

# Headteachers Weekly Newsletter



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Heads Newsletter 23/24 Issue: 37

Date: 12/07/2024

## Messages:

### Transition

What an amazing week we have had! School has been wonderful, calm and a happy place to be! Thank you to all of you for joining us for the reading sessions yesterday, it was great to see you all.

Please check out the blog to see what the children got up to during their transition days!

### Mrs Fitzpatric's Tuck Shop

This will run Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (or until everything runs out) next week!

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/mrs-fitzs-tuck-shop/>

### Uniform:

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/uniform-reminder/>

We have noticed that some of our children are attending in black (very short) cycling shorts. This is not a part of our uniform and we ask that our uniform policy is followed at all times including the summer term.

### Suncream, hats and water bottles

Now the weather is finally improving, please ensure your children have everything they need to stay safe in the sun. Please apply sunscreen before your child attends school in a morning. If they bring it to school, it must be named.

## This Week:

### Monday

Diversity week

England football -

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/england-football-celebrations/>

### Tuesday

Y6 Leavers treat trip

### Thursday

Celebration and graduation day - ALL

Summer celebration lunch -

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/summer-celebration-lunch/>

Y6 leavers day - please see letter for details (previously emailed)

Y6 leavers assembly

Y6 passout

Y6 leavers party

After school clubs end today

Sunset club ends today

### Friday

Picnic Day!

School closes at 3pm for summer!



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**NEW!!!! Extended Study New!!!!**

## **Phase Extended Study Pages**

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/category/class-blogs/eyfs-extended-study/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/category/class-blogs/ks1-extended-study/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/category/class-blogs/lks2-extended-study/>

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/category/class-blogs/uks2-extended-study/>

## **Letter Join**

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/accessing-letter-join-at-home-2/>

## **Year 4 MTC - Important information**

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/year-4-mtc-important-information/>

## Family Picnic

### **End of year picnic - Friday 19th July 12:30pm**

We are so excited for our family picnic on Friday 19th July! You are welcome to collect your children from 12:30pm to then join us on the KS2 field for a picnic.

Please collect children from their usual pick up points (this year's classroom doors) so staff can take a register so we know who has left with parents.

School doesn't officially close for the summer until 3pm so if you can't join us, the children will enjoy the picnic with their teachers and friends.

We will share a letter (week commencing 15th July) with additional information.



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### Expedition

EYFS have enjoyed revisiting some of their favourite learning and activities this week as they reflected on their last term in reception exploring 'What happens where the sea meets the shore?' They also shared some of their favourite activities from the year such as red word bingo, activities from world ocean day and doubling facts in maths!

Key stage 1 absolutely loved their lovely presentations of learning this week where we celebrated our expedition Diverse Doncaster: Where do we belong? We have really enjoyed learning more about Thorne and Doncaster. What a fabulous year we have had together and I have seen so much progress from every single child and I am so proud of them!

Year 3/4 have had an incredible year this year! We have absolutely loved learning about Romans, Mayans and how climate change is affecting our planet, especially the polar bears! Our children have shown such resilience and confidence in their learning and have produced some beautiful products that are displayed proudly in our community. Our Year 4 children also did us incredibly proud with their MTC scores!

This week saw year 6 receive their SATs scores. We know that a child's education is more than a score in test, however we are immensely proud of how our children tackled the papers and the grades they achieved. Well done to all Y6 children!

### Crew

In Crew this week the children have thought carefully about kindness, their HOWLs and character traits and what these will look like as they become older. The children shared who they felt would be a great crew champion next year and gave many shout outs to each other!

In Crew we have been learning about the British Values and the children have done so well to remember what they mean. We have been practising democracy every day. Over the year I have seen such a massive improvement in stewardship, as well as kindness and their learning behaviours make me so proud. They are definitely ready for their next adventure!

Both our Year 3 and 4 children have shown such maturity this year in crew. We have focused on our academic skills, learnt and celebrated differences in our community and celebrated ourselves in all of our community crew meetings! We've had a fantastic year, showing strong bonds and relationships with our crew and crew leader but it is time for everyone to move on up and keep being their amazing selves! They will all be missed!

In years 5 and 6 we have spent time reflecting on a wonderful year. It has been a pleasure to see the children flourish and grow; making bonds and becoming the best version of themselves. This week in particular, our year 6 children demonstrated crew more than ever by having the courage and confidence to take on new beginnings in their new schools. We can't wait to hear about your time at secondary school. One last week to go!



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Attendance shout outs:

Beautiful Work:

Blog of the week:

Our attendance winners for  
last week were:

**Crew Rodgers  
With 100% attendance**

Well done - great work!!



<https://greentopschool.co.uk/our-final-practise-in-nursery-before-transition-tomorrow/>



<https://greentopschool.co.uk/nursery-the-rain-has-not-stopped-us-having-fun-to-day/>





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Sharing our stories as we go...

Have you seen our recent XP Trust 'Sharing Our Stories' and 'Beautiful Work' blog post?

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/sharing-our-stories-05-07-2024/>



Academic Success:

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/year-2-pol/>



<https://greentopschool.co.uk/year-5-celebrate-our-learning/>



Shout out:

Have you seen the blog full of wonderful photographs following our transition?

Take a look at the great work and the wonderful time we've had during our transition days!



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Message from 'The Friend's of GT':

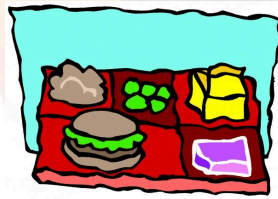


Watch out for a thank you and break down from The Friend's of Green Top regarding their year!

Weekly lunch menus:

Please find dinner menus attached:

[MENUS - April to October 2024.pdf](#)



Please see the blog regarding Thursday's summer celebration lunch!






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Communication	Sunset	Breakfast Club
<p>Phase Leader email addresses:</p> <p>EYFS - Miss Carter - <a href="mailto:euys@greentopschool.org">euys@greentopschool.org</a></p> <p>KS1 - Mrs Shaw - <a href="mailto:ks1@greentopschool.org">ks1@greentopschool.org</a></p> <p>Y3/4 - Miss Knowles - <a href="mailto:y3-4@greentopschool.org">y3-4@greentopschool.org</a></p> <p>Y5/6 - Mr Mumby - <a href="mailto:y5-6@greentopschool.org">y5-6@greentopschool.org</a></p> <p><i>In the first instance please speak to crew leader or class teacher.</i></p>	<p>Should you wish to access our <b>sunset club</b> you can book by contacting Mrs Fitzpatrick: <a href="mailto:office@greentopschool.org">office@greentopschool.org</a> .</p> <p><i>Please include the following details: name, teacher, any allergies/dietary requirements, days required and a Contact number.</i></p> <p>Sunset club runs from <b>4pm to 5:30pm daily at £5</b> per day which should be <b>paid in advance via ParentPay.</b></p>	<p>Should you wish to access our <b>breakfast club</b> you can book by contacting Mrs Fitzpatrick: <a href="mailto:office@greentopschool.org">office@greentopschool.org</a> .</p> <p><i>Please include the following details: name, teacher, any allergies/dietary requirements, days required and a Contact number.</i></p> <p>Breakfast club runs from <b>7:30am to 8:30am daily at £2</b> per day which should be <b>paid in advance</b> via ParentPay.</p>

## Uniform

<p><b>Uniform</b></p> <p>Please ensure you add your child's name to ALL of their belongings. We are improving the amount of lost property in school with the things we are putting in place but names not being added to uniform seems to be the main issue we need to resolve.</p> <p>Also, if you require support with uniform, please contact us and we will support where possible.</p> <p>Phase Leader email addresses:</p> <p>EYFS - Miss Carter - <a href="mailto:euys@greentopschool.org">euys@greentopschool.org</a></p> <p>KS1 - Mrs Shaw - <a href="mailto:ks1@greentopschool.org">ks1@greentopschool.org</a></p> <p>Y3/4 - Miss Knowles - <a href="mailto:y3-4@greentopschool.org">y3-4@greentopschool.org</a></p> <p>Y5/6 - Mr Mumby - <a href="mailto:y5-6@greentopschool.org">y5-6@greentopschool.org</a></p>	<p><b>PE Kits</b></p> <p>Please ensure that PE kits are in school on PE days. It is important that the children have the correct kit and footwear to ensure safety during the lesson. We also don't want children ruining their school shoes due to wearing them for PE and if it is outdoors, covering their shoes and uniform in mud! All bags and kits will be sent home on a Friday so corridors are clear. Please send children's clean PE kits back into school on a Monday morning ready for their PE lesson.</p>	<p><b>XP Outdoor Kits</b></p> <p>Suggested kit (if you need any support with the following items, please let us know - we don't expect you to buy additional clothing):</p> <p>Winter Kit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long sleeved jumper</li> <li>• Long trousers - waterproof if possible</li> <li>• Warm hat and gloves</li> <li>• Wellies or boots</li> <li>• Waterproof coat</li> </ul> <p>Summer Kit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunscreen</li> <li>• Sun hat</li> <li>• Water bottle</li> </ul> 
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## Suncream, hats and water bottles

Now the weather is finally improving, please ensure your children have everything they need to stay safe in the sun. Please apply sunscreen before your child attends school in a morning. If they bring it to school, it must be named.

## Safety

### Driving into the school grounds

Please **DON'T** drive into the school grounds to drop off in a morning and pick up at the end of the day. This is becoming extremely dangerous for our children. Please use Bridge Street car park and help us to keep our children and community safe!

Please walk down the path and not the drive, keep yourself safe!  
Please dismount your bikes on the school premises for everyone's safety.

### Parking around the school grounds

We have had several complaints from our neighbours and parents regarding parking over the last couple of weeks. Neighbours drives are being blocked, this is not OK. More importantly, our parents are concerned about the safety of our children and we couldn't agree more as we have shared this concern, along with parents using the school drive on many occasions. Once again we would like to remind you of the nearby Bridge Street car park, please use this to ensure the safety of our children. I also advise that anyone with further complaints should contact Doncaster council or even the community police who have supported us in the past.

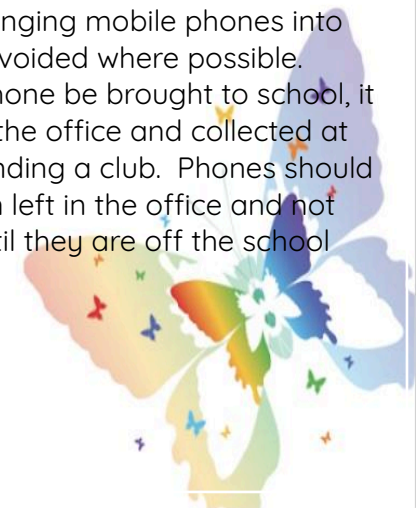
## Reminders

**Gates will be locked at 8:50am daily.** This gives a 20 minute window to ensure all parents are out of the school grounds before they are locked. We would like our children to be able to access the outside environment quicker but we can't do this until the gates are locked. We appreciate your support with this!

**Reminder:** doors open at 8:30am and learning starts as soon as the children are in class. If you are late daily, this loss of learning time adds up over time to a considerable amount!

### Phones

A reminder that bringing mobile phones into school should be avoided where possible. Should a mobile phone be brought to school, it **MUST** be taken to the office and collected at 3pm or 3:55 if attending a club. Phones should be turned off when left in the office and not turned back on until they are off the school grounds.



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## External Information

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/doncaster/summer2024/>

Do you have plans for the summer? Click the link above for lots of great ideas and events taking place for you to visit!

**2go!**  
Raring2go!

SUMMER ACTIVITIES P6-7

WATERPARKS P10-11

FESTIVALS P31

**DONCASTER**

MAGAZINE & WEBSITE THE GO-TO GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

[raring2go.co.uk](https://raring2go.co.uk) SUMMER 2024



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The Solihull Approach: Understanding your child - from toddler to teenager  
Course length: 10 weeks, 2 hours a week

Our Solihull parent group focuses on helping you to understand your child's behaviour and to build a positive relationship between you and your child.

We will look at things like:  
Different parenting styles

The developmental stages of your child - what is age appropriate behaviour  
Understanding your child's behaviour  
Having fun together through play

Sessions are every Thursday. Starting 25th April 2024 09:30AM - 11:30AM

The last session will be 4th July 2024

The first session will run till 12:00PM  
NO SESSION THURSDAY 30TH MAY 2024 DUE TO HALF TERM

How to book / refer:

Email: [YourPlaceYourFamilyTeam@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:YourPlaceYourFamilyTeam@doncaster.gov.uk)

Phone: 01302 736336

Or pop in and see us!

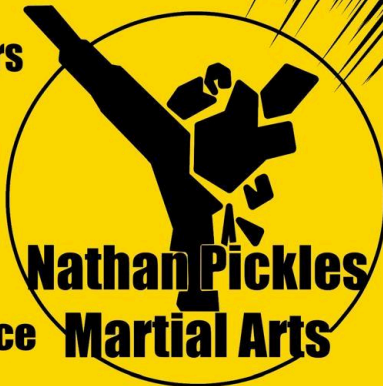


Be one of the first members  
Of our new school

Begin your journey to black belt

Respect  
Focus

Discipline  
Self confidence



# Freestyle Martial Arts

Opening 26th June

Located at Green Top School Hall

*Access from Ash Tree Road*

**Juniors Age 6+ 5:30 pm**

**Prices from £5 per session**

To book your place contact  
Nathan Pickles Via Facebook/messenger



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 **THORNENSIIANS** 

**SUMMER SPORTS CAMP**



IN ASSOCIATION WITH CASH FOR KIDS

**8:30 START** **6/13/20/27 AUGUST** **IT'S FREE**

**BREAKFAST, LUNCH & SNACKS PROVIDED**

**LEARN NEW SKILLS** **+** **MAKE NEW FRIENDS** **+** **TRY NEW SPORTS**

OPEN TO AGES 5 - 17 BOYS & GIRLS

SCAN → TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE



OR EMAIL [THORNENSIIANSMINIS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:THORNENSIIANSMINIS@GMAIL.COM) FOR MORE INFO

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/thornensians-summer-sports-camp/>

Do you need support? We are here to help!



# Headteachers Weekly Newsletter



## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **SCHOOL AVOIDANCE**

School avoidance refers to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. In 2022-23, more than one in five children in England were found to be absent from school over 10% of the time. This guide focuses on school avoidance with an emotional basis, offering expert mental health advice. However, it's important to remember that school avoidance is a hugely subjective experience which requires a tailored, individual approach.

### UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

#### REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the family or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for instance, or a change in family dynamics; bullying and friendship difficulties at school; pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams; or moving from primary school to secondary school.

#### PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home on school days). If a child or young person is neurodiverse, there is some evidence to suggest there are more aspects of school life which can cause distress – such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

#### COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include tummy aches, headaches, or saying they feel ill when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

### IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

#### LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending school on a regular basis not only supports academic attainment but is also important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

#### LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be far reaching and may have a negative impact on long-term outcomes. It may, for example, lead to reduced future aspirations, poor emotional regulation, mental health difficulties, limited academic progress and restricted employment opportunities.

#### CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to sustained school avoidance over time. Further to this, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a rise in their ongoing need to avoid the activity making them anxious – increasing their desire to stay at home.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### WORK TOGETHER

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

### FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and spent away from screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a timetabled routine for the child's school day, if required.

### MANAGE OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

Acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss coping strategies together to help them manage difficulties. These could include mindfulness, deep breathing or going for a walk. This helps them understand that you are working together towards a common goal, and that these strategies can be used when bigger feelings arise.

### RECOGNISE POSITIVE STEPS

Drawing attention to a child's successes – be they big or small – can help to give them some much-needed confidence and motivation. Celebrate these daily victories – such as getting out of bed on time or completing school work – and don't hesitate to let the child know when you're impressed or proud of them. Such an approach can go a long way.

### Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: [nationalcollege.com/guides/school-avoidance](https://nationalcollege.com/guides/school-avoidance)

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school-avoidance.pdf

<https://greentopschool.co.uk/parent-information-attendance/>

