

WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Autumn Term — 17th November 2023 (Issue 10)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a week we have had at Wessex Gardens! Lots of great learning and a super trip to the theatre for Y3 and Y4 (as well as a walk along the Thames to see many different landmarks!) Special thanks to all the parents who came.

We have had a number of important assemblies this week, Year 6 began with their Remembrance Day assembly. It was very moving and we held our 2 minute silence. Our Harvest assembly on Wednesday focused on food waste. This is something we must really try and improve on at Wessex Gardens. During this assembly, we also introduced our School Councillors and presented them with their badges. We are very proud of them! Thank you again for your Harvest donations. We will be donating to Food Bank Aid.



We also learned about Diwali and today we recognised Anti-Bullying week and wore odd socks. Odd socks day is saying it is okay to be different and to stand up against bullying and discrimination. I will be reiterating this message during Monday's assembly.



Greening Project

Today Wessex Gardens Eco Club went to help plant daffodil bulbs on the vale. The planting continues this weekends so please go and help. There is more information at the end of this Newsletter. We will also be planting some bulbs on our school grounds next week.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Alexander Banks
Headteacher

School Council

1 Maple class	Alexandra and Maryan
1 Chestnut class	Grace and Mia
2 Palm class	Chloe and Diya
2 Redwood class	Alaizza and Rickai
3 Cedar class	Zahra and Afsa
3 Hazel class	Nadine and Megan
4 Oak class	Rana and Annis
4 Hawthorn	Janna
5 Sycamore	Aaminah and Greta
5 Acacia	Musa and Reyhana
6 Mahogany	Dauhud and Jed
6 Magnolia	Max and Kami



Letters home this week

Y3	Trip to British Museum 29.11.23
Y3	Visit to Brent Sikh Temple 04.12.23
Y5/6	Trip to Royal Opera House 07.12.23
Y6	Trip to Churchill War Rooms
Nurs-Rec	Dacapo photo/video consent



SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

22.11.2023	Year 1 trip to Science Museum
23.11.2023	Hazel Class Assembly 9.15am parents invited
24.11.2023	Hawthorn Class Assembly 9.15am parents invited
28.11.2023	SEND Coffee afternoon
29.11.2023	Year 3 trip to British Museum
30.11.2023	School Discos
04.12.2023	Year 3 visit to Sikh Temple
05.12.2023	Sycamore Class Assembly 9.15 parents invited
06.12.2023	Christmas lunch (to be pre-ordered on Parents.feedinghungryminds.co.uk)
07.12.2023	Year 5/6 trip to ROH—Nutcracker performance
08.12.2023	Oak Class Assembly 9.15am parents invited
11.12.2023	Non uniform day (children to bring in tins and bottle donations for Tombola prizes (Christmas Fair))
12.12.2023	Year 6 trip to Churchill War Rooms
13.12.2023	KS1 Nativity—Year 1 Parents to watch 9.15am change
14.12.2023	KS1 Nativity—Year 2 Parents to watch 9.15am change
20.12.2023	Christmas Fair 3.00-5.00pm
20.12.2023	Last day of term school closing early
20.12.2023	After School Club closed

Swimming lessons will start again from Monday 23rd November for those children who have been swimming this half term

School Discos

30th November 2023



Reception—Year 2: 3.30pm-4.30pm

Tickets cost £2.50 & include drink, crisps and chocolate treat.

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6: 4.45pm-5.45pm

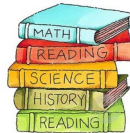
Tickets cost £2.00 and bring pocket money to buy drinks, crisps and/or chocolate treat

Tickets will go on sale next week and may only be purchased online. Please wait to receive the notification.

Attendance % this week

Chestnut	98%
Maple	92%
Palm	97%
Redwood	98%
Cedar	98%
Hazel	98%
Hawthorn	96%
4 Oak	94%
Acacia	100%
Sycamore	97%
Magnolia	95%
Mahogany	94%

Well done Acacia class—100% attendance this week!



Nursery

This week we have been focusing on the traditional tale Goldilocks and The Three Bears. All of the children have demonstrated a good understanding of the events in the story. We have enjoyed making information posters about bears, bear masks using different materials and honey sandwiches!! We have also been focusing on the story Elmer for anti-bullying week and loved talking about the pictures in the book.

We demonstrated excellent concentration skills while creating our own individual elephants and a very large Elmer using colourful squares as a group. We enjoyed listening to De Capo playing a range of woodwind instruments in the hall.

The Nursery Team

Reception

Here's a glimpse of what your children have been up to in Reception class this week

In mathematics, the focus has been on reinforcing the concept of '1 more.' Through engaging activities and games, the children are developing their understanding of numerical progression. Our English sessions have been dedicated to the Power of Reading text and the children are thoroughly enjoying exploring various texts, fostering a love for literature. We encourage you to read with your child at home to further enhance their comprehension skills. A highlight in our phonics journey has been the introduction of the 'Cross the Rivers' game. This interactive and playful approach is designed to strengthen phonetic awareness, making the learning process enjoyable for our young learners. We have embarked on the exciting adventure of guided reading. This provides a tailored approach to literacy, allowing each child to progress at their own pace while receiving targeted support. In the realm of art, our budding artists had a fantastic time experimenting with tin foil painting. This hands-on activity not only sparks creativity but also hones fine motor skills and attention to detail.

We look forward to the continued growth and development of each child as we progress through the autumn term. If you have any questions or would like further details on your child's experience, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Thank you for your continued support and the adventure continues next week.

Year 1

This week, our young mathematicians mastered number bonds within 10 through engaging activities and games. In English, the children completed a report about Bluebirds, detailing their habitat, diet, and some special features. Showcasing their creativity, the children designed imaginative shelters for their mini-me. Geography focused on navigating the world using directional language, with our little explorers using maps to understand our wonderful world. Sensational exploration of our five senses took place, with active engagement in taste, touch, sight, smell, and hearing to unravel the magic of their senses. We continued our journey into Diwali, by listening to the tale of Rama and Sita, exploring themes of bravery and the triumph of good over evil, enriching our understanding of this cultural celebration. Stay tuned for more exciting adventures ahead! Have a lovely weekend

Year 2

It's been a wonderful week in Year 2 and we have been doing some amazing learning. In English, we had to write a retell of How to Find Gold as we come to the end of our Power of Reading. We really enjoyed the book and all the fun activities we got to do.

In maths we learnt how to add numbers and exchange our ones for tens. Most of us really struggled but after some practise we got it. We will also be subtracting two 2-digit numbers with and without exchange. Please help your child to practise these calculations at home.

Science was fun as we learnt about living and non living things. We learnt about the 7 life processes of living things and we also learnt that there are some things that have lived and are dead and some things have never lived.

In history we carried on looking at the significant people from the past and we got the chance to sort them into different categories such as explorers, artists, activists, monarchs and scientists.

This week was anti-bullying week and we had interesting discussions in our classes about the people who they can go to should they ever need help. They also learnt not to be bystanders when it comes to bullying and that it is their responsibility to make a noise should bullying ever happen to them or someone else. Please continue this discussion at home.



Wow! What a week! We had an amazing trip to the Unicorn Theatre! The children had a fabulous time and we look forward to all the prospective trips. We have been learning about forces in science and understanding the difference between push and pull forces. In maths, we continue to perfect our technique using addition and subtraction. We encourage the children to continue to practise adding and subtracting at home. In English, we have thoroughly been enjoying reading The Tin Forest and understanding how disposal of waste can affect our world and our energy. In PSHE, this week we have taken part in anti-bullying week, where we have zoned into the difference between banter and bullying and how they can sometimes overlap. For this themed week children and adults wore odd socks to celebrate our differences and similarities. Have a great weekend.

Year 3 Team.

Year 4

This week Year 4 have had a phenomenal time exploring scripts and plays. Our highlight was undoubtedly our Lower Key Stage 2 trip to the Unicorn Theatre! We had a wonderful time and enjoyed spotting all the landmarks Mr Banks told us about at school. The play was called The Bolds and had us laughing like a bunch of, well - hyenas! We learnt the joy of being anything but ordinary and loved discussing what makes us special back at school! We also looked at playscripts and identified the features that distinguish it from other text types. We couldn't stop ourselves from creating our own plays and we can't wait to show you! Keep an eye out - we are sure to be performing soon!

Year 5

In Science Year 5 have been learning recently the topic of properties and changing of materials. The children had to investigate and observe different materials for example an elastic band, a ruler, a battery, a crocodile clip and they had to find out whether they were bendy, or reflective, or transparent etc. The children had fun testing the different properties and gained a lot of knowledge from this experience.

In English the we have been working on their diary entries in connection with the topic on Mama Mitu. They have been planning and writing their diary entries as if they were Mama Mitu. The children found this a very interesting experience as they know also that Mama Mitu has been given the Nobel Peace Prize.

They also gained knowledge in their PSHE lesson especially on the topic of anti bullying. The children were able to enquire and reflect on this as they found out that banter could be seen as bullying.

Year 6

Another wonderful week in Year 6! In maths, we have been learning how to recognise equivalent fractions and how to use the highest common factor to simplify. In English, we have been using the features of formal writing to support us with writing a formal letter. We used our knowledge of life as a child evacuee to inform our writing. In history, we have started to explore war-themed vocabulary that we will be using through our topic, Britain at War. In science, we have started to learn about light theory, applying what we already know combined with new knowledge to answer questions. In RE, we are continuing to learn about the traditions of the Jewish New Year, and reflected on how we can make amends for past mistakes. We would like to say a big thank you for your support in ensuring all of our Year 6 pupils are attending booster classes after school. These classes will boost your children's progress and will therefore support them in preparation for their SATs in May. As always, wishing you a wonderful weekend!

TEA WITH THE HEAD



The children invited to Tea with the Head were:

Chestnut	Grace
Maple	Younes
Palm	Ridha
Redwood	Ruqayya
Cedar	Mohammed
Hazel	Samuel
Oak	Holly
Hawthorn	Celin
Acacia	Yusuf
Sycamore	Stacy
Mahogany	Az-zahra
Magnolia	Abokor

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Aron, Chestnut class
Ayden, Maple class
Aqil, Palm class
Nazi, Redwood class

Certificate of Merit

Brooke, Cedar class
Natalia, Hazel class
Lewis, Oak class
Sam, Hawthorn class
Anik, Acacia class
Cain, Sycamore class
Wassim, Magolia class
Daniel, Mahogany class

Reader of the Week

Inas, Chestnut class
Sofia, Maple class
Matar, Redwood class
Mia, Cedar class
Nadine, Hazel class
Nikki, Oak class
Amelia, Hawthorn class
Avesta, Acacia class
Yusra, Sycamore class
Katrin, Magnolia class
Mohammad, Mahogany class

Well done!



Bulb Planting on The Vale

Sat 18th & Sun 19th Nov

10am - 3pm

Join us at any point during the day to plant lots and lots of spring bulbs to brighten up the neighbourhood. Accompanied children welcome. Please bring your own gloves, spade and trowel if possible. Meet on the grassy islands.

For more information
please get in touch:



abundance
london 🍏🍎🍐🍑

BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

OUR YARD
at Clitterhouse Farm