

Granard Primary School and Cedar Base

"Growing together; Achieving together"

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come towards the end of a very busy term, I would like to thank all the staff for all their hard work this term, especially in preparing the children for so many different musical events and performances. It was such a pleasure to attend our Cedar Base Winter assembly last Friday. Nearly all the children were able to take part and it was wonderful to see them really enjoying themselves, singing, speaking and performing for their parents.

We have a number of other performances planned next week – the **KS1 Nativity** on **Monday and Tuesday**, our **Nursery Winter concert** on **Wednesday morning**, **Reception Winter songs** on **Wednesday afternoon** and our **Carol Service** at **St Margaret's Church at 10 a.m.** on **Thursday**. We look forward to seeing you supporting your children at these events next week.

There have been a number of changes to the school in recent years and I would like to invite any parents who would like to find out more about the changes, and the plan going forward, to attend a meeting with me at **9 a.m. on Tuesday, 13th January**. Please put this date in your diary, thank you.

I hope that you have a wonderful Christmas break, once it arrives, and enjoy spending time with family and friends during the festive season.

SAFEGUARDING SEGMENT

We have noticed a number of cars idling in the vicinity of the school and would like to draw your attention to the safeguarding issues surrounding this.

What is Engine Idling?

Engine idling is any time your car engine is running but you're not moving, usually for more than 10-20 seconds e.g., waiting outside school, at a red light, roadworks, etc.

Why should we stop Engine Idling?

Running a car without going anywhere just doesn't make any sense!

Here are some reasons why:

Environment: When an engine is running, it emits carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas responsible for climate change. By switching off your engine when stopped, you stop these emissions too!



020 8788 3606



[X.com](https://www.x.com)



[facebook](https://www.facebook.com)



[@granardprimary](https://www.instagram.com)

Health: Idling makes for worse air quality, which is bad for human health. Young people are at greater risk of the health impacts of air pollution because their lungs are still developing.

Money: Idling wastes fuel that you're paying for – that just burns a hole in your pocket!

Safety: When cars and buses are idling outside a school, it is harder for students to hear cars that are actually moving, which might be hidden behind the idling cars.

NB: *While electric cars don't idle, and many modern cars have stop-start technology (a feature that switches off the engine when the car isn't moving), there are still many vehicles that are guilty of needless idling outside our school!*

Whilst we promote healthy ways to travel to school such as walking, cycling and scooting, we ask that parents who must drive to school ensure that they allow enough time to park safely and considerately when dropping their children off, and those parents who have access to our 'School Street', ensure that they switch off their engines whilst waiting, rather than allowing their engines to idle in the queue.

Thank you for your understanding.

RECEPTION 2026 APPLICATIONS

If you have a child born **between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022**, you can apply for a **Reception place** for **September 2026**.

For further information and to submit an application, follow this link: [Apply for a primary school place](#)

Your application must be submitted by **Thursday, 15 January 2026**.

Alternatively you can download and send a [paper application form](#)

TERM DATES

Scan this QR code for the **term dates** for **this year and next academic year**.

[Or click here](#)



PARENTS MENU

Scan this QR code to go straight to the **Parents Menu** on our school website.

[Or click here](#)



NURSERY

We celebrated National Tree week in Nursery. On Wednesday, we talked about how important the Granard cedar tree was to our school.

We then went for a walk to look at the sculpture that has been made from the cedar tree trunk.



2S FOREMAN

Year 2's Big Day Out!

As part of our topic '*Travel and Transport*', Year 2 visited the London Transport Museum and took a step back in time!

We met London's first Black bus driver, Joe Clough who came to England from Jamaica. He told us all about how his B-type bus was also converted into an ambulance during World War II! Joe told us that he drove wounded soldiers during the war to the hospital to help them get better. He then brought his bus back and continued driving in London.

How exciting! We had a fabulous time exploring old trains and tubes and finding out how all the tunnels were made. What a fun day!



CHERRY CLASS

This week, we made our winter wreaths to decorate our doors.



We used all the foliage we collected from Putney Heath to create our designs.

First, we shaped Bendi sticks to form the base of each wreath.



Then we added Pine leaves, conkers, pine cones, and range of natural materials to decorate them.

Everyone enjoyed working with the natural resources creating something interesting, unique for the festive season.



APPLE CLASS

Apple Class did snowman crafting on their Friday fun day!



WILLOW CLASS

Willow Class have enjoyed their seasonal activities! We have put up the Christmas tree, dressed up for our Winter Assembly and made some arts and crafts!



3G MURPHY

As part of our D.T. unit: Super Seasonal Cooking, Year 3 have been developing their cutting and peeling skills!

There were some cautious children at first, being presented with sharp knives, but everyone learnt to safely cut and peel different fruit and vegetables.

Hopefully they have gone home and shown you their new skills, helping you cook some delicious meals.





SECOND-HAND BIKE MARKET



Granard's Bike Market was a hit! Thanks to Peddle My Wheels. Granard hosted a second-hand bike market, raising money for our school. We had a great variety of options and donations. It looked like it was a lot of fun with pupils taking test rides and making tough choices between bikes!

Junior Duke got in on the action too, visiting Peddle My Wheels to learn how to fix a puncture.

What a success!



SCHOOL COUNCIL DELIVERS FOOD TO FOOD BANK



This year, Granard School Council have raised a record-breaking amount of food donations for our Harvest Festival. This week, our Year 6 School Councillors carried it all to The Yard Foodbank at Ashburton Estate. It was hard work but it was worth it. Thank you so much for your donations!



GROUP 64 THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – NEW YEAR OFFER

www.g64.org.uk | info@g64.org.uk | 020 8788 6935
Putney Arts Theatre is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with charity number 1157481

We are GROUP 4

Theatre for young people

Book your spot at our weekly Drama Classes today!

NEW YEARS OFFER
THE WHOLE SPRING TERM FOR £50 FOR NEW MEMBERS
VALID UNTIL 4TH JANUARY 2026

www.g64.org.uk | info@g64.org.uk | 020 8788 6935
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G64

Theatre for young people

ABOUT US

Group 64 (G64) is an inclusive young people's theatre company based at Putney Arts Theatre. We're committed to empowering young people and ensuring their voices are valued and heard through a safe, nurturing and creative environment.

GROUP 1

YEARS 1 - 2
TUESDAY: 4PM - 5PM

GROUP 2

YEARS 3 - 6
MONDAY: 4pm - 5:30pm
THURSDAY: 4PM - 5:30PM
SATURDAY: 9AM - 10:30AM

NEW YEARS OFFER

We are inviting all new members to join our spring term for just £50 in all Group 1 and 2 classes. This is for the Spring Term only the offer expires on Sunday 4th January.

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GROUP 3

YEARS 6 - 8
TUESDAY: 5PM - 6:30PM
SATURDAY: 10:30AM - 12PM

GROUP 4

YEARS 9 +
SATURDAY: 12PM - 1:30PM

MUSICAL THEATRE

YEARS 6 - 10
MONDAY: 5PM - 6:30PM

NHS EDUCATION WELLBEING SERVICE – PARENT WEBINARS SPRING SCHEDULE

The South West London St. George's Education Wellbeing Service is offering lunchtime and evening parent Webinars across the year to help support your child's wellbeing and mental health.

Education
Wellbeing
Service

wellbeinginschoolevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

NHS
South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Parent/Carer Webinars

Early Years Spring/Summer Term Schedule

Scan the QR code to sign up to any of these
free local NHS webinars for nursery/reception parents & carers

We also provide free 1:1 early support for parents of primary aged children to support their child's common worries and anxieties, or support children's everyday challenging behaviours.
Speak to your school to find out more.



Feeding and its difficulties in the Early years

14TH January 6.00–7.30pm

23RD February 8.15 – 9.30pm

27TH February 12.00 – 1.00pm

Managing big feelings in small people; tantrums, aggression & how to respond

Starting early - how to help your child learn practical skills at a young age

20TH April 8.00 – 9.00pm

24TH April 12.00 – 1.00pm

 Respectful
 Open
 Collaborative
 Compassionate
 Consistent



**Education
Wellbeing
Service**

wellbeinginschoolevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

NHS
South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Parent/Carer Webinars

Primary Spring Term Schedule

Scan the QR code to sign up to any of these
free local NHS webinars for Primary parents & carers

We also provide free 1:1 early support for parents of primary aged children to support their child's common worries and anxieties, or support children's everyday challenging behaviours.
Speak to your school to find out more.



Promoting Sibling Harmony

26TH January 7.00-8.00PM

27TH January 1.30-2.30PM

Supporting Siblings of Children with SEND
(For parents & carers of children aged 7 years and above)

9TH February 7.00 - 8.30PM

10TH February 1.30 - 3.00PM

Supporting common child anxieties and worries including around exams

24TH March 1.00 - 2.00PM

26TH March 7.00 - 8.00PM

 Respectful
 Open
 Collaborative
 Compassionate
 Consistent

Sign up via these links or scan the QR codes:

[Early Years Parents](#)

[Primary Years Parents](#)



NHS EDUCATION WELLBEING SERVICE - 'GOODBYES AND GOOD NIGHTS' ONLINE PARENT/CARER GROUP

Support is available for parents/carers of children in Reception–Year 2 who may be finding separation at school or bedtime challenging.







Goodbyes and Good Nights Online Parent/Carer Group

**Do you find it hard to get your child through the school/nursery gate?
Does your child struggle to separate from you?
Are you worried that your child might find it difficult to settle back into a routine after the school holidays.**



Join our 4-session online group to connect with other parents/carers and learn new ways to support your child towards their independence.

Date and Time:

Session 1: Friday 16/01/2026 at 12-1pm
 Session 2: Friday 25/01/2026 at 12-1pm
 Session 3: Friday 30/01/2026 at 12- 1pm
 Session 4: Friday 6/02/2026 at 12- 1pm

If you are interested but cannot attend these dates/times please sign up below and we will be in touch.



In many schools, we also provide free 1:1 early support for parents/carers of primary aged children to support their child's common worries and anxieties or support children's tricky or challenging behaviours. Please speak to your school to find out more.





Scan the QR code or follow the link for further details and sign-up form or please [click here](#)



GETTING STARTED WITH ARBOR – YOUR SCHOOL COMMUNICATION HUB

At Granard Primary School, we want to make sure that every family receives important information about your child and our school community. We use **Arbor** to do this, to send you messages, updates and announcements via email, text and in-app notifications.

We have noticed that some families may not be fully set up on Arbor, which means you might be missing out on important information. To help everyone get connected, we have created a simple step-by-step guide showing you exactly how to download the Arbor app, log in and make sure you are receiving all our messages.

Why Arbor matters:

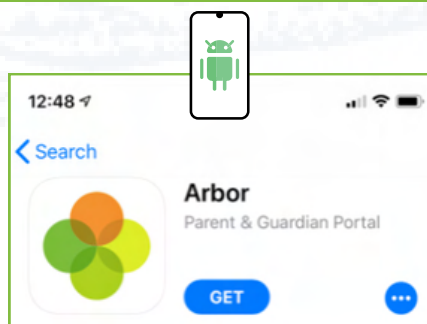
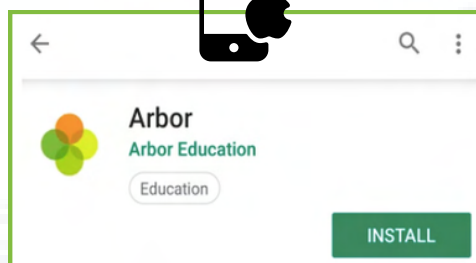
- Receive **instant updates** about your child and school events.
- Never miss **important information**.
- Easily **update your contact details** and emergency information.
- Access **everything** in **one place**.

Please take a few minutes today to:

1. **Download** the Arbor app (*if you haven't already*)
2. Check your **notification** settings are **turned on**
3. Make sure your contact details are up to date

STEP 1: Download the App

Android: search for 'Arbor' in the Play Store and 'install'.
iPhone: find it in the App Store and tap 'get'.



STEP 2: Logging in on the Parent Portal

You will receive a welcome email containing your login details and a link to set your password.

Click the link, then click **Forgot your password?** Enter your email address then click **Reset password**.

If you have a child at more than one Arbor school, you will be asked to select the appropriate school.

Forgot your password?

No problem! Just enter the email address associated with your account below, and we'll email you with a link to reset your password.

Reset password

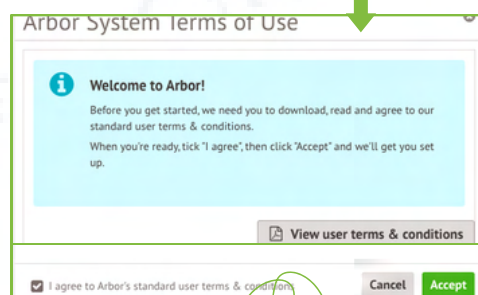
You will then receive another email. **Click the link in this email** to set your password.

Create your password. You will then be logged in when you click **Create password**.

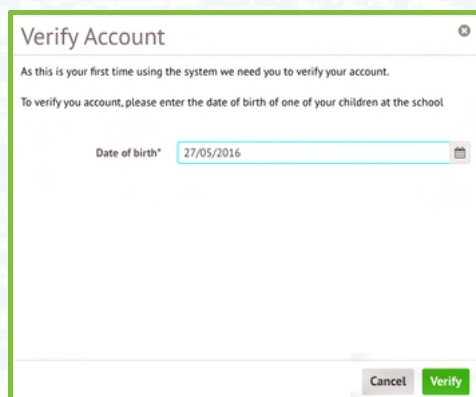
Create password

Create password

Accept the terms and conditions.



You will then be asked to confirm one of your children's dates of birth. Once you click verify, you will now be logged in!



Verify Account

As this is your first time using the system we need you to verify your account.

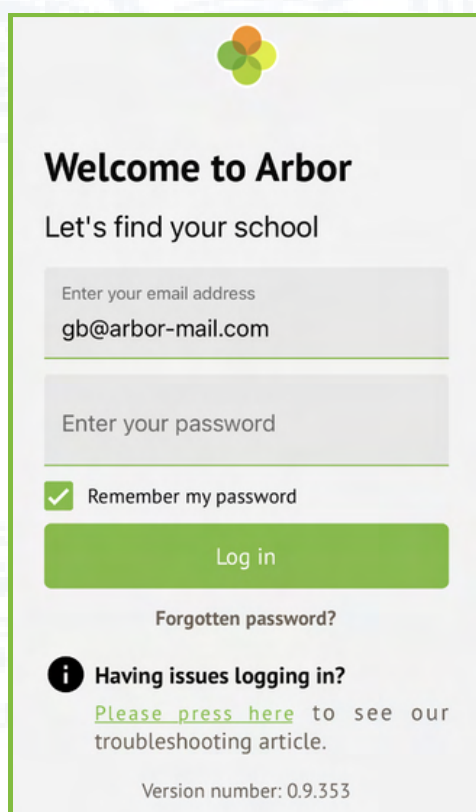
To verify your account, please enter the date of birth of one of your children at the school

Date of birth* 27/05/2016

Cancel Verify

STEP 3: Logging in for the First Time on the Parent App

When you open the app for the first time, you will be prompted to add in your email address and password.



Welcome to Arbor

Let's find your school

Enter your email address
gb@arbor-mail.com

Enter your password

☒ Remember my password

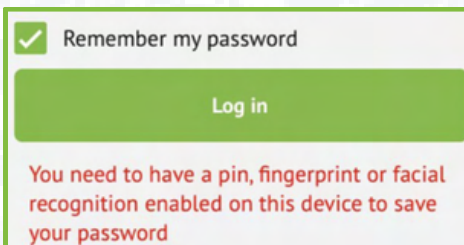
Log in

Forgotten password?

i Having issues logging in?
[Please press here](#) to see our troubleshooting article.

Version number: 0.9.353

The **Remember my password** box will be ticked by default but you can untick it if needed.



☒ Remember my password

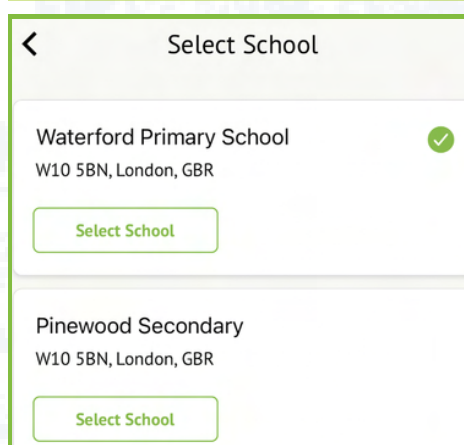
Log in

You need to have a pin, fingerprint or facial recognition enabled on this device to save your password

To save your password you need to **enable a biometric** (Face ID, fingerprint scan or pin entry) login option, or you'll need to untick the box.

Select your school. If you have accounts on more than one school, there will be a tick next to any schools your password works for.

- Click on a school **with a tick to be logged right in**.
- Click on a school without a tick to input your alternative password for that school.



Select School

Waterford Primary School
W10 5BN, London, GBR

Select School

Pinewood Secondary
W10 5BN, London, GBR

Select School

Once you input your alternative password, it will save this password for next time.

If you have more than one child at the school, please select the child you wish to view. Don't worry, you can select another child once you are logged in.

Who would you like to view?



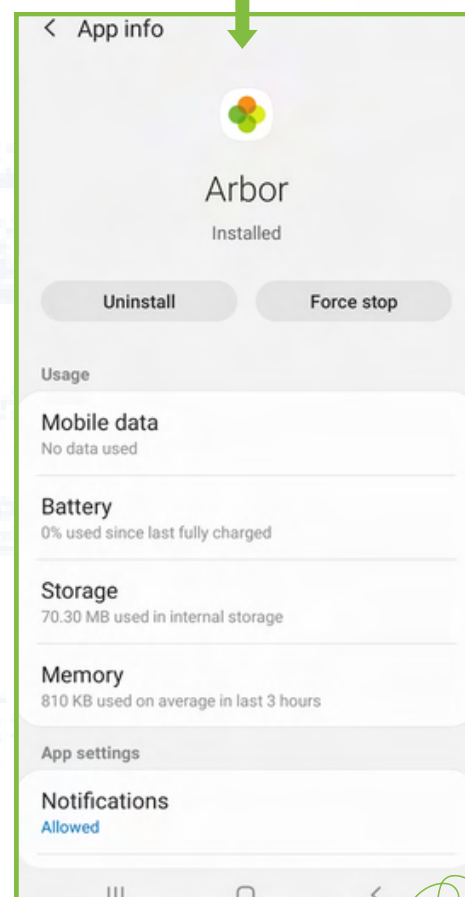
Dennis Adams

Kimberly Adams

STEP 4: ENABLING PUSH NOTIFICATIONS

To ensure you receive all notifications for new in-app messages, **turn on Push Notifications** by accessing your phone's Settings.

For example, on a **Samsung Galaxy S8**, go to **Settings > Apps > Arbor > Notifications**.



< App info

Arbor
Installed

Uninstall Force stop

Usage

Mobile data
No data used

Battery
0% used since last fully charged

Storage
70.30 MB used in internal storage

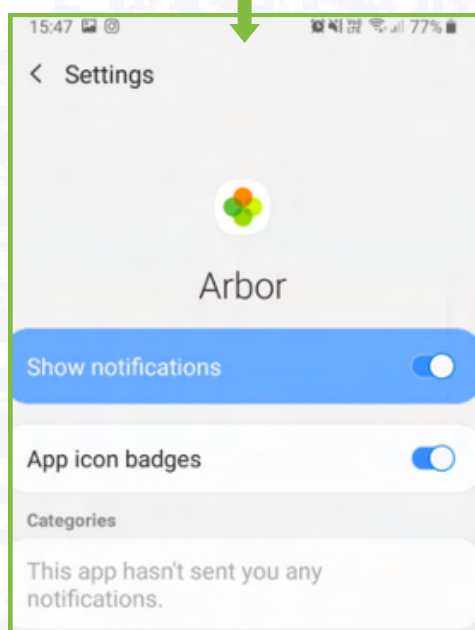
Memory
810 KB used on average in last 3 hours

App settings

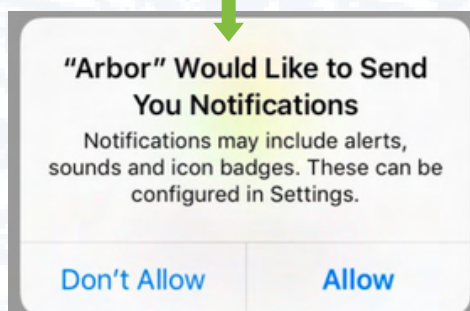
Notifications
Allowed



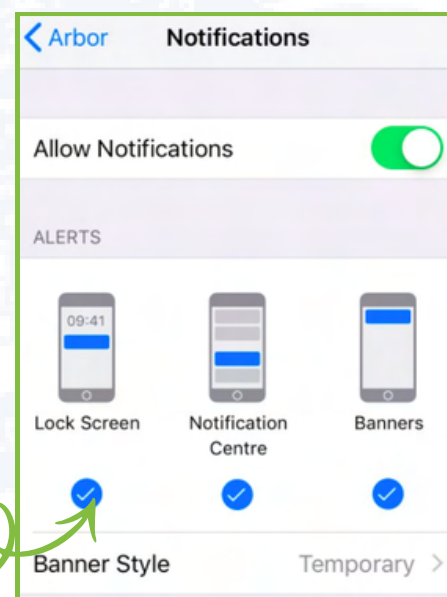
Tap the slider to turn Push Notifications on and manage your settings.



On an **iPhone SE**, go to **Settings>Arbor>Notification**.



Tap the slider to turn Push Notifications on and manage your settings.



Still Need Help Getting Started?

If you are still having difficulty setting up Arbor, we are here to help. Join us for a drop-in session at school on:

Wednesday 7th January 2026
9 a.m. or 2.30 p.m.

Please ensure you are fully set up on Arbor, this is how we keep you informed and connected with everything happening at school.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

Monday 15 th	2.20 p.m.	KS1 Nativity
Tuesday 16 th	9.30 a.m.	KS1 Nativity Christmas Lunch Day After School Care Christmas party
Wednesday 17 th	9.15 a.m. 2.45 p.m.	Christmas Jumper Day Nursery Winter Concert Reception Winter Songs
Thursday 18 th	10 a.m.	Carol Service at St Margaret's Church Reception - eye tests
Friday 19 th	1.30 p.m.	Children finish – break up for the Christmas holidays

JANUARY

Monday 5 th		Children return to school
Wednesday 7 th	9 a.m. 2.30 p.m.	Arbor Parent Drop-in Sessions
Thursday 8 th	9.15 a.m.	Open Morning
Tuesday 13 th	9 a.m.	Parents meeting in KS1 Hall – all parents invited
Thursday 15 th	2.45 p.m.	Year 1 book share in school with parents Closing date for Reception 2026 applications
Friday 16 th	2.45 p.m.	4M Lewis assembly
Tuesday 27 th		Holi assembly

FEBRUARY

Monday 2 nd	2.45 p.m.	Year 4 book share in school with parents
Wednesday 4 th	2.45 p.m.	Year 5 book share in school with parents
Thursday 5 th		Year 2 Chinese workshop
Friday 6 th	2.45 p.m.	4B Dahl assembly Closing date for Nursery 2026 applications
Monday 9 th	2.45 p.m.	Year 2 book share in school with parents
Tuesday 10 th		After School Care Pizza party
Wednesday 11 th		Art Exhibition – private viewing
Thursday 12 th	4 – 5 p.m. 5.15 – 6.15 p.m.	Valentine's Discos: EY/KS1/Cedar Base KS2
Friday 13 th	1.10 p.m. 1.30 p.m.	Nursery offers go out Reception curriculum share event with parents in school Children leave – end of half term

INSETS & HALF TERM DATES

- Friday 20th March 2026 - INSET Day
- Monday 16th - Friday 20th February 2026 - Spring Half Term
- Monday 20th July 2026 - INSET Day
- Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026 - Summer Half Term