



# WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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## Newsletter

Summer Term—30th June 2023 (Issue 36)

### Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

A fun packed week with sporting events, trips, performances and of course great learning!

I am very proud of our sporting achievements both at the athletics event at StoneX Stadium, Copthall and at the football tournament at Bishop Douglas Secondary School I. Please see the Sports report for more details and photos!

Y2 had a wonderful time at The National Portrait Gallery learning about the portraits on display and doing their own sketching.

Our Y4 children performed brilliantly at the St Jude's Prom, their singing was exceptional! Again thank you to all parents who offer up their precious time to support our children on these visits and events.



#### Safeguarding: What Parents and Carers Need to Know about AI Virtual Friends

Artificial intelligence is probably the hot topic in technology circles right now, with questions being raised worldwide about how AI might conceivably affect the very nature of the human race. In the short term, however—definitely as far as its impact on young people is concerned—the clearest risk is almost certainly the AI powered 'virtual friends' which are springing up all over the internet.

There's Replika and Kuki, for instance, while Snapchat has recently got in on the act with My AI—and search engines like Bing and Google have developed their own versions. Are these machine intelligences suitable online companions for young people? What are their limitations and weak spots? The guide attached this week profiles the emergence of AI 'virtual friends'.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.  
Alexander Banks  
Headteacher

#### Attendance % this week

Chestnut	85%
Maple	82%
Palm	91%
Redwood	91%
Cedar	88%
Hazel	81%
Hawthorn	85%
Acacia	83%
Sycamore	87%
Magnolia	87%
Mahogany	87%

#### Letters home this week



Y4	Proms at St Jude's letter
Rec	Trip to Topsy Turvy World 6.7.2023
Nurs	Trip to Basing Hill Park 14.07.2023
Rec	Trip to Basing Hill Park 14.07.2023
Rec	Trip to Topsy Turvy World 06.07.2023

#### TERM DATES 2022/2023

##### SUMMER TERM 2023

SECOND HALF: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July

### SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION

Dates for the Diary:

#### Dates for your diary

04.07.2023	School Council Elections
04.07.2023	Year 3-6 Sports Day—Basing Hill Park
05.07.2023	Possible Teachers Strike Day
06.07.2023	Year 6 Picnic in the park
06.07.2023	Reception trip to Topsy Turvy World
07.07.2023	Possible Teachers Strike Day
07.07.2023	Year 3 & 4 trip to Golders Hill Park
13.07.2023	Summer Fair 2.30-4.30pm
14.07.2023	Nursery & Reception trip to Basing Hill Park
14.07.2023	Year 2 trip to The Royal Mews
17.07.2023	Year 2 Graduation 2.45pm
17.07.2023	Class swap morning
21.07.2023	Last day of term—school closes 1.15pm
	No after school club

### Sports News



On Friday 23rd June, our Y5 boys and girls football teams participated in the Bishop Douglas Football Tournament. Each of our teams played 7 matches in the group stage, against other schools in Barnet. Showing amazing defending skills and determination, our boys secured their place in the semi finals. Overall Wessex boys (Kayrne, Wassim, Dauhud, Jed, Ethan, Mohamed, Wael, Yassine, Obay and Angelo) finished 3rd and Wessex girls (Saaliha, Munai, Monique, Shahriza, Canfidan, Saraa, Aris, Sadiyah, Neveah and Kami) came 5th out of 13 schools.

On Tuesday 27th June, 33 children represented Wessex Gardens at the Barnet Athletics Team Competition. Our team competed in a variety of field and track events, such as 60m, 80m, 400m, high jump, long jump, shot put, javelin and 4x100m relay. Huge congratulations to Ramani (Y3 Cedar) and Carmelita (Y6 Magnolia) for their fantastic achievement finishing in 3rd place for their year groups (60m boys sprint for Y3 and vortex javelin throw for Y6 girls).

#### Sports Day—Years 3-6

Sports Day for Years 3-6 will be on Tuesday 4th July at Basing Hill Park, parents are very welcome to come along. If you would like to join us we will be walking from school at 9.00am, please let your class teacher know if you are able to walk with us. If you would like to meet us in the park we should be arriving for approximately, 9.15am, please do come along join us, there will also be an event for the parents to take part in!

We will send out details for Year 1 and 2 Sports Day as soon as these have been confirmed.

#### TERM DATES 2023-2024

##### AUTUMN TERM 2023

FIRST HALF:	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October
HALF TERM HOLIDAY:	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
SECOND HALF:	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October – Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December

##### SPRING TERM 2024

FIRST HALF:	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February
HALF TERM HOLIDAY:	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February – Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February
SECOND HALF:	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February – Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March

##### SUMMER TERM 2024

FIRST HALF:	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May
MAY DAY:	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May
HALF TERM HOLIDAY:	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
SECOND HALF:	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July



## TEA WITH THE HEAD



The children invited to Tea with the Head were:

Pine	Aron
Silver Birch	Alexandra
Maple	Arthur
Chestnut	Lucas
Palm	Kaleb
Redwood	Oliwier
Cedar	Tawaab
Hazel	Alex P
Hawthorn	Zahra
Acacia	Saaliha
Sycamore	Kami
Mahogany	Vini
Magnolia	Oleksander

**Congratulations!**



### Stars of the Week

#### Superstars of the Week

Alexandra, Pine class  
 Ilinca, Silver Birch class  
 Nazi, Chestnut class  
 Sura, Maple class  
 Kaydon, Palm class  
 Xhansu, Redwood class

#### Certificate of Merit

Sirine, Cedar class  
 Musa, Hazel class  
 Adonis, Hawthorn class  
 Sara, Acacia class  
 Katrin, Sycamore class  
 Darlene, Mahogany class

#### Reader of the Week

Maryam P, Pine class  
 Aresema, Silver Birch class  
 Victoria, Chestnut class  
 Diya, Maple class  
 Yusuf, Palm class  
 Max, Redwood class  
 Rana, Cedar class  
 Jana A, Hazel class  
 Yusra, Hawthorn class  
 Yasmine, Acacia class  
 Nevaeh, Sycamore class  
 Ardil, Mahogany class  
 Artemis, Magnolia class

#### Class Merit

Hawthorn class  
 Magnolia class

**Well done!**

### Nursery

This week we have been continuing our topic, Ready Steady Grow. Our focus story is Jack and the Beanstalk. We have been continuing to observe our beans grow and talk about the changes occurring. We are becoming very good at sequencing the events in the story and talking about them. In maths, we have been drawing around ourselves and making beanstalks using bricks that are as tall as us! Some of us were able to identify their shortest and tallest children in the class. In phonics, we are becoming very good at identifying missing words in familiar rhymes. We also enjoyed discovering which words rhyme with the words in our focus story.

Have a good weekend.

The Nursery Team

### Reception

In maths the children have been exploring positional language and they have been learning about odd and even numbers. We have continued with our book in English, exploring different types of texts fiction and non-fiction. The children have looked at illustrations from our book and they wrote predictions about what might happen next. We have continued with phonics consolidating the children's knowledge, they have been writing sentences, captions, C.V.C words and some tricky words. Please continue to read with your child on Bug Club and if you need some help kindly let us know. In the sunny weather please remember to apply sun cream to your child before coming to school, bring in a sun hat and water. The children are looking forward to our trip to Topsy Turvy World next week, please let us know if you can kindly help out. Please remember to bring in the £0.50 for ice-lollies on Friday if you have not done so already, thank you. Please note we can only give out library books once the books loaned the previous week are returned.

The adventure continues next week, have a lovely weekend.

### Year 1

It's been another wonderful week of learning in Year 1. Eid Mubarak to all of you who celebrated on Wednesday!

We have had so much fun counting in tens in maths! Why not ask your children to sing the song with the actions? In English, we wrote a diary entry as Little Red from the book, 'The Last Wolf' and have enjoyed our poem, 'Animal Homes'. We learnt about different habitats and had a lovely discussion about all the different animal homes and who might live in them! In history, we learnt about Samuel Wilderspin- did you know that it's all thanks to him that we have playgrounds in schools? We learnt about the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy book and we made our own precious books in Religious Education. Have a wonderful weekend and don't forget your water bottles, sunscreen and hats!

Here are the answers to this week's Topic Quiz:

- 1) Guru means teacher.
- 2) His ideas (such as the playground) are still used today.
- 3) Elephants are mammals.
- 4) The surname 'Singh' given to Sikh men means 'lion'.
- 5) True- penguins are birds.

### Year 2

Year 2 have had an exciting week! We had a big trip to the National Portrait Gallery. The children were so excited to go on the tube and to be in central London. They all really enjoyed the gallery. They had fun finding all the portraits on the I SPY worksheet as well as enjoyed having some time to choose a portrait and try and draw it themselves. It was such a lovely day! In English we wrote about our favourite part of the trip. Some students really enjoyed the train, others thought the portraits of the royal families were very impressive. A lot of them also enjoyed the nice lunchroom we had! We also did a big recount. They had to recount all the things they did that day using the many time connectives they know. In maths we are learning about how to describe turns. They have learnt about the difference between clockwise and anticlockwise. In history we learnt about Queen Victoria. She did many things during her reign like making sure all children have a proper education! In computing we used a photograph to make a regal portrait on pixir. Overall its been a very fun week for year 2

### Year 3 & 4

This week, Year 3 and 4 have been working really hard, especially in their writing lessons. We have been looking closely at the features of non-chronological reports and identifying what needs to be included to make it interesting and successful. The children came up with lots of interesting vocabulary to use in their reports and it has been a delight to see them showing so much enthusiasm.

In maths Y3 have been learning about turns and angles. Please help your child to identify (right angles, obtuse and acute) and compare angles. Also practise with your child to perform a quarter, three quarters, half and full turn. Year 4 have been looking at the different types of triangles and quadrilateral shapes. They have been identifying the different features of equivalent, isosceles, scalene and right-angled triangles.

We would just like to add that we are super impressed and proud of Year 4 for their wonderful singing performance at St Jude's on Thursday. They demonstrated outstanding behaviour and their voices were so beautiful. Well done to you all!

### Year 5

This week in Year 5 we have been learning about how to add numbers involving decimals. By the end of the week we found it quite easy and we really enjoyed it. In English, we were reading a news report and completed some comprehension questions. We then used newspaper cuttings for collage and created our own newspaper reports - we were very creative! On Tuesday, some of us went to an athletics competition which was great fun! We didn't win but we had so much fun and our team spirit kept a smile on all of our faces. In guided reading, we completed our work on the legendary Pelé. We enjoyed reading about his resilient character and took inspiration for ourselves. That is all for this week! Eid Mubarak and Happy Friday!

### Year 6

Year 6 pupils are at the final stages of preparing for their production. It has been an energetic experience for all pupils. On Monday, we had a dance teacher stage practise various dance manoeuvres and freestyle. Today, we will be having our Year 6 Prom party as some pupils take time to explore their friendships coming to the end of Year 6.