



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

Wessex Gardens, Golders Green, London NW11 9RR
Tel: 020 8455 9572 Email: office@wessexgardens.barnet.sch.uk
Headteacher: Alexander Banks Deputy Headteacher: Antonia Alexandrou



Newsletter

Spring Term - 3rd February 2023 (Issue 19)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

Another great week at Wessex Gardens.

The school was filled with flashes and bangs this week as we engaged in an amazing science assembly for Years 1 - 6. This was presented by a visitor from Highgate School. It was incredible! Please ask your children about it and ask them to tell you what they learned.

The week has also been so creative with every year group concentrating on an aspect of art. We have been using water colours, plasticine, printing, constructing so many skills!

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you into school next week for parent consultations. Make sure you have booked your appointment so you can hear about all the wonderful learning your child has been doing and how you can support them to achieve even more.

Governor Morning

Our school Governors are visiting the school on Tuesday morning to meet the children. Our Governors are volunteers who along with the senior staff team, lead our school. We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor and I will be sending out information about this very soon. If you feel you would like to help make the school an even better place, please think about being a Governor!

Safeguarding: Conversation Starters for Parents and Carers: Online Content

Trying to start a conversation about online safety with children can be a daunting task. There are many reasons why children may not want to talk to adults about it. One might be that they don't think you'll understand or that you won't know how to help if they came to you with an online problem. It can also be hard to start a conversation about something that you might have limited knowledge about. However, with screen time increasing during the lockdown, it's important now more than ever, to be talking to children about what they are accessing online.

In the guide sent out this week, with this week's Newsletter, you'll find tips such as cultivating a blame-free culture, asking them to be the teacher and ask about the risks.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Letters home this week

Y3&4 Rec Cycle training letter
Hearing & Vision information (Schooling)
Nur-Rec Information on free courses.



SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

6/7.02.2023	Parent Teacher Consultation Evening: Nursery class Silver Birch class Pine class Maple class Cedar class Redwood class Hazel class Hawthorn class Sycamore class Acacia class Magnolia class
7/8.02.2023	Palm class
8/9.02.2023	Chestnut class Mahogany class
8/9/02.2023	Y3&4 Bikeability Training
13-20.02.2023	School closed half term holiday
21.02.2023	School and Nursery reopens

Bikeability Training



We have been given the excellent opportunity to provide free Bikeability Training at Level 1 to our children in **Years 3&4**. The date for this will be **Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th February 2023. The pupils will attend one hour training session each day.** This safe, structured and standardised programme is designed to make your child a more competent cyclist and prepare them for cycling on the road.

Coffee Morning



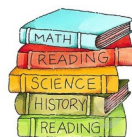
Fabulous Friday

Coffee Morning

Friday 10th February

9am in the Rainbow House/Media Room

More on keeping children safe online with internet safety training (with Certificate on completion of training).



TEA WITH THE HEAD



The children invited to Tea with the Head were:

Maple	Chloe
Chestnut	Ines
Palm	Mira
Redwood	Wiliame
Cedar	Tawaab
Hawthorn	Anik
Hazel	Samuel
Acacia	Monique
Sycamore	Dina
Mahogany	Vini
Magnolia	Gesi

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Ava, Maple class
Yasin, Chestnut class
Kaleb, Palm class
Talia, Redwood class

Certificate of Merit

Kai, Cedar class
Neil, Hawthorn class
Zainab, Hazel class
Mohammad, Acacia class
Mehraveh, Sycamore class
Althea, Mahogany class
Fatima, Magnolia class

Reader of the Week

Diya, Maple class
Vincent, Chestnut class
Barish, Palm class
Mohamed, Redwood class
Nikki, Cedar class
Adonis, Hawthorn class
Alex K, Hazel class
Saraa, Acacia class
Obay, Sycamore class
Kevin, Mahogany class
Andreea, Magnolia class

Well done!

Nursery

This week we have been focusing on the traditional tale The Three Billy Goats Gruff. We have enjoyed testing ideas while creating bridges from different materials for the goats to cross. We are developing a good understanding of the events in the story and are beginning to predict what happens next. We have been pretending to be different story characters and are becoming increasingly confident at talking to each other and sharing our ideas in a small group. We are developing our awareness of how to use different climbing arrangements safely. Please continue to support your child with completing their home learning activities. We would love to receive some more examples of home learning on Tapestry.

Please continue to check Tapestry regularly to view your child's progress and latest achievements.

The Nursery Team

Reception

The adventure continues in Reception, this week the children have been using their imagination engaging in discussions and role play about our book 'On Sudden Hill.' In maths the children have been learning about mass. We look forward to seeing you all next week for parents evening. Have a lovely weekend.

Year 1

In Year 1, we have enjoyed creating transient art out of a range of natural and man made materials. We have explored different textures of materials and created a weather motif for our Rays and Sunrises art project. In English, we have been researching information about London landmarks. We have worked hard to write a poster telling people all about London. In maths, we have been developing our understanding of numbers within 20 and have worked hard to order numbers from smallest to greatest.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a wonderful busy DT week learning all about how to make beach huts. The children have been exploring different strategies to make their models stronger and more stable. We can't wait to share our produced model! In English, the children created poems using ideas from our core text 'The Secret of Black Rock'. In maths, the children have been introduced to the early stages of multiplication. They have been using the repeated addition to count 'groups of' items. This week, the children had an amazing time exploring on our newly installed equipment in our playground. We are so grateful and fortunate to receive such a generous donation from a former Wessex pupil!

Year 3 & 4

What a busy week it has been in Year 3 and 4! Art week has been a huge success making it a memorable experience for all of them. They learned all about ammonite fossil and fibonacci patterns before designing an ammonite motif that they then used to make a two colour print. They practised a series of artistic techniques during this project; such as hatching, cross hatching and block printing. We look forward to sharing our wonderful artwork with the rest of the school on Monday. We are thoroughly enjoying our weekly drama workshops, and it is so rewarding to see the children growing more and more in confidence each week. We are nearing towards the end of our maths topics 'Multiplication and Division' and will be carrying out progress checks next week. Please make sure you have signed up for parents' evening if you have not already done so. It is really important that you meet with class teachers face to face to discuss your child's progress. Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Year 5

Year 5 have had a creative week exploring nature and art! They have investigated the genre of land art, outdoors to sketch natural forms and explore the sculptural potential of natural materials before working collaboratively to create land art. They predicted what natural forms and materials they might find in their local environment that could be used to create land art. Year 5 ventured outside to see what they could find and captured images by taking photographs. They discussed the images, describing the materials' visual aspects, such as shape, form, pattern and colour. Year 5 also had a whale of a time during the Science workshop. They enjoyed asking questions and using scientific vocabulary to predict and investigate their lines of enquiry. It was a blast! Why don't you ask us about all the mind-boggling investigations we explored.

Year 6

Year 6 had a fantastic week of hands-on creativity in art! The kids had a great time creating Inuit-inspired animal sketches, animal sculptures, and beautiful polar region scenery paintings. The excellent artwork will be on display for all year groups to see in the hall next week. This week, Year 6 successfully reviewed and learned fractions, decimals, and percentages, and they are doing a terrific job. Writing moving letters and diaries from the perspectives of the families of the Shackleton's crew members has helped us wrap up our English lessons this week. Looking forward to another great week of learning before the end of the term!