bookings through Arbor

After School Club bookings are to be made via the Arbor platform.

The system requires parents/carers to pay up-front for a half-termly booking. Once After School Club is full, Arbor will not allow more bookings for that day. We will not be able to accept more pupils into After School Club on an ad-hoc basis due to staffing capacity. Furthermore, if a parent/carer is in arrears for After School Club, Arbor will not allow a child to be booked in until this has been paid off.

If your child is registered for After School Club, you will still be charged if they don't attend one of their allocated days. The school ensures appropriate staffing based on places booked. If you have booked a place, it will have been staffed accordingly and therefore must be paid, whether used or not.

If you wish to discuss anything or raise any concerns, we are happy to listen and take action. You can:

- send the teacher a message on Tapestry or Seesaw
- speak to a member of staff in the playground in the morning or afternoon
- speak to the teacher at home time
- email parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk

If you would like to raise a concern at the end of the day, please talk to a member of the leadership team on the playground or wait for the teacher to dismiss all children safely.

If you have a concern about the behaviour of a child who is not your own, please speak to a member of staff about it. Do not approach other parents or other people's children directly.

Orange, Lime, Purple, Violet, Cyan and Indigo We are looking for new Pupil Librarians. Applications are now open!

We are looking for pupils who are reliable, careful, friendly, hard-working, love books, enjoy helping people, happy to use computers, understand alphabetical and numerical order, good listeners and communicators. The job would take place on Fridays between 2.50 and 3.20pm and one task during your own library class time.

The job will include:-

- Assisting pupils to use the library and find books they are interested in
- Promoting the library
- Recommending books
- Using the computer to scan in the returned books and shelve those books
- Helping with library displays



Applications forms will be given out during library sessions/ can be collected from the library. Closing date: Friday 19th September

Books can be borrowed from the library to take home. Please remember to look after these books and return them on a Thursday or Friday depending on the scheduled Library day. Thank you



Can you write a story in 500 words or less?
There are two age categories: 5-7 and 8-11 year olds
Write a story you would love to read yourself
Your own original ideas
Be as creative as you can and have fun!
One entry per child



50 finalists will be invited to a star-studded grand final in February 2026 with Her Majesty, Queen Camilla.

Sir Lenny Henry, Malorie Blackman, Francesca Simon, Charlie Higson and Frank Cottrell-Boyce will return to crown the winners.

The prizes:-

The bronze, silver and gold winners will each receive a bundle of books as tall as an adult.

**The gold winner will receive 500 books for their school library
Each of the winning stories will receive a framed illustrated cover produced exclusively by a top children's illustrator.**

Please provide your stories to Mrs Johnstone, the Librarian, by Friday 24th October.

For further information on the competition:-

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

Our Parent and Staff Association

Friends of Hargrave Park School



Want to get in touch? Email us at:
friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com

Every parent and carer of a child at the school, as well as staff, are automatically a member of Friends of Hargrave Park School.

Run by a committee of parent volunteers, we organise events and activities that aim to build the school community and raise funds to help enhance all Hargrave children's experience of school life.

Being part of the committee or becoming a class rep is a great way to get to know other families while supporting the school. You can also get involved through the year helping to support our events and activities.

Hello and welcome back!

We are excited to be back in the swing of school life. Last year, thanks to the generosity of Hargrave families and staff we raised over £3,000 allows us to fund calm corners, breaktime play equipment and subsidises the cost of the coaches to Frinton.

You are invited to our **Annual General Meeting on Thursday 9 October, 4.45-5.15 at the school**. At the meeting you can hear how the money you raise is being spent in the school as well as nominate our committee to run Friends of Hargrave Park. If you would like to get involved and help oversee our year of activity we would love for you to put your name forward and bring new ideas and energy to the group.



Keep your class family informed about school life by becoming a class rep

Class reps give a small amount of their time but play a vital role in our school community. You will mainly be sharing key class dates and school news, as well as information about our events so no family misses out. Please email Mayani on friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com to be a rep.



We have class What's App groups from the baby & toddler rooms to year 6. If you would like to join yours please email friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com and let us know which class group you would like to join.



Upcoming Event Dates for your Diary

Monday 29 September - 3.30-3.45pm
Autumn Cupcake & Uniform Sale

Thursday 9 October - 4.45-5.15pm
Annual General Meeting

Thursday 23 October
Sparkly and Spooky Disco (Y1 - Y5)

Monday 17 November
Winter Cupcake & Uniform Sale

Jolly Jumper Exchange
Dates to be confirmed

Coming up
★ Winter Fair & Santa's Grotto
★ March Reading Challenge
★ Dare to be Different Day



Handwriting and Presentation @ HP

At Hargrave Park, we want children to be proud of their work as this feeling is linked with having confidence in themselves as independent, ambitious learners.

The language of letter formation!
This week's letter is **T**.

V : Down, and up.

V : Start at the top. Go down, and back up to the top.

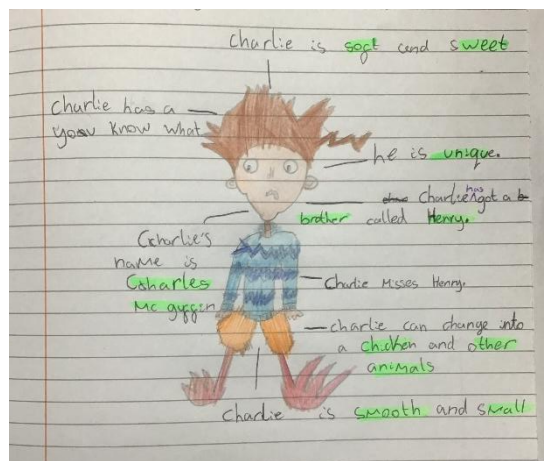
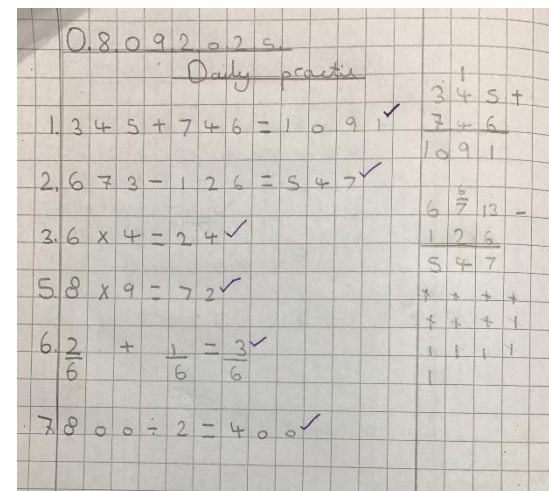
Practice at home!

The school uses the Nelson Handwriting scheme from Oxford Owl. Take a look at the videos below for tips on practice at home and fine motor warm-up exercises. Encourage children to verbalise what they are doing to understand their thought processes as they write.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/oxford-owl-videos/handwriting-videos--1/>

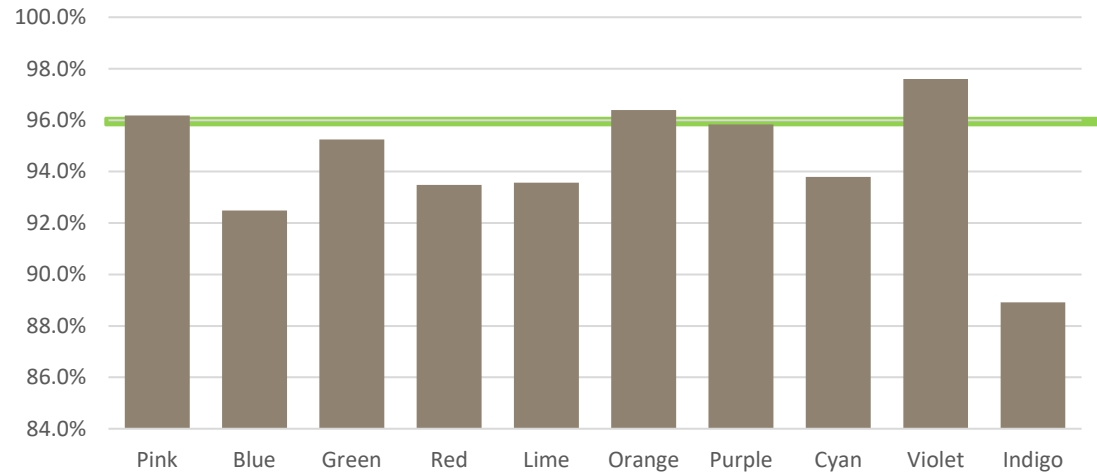
Practicing Presentation!

We are barely a week in and look at what great presentation is being produced already by pupils in Purple Class! Jori's maths is set out exactly as expected and Michelle has added illustration and colour to great effect during a reading lesson.



Attendance Matters

W/C 03/09/25 – 11/09/25



Best Class Attendance this week goes to...

Violet class
They have achieved 97.6% attendance this week.

Since the 3rd September 2025, we have had **52** children arrive late to school.

Already that is **869** lost minutes of learning!
Please try your best in arriving on time to school

Email your appointment letters to:
parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk

If your child is ill, please call the office on 020 7272 3989 choose option 1 to report your child's absence. All calls should be recorded before 8.45am

Islington
Community of Schools



Even when you're very **small**
good attendance makes a

BIG difference!

"Children in the Early Years have little chance of catching up their peers if their attendance is bad."

If they fail to succeed early on in their school careers they are likely to get further behind; disillusionment with education sets in and they become excluded or begin to truant."

Charlie Taylor,
Government's expert advisor
on attendance and behaviour

Regular attendance helps children to:

- Make friends and learn social skills
- Feel settled and happy
- Enjoy their learning
- Benefit from good routines
- Get ready for school

Help your child to succeed in the early years, at school and in adult life

Supporting your child's attendance

Your child can attend school with...

Toothache
Earache
Headache
Sore throat
Conjunctivitis
Glandular Fever
Head lice
Molluscum Contagiosum (viral skin condition)
Ringworm
Threadworm
Warts and Verrucae
Cough/Cold – If your child has asthma, remember they may need their blue inhaler more often
Hand, Foot and Mouth

If your child has been diagnosed with the following:

Chicken pox – Child can return to school once all spots have crusted over
Diarrhoea and vomiting – can return to school **48 hours from the last episode** of diarrhoea or vomiting
Influenza (flu) – Children should return to school as soon as they have recovered
German Measles (Rubella) – Keep off of school for 6 days from onset of rash
Impetigo – Keep off of school until lesions are crusted/healed, or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
Measles – Keep child off of school for 4 days from the onset of rash
Mumps – Keep off of school for 5 days from onset of swollen glands
Scabies – Child can return after first treatment
Whooping cough – 5 days from starting antibiotic treatment, or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment has been given.

Doctors notes will be required for all of the above

A raised
temperature
is over
37.5

Bumped Heads

If your child has bumped their head, you will only be called if your child complains of feeling sick, dizziness and/or headache otherwise a message will be sent home via email informing you

Appointments to
be made after
school

Please make sure that all contact details are up to date via the Arbor App in case your child is not well enough to stay in school.

Good attendance and punctuality are both very important for your child's wellbeing and progress.

School Timings

8 - 8.40 a.m. Breakfast Club
arrive through the office 8-8:30
free of charge, no need to book

8.40 – 9 a.m Soft start
playground gates are open and children can
enter class during this time

9 a.m. Register
arrivals after this time will be marked as late

3.30 p.m. Collection time
Gates are open 3:20 – 3:40
After this time, children not yet collected will be
taken to wait in the secure area in the front
entrance near the office

3.30-5.30 p.m. After School Club
you must book in advance – see page 3

5.30-6 p.m. After School Club 'plus'
(*parents/carers must apply*)

Holiday reminder

Improving attendance continues to be a priority.
We work alongside our Education Welfare Officer
to develop and maintain systems to support
attendance.

Holidays taken during term time **are not
authorised** and will likely result in a fine.

How much could I be fined if my child misses school?

In the majority of cases, schools and local authorities will try and provide support to help you improve your child's attendance first, but if this isn't effective or the absence is for unauthorised term time holiday, parents may face paying a fine.

It's the responsibility of the local authority to decide when to issue fines to parents, meaning the process varies from council to council.

However, under the national rules, all schools are required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons.

From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be **£80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days**. This rate is in line with inflation and is the first increase since 2012.

In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500.



TW! We are already talking about the winter fair and it's only September ...

Although the summer was not that long ago we need to start getting ready for one of the highlight's in the Hargrave Park calendar – our school's Winter Fair.

We are currently recruiting for all kinds of support for our Fair. If you could help us we would love for to hear from you. No matter how small you think your contribution would be it will make a big difference to the fair's success.

The types of things you could get involved in are:

- ❄️ Bake a batch of gingerbread men
- ❄️ Wrap a class hamper or two
- ❄️ Bring cupcakes or traybakes
- ❄️ Donate a raffle prize
- ❄️ Contact local businesses to ask if they would like to sponsor the fair or donate prizes
- ❄️ Create a fun festive fair game or craft
- ❄️ Help wrap presents at Elfridges on the day
- ❄️ Volunteer on a stall
- ❄️ Encourage families to come along

**To find out about organising, sponsoring or helping out at the fair please email Mayani at:
friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com**

During the fair we invite a very special guest to meet the children. Tucked behind Elfridges and taking a well earned rest Santa joins us for the afternoon to meet as many children as he can. But we've lost his number and was hoping a parent or grandparent might have it and could pass a message on from us. If you could help please could you contact us by email

✉ friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com

Already thinking of Christmas shopping? Raise free donations for us when you shop online

Visit easyfundraising.org.uk and search for Friends of Hargrave Park or scan the QR code here. Thank you to those who are already raising money by shopping online with Easyfundraising.





Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities

A free inclusive 13- week course to help parents and carers to raise healthy and happy children.

The course will help you to:

- Build positive family relationships
- Manage anger and stress
- Implement effective discipline strategies
- Gain confidence and communication skills
- Understand your child's development
- Recognise and value your family and cultural traditions
- To book a place or talk about the programme, please contact:
- Please note we can only accept bookings until 23rd September
- Scan QR code below to link to booking page

Location: Jean
Stokes Community
Centre
Date: Wednesday
10 September
Time: 10.00am -
1.00pm



Incredible Years Parenting Groups

A course for parents who want to learn how to get the best behaviour out of their children

"I am feeling much more confident as a parent. I know how to react to specific situations. My child is behaving better. It was life changing for me"

Incredible Years Toddler:
Parents of children aged 1-3

"This course is not a lesson on what as a parent we are doing wrong – more so an insight as to how we can improve"

Incredible Years Early Childhood:
Parents of children aged 3-6

Incredible Years School Age:
Parents of children aged 6-10

"I have learned so much from sharing with the group and hearing about their experiences"

"Oh my! What changes haven't I seen?! It has become a joy to be a parent again and to enjoy my children the best way"



[Incredible years Islington](#)