



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Autumn Term — 8th December 2023 (Issue 13)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another great week at Wessex Gardens. There continues to be great learning taking place. Year 5 and Year 6 had a magical time at the Royal Opera House where they watched the ballet, The Nutcracker. Thanks again to all the parents able to support this trip.



Thank you to all who brought in tins of food and bottles for the Tombola. Unfortunately there was a misunderstanding with what was needed. We need full tins of food and bottles of drink (coke, juice etc) to be prizes on the Tombola, we are not collecting empty bottles. Apologies if this wasn't clear. Please do send in something on Monday if you can!

On Wednesday, Year 1 and Year 2 are performing their nativity play. I do hope Year 1 and Year 2 friends and family are able to come and see the show! It starts at 9:30am in the big hall. It will be a real treat as everyone has worked so hard.

We are very much looking forward to seeing you on Thursday 14th December at our Christmas Fair. The children may again wear their own clothes on Thursday but need to bring something delicious for us to sell at the Fair. In the past we have had delicious cakes, biscuits, samosas, rice, sushi... the list is endless! Please bring in what you can!

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Alexander Banks
Headteacher

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

- 11.12.2023 Year 6 trip to Churchill War Rooms
- 13.12.2023 KS1 Nativity– Year 2 Parents to watch 9.30am **change**
- 14.12.2023 Christmas Fair 3.00-5.00pm
- 15.12.2023 Nursery and Reception—Sing-a-long
Parents to watch 9.15am
- 20.12.2023 Last day of term school closing early
After School Club closed

Attendance % this week

Chestnut	92%
Maple	87%
Palm	98%
Redwood	96%
Cedar	99%
Hazel	99%
Hawthorn	97%
Oak	91%
Acacia	97%
Sycamore	89%
Magnolia	90%
Mahogany	95%

No classes were 100% attendance this week—Hazel class—so close!

Letters home this week



No letters home this week,

TERM DATES 2023-2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023

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

SPRING TERM 2024

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

SUMMER TERM 2024

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



Coffee Morning Year 3-6 Parents/Carers

Mrs Sharif and Mrs Alexandrou are holding a Coffee Morning on Thursday 14th December at 9.15am in the Media room for any parents/carers who would like support with home learning and homework club. Please do come along to find out what extra support there is for your child. Thank you.

Nursery

This week we have been sharing Christmas stories. All of the children have enjoyed learning a range of songs and actions. We have enjoyed decorating the class Christmas tree and making decorations for the classroom. We are continuing to enjoy completing challenging puzzles together! We are becoming very good at waiting for our turn to ride different trikes, bikes and scooters. We are continuing to develop our awareness of space. **Our P.E session is on a Tuesday. Please make sure your child is wearing trainers which they can take off and put on independently. All children must wear socks (no tights).** Many thanks for your support
The Nursery Team

Reception

What a wonderful week in Silver Birch! It has been full of adventures. The children have been busy crafting this week, they have loved decorating our Christmas tree, wrapping presents to put under the tree and making colourful paper chains. Our classroom is looking amazing! We have created penguin paintings and shiny silver pasta stars. In maths, we have been exploring numbers. We have been practising our counting with one-to-one correspondence and ordering numbers. We have finished off learning all our Phase 2 Phonics phonemes. Please support your children with developing their phonics knowledge by reading daily on Bug Club. **Please remember next Friday we have our Christmas sing- a-long at 9:15am.** We hope to see you all there. Have a lovely weekend!

Year 1

We have had a busy week in Year 1. In English, we explored poetry and had a go at 'Big Write' about our nature walk to the park. In design and technology we built houses and shelters out of boxes for our mini-me figures. In maths, we continued to explore subtractions. We looked at the 'fact family', part whole model and number lines to help us work out the answers. In science, the children explored their sense of touch by reaching into a mystery bag. In geography, the children explored the concept of aerial photography and how aerial photographs are taken then they had the opportunity to explore using Google Earth. We moved on to Phase 5 in phonics. Please continue to read on Bug Club at home!

Year 2



This week the children from Year 2 have been practising speaking loudly and confidently their lines for our Christmas Nativity play 'It's a Party'. Please continue practising the Christmas songs at the weekend. We are looking forward to our performance for all parents/carers on Wednesday 13th December at 9.30am.

Also, we have been working on improving our comprehension, retrieval and inference skills during our guided reading sessions and when completing the reading assessments. In our maths sessions we have been consolidating our knowledge about 2-D shapes and counting the number of the sides and vertices. Also we had arithmetic and reasoning maths assessments.

In history we were looking at similarities and differences between activists from the past via a debate.

Don't forget to join us for our annual Christmas School Fair on Thursday 14th December at 3pm and try your luck in different games and raffle.

Year 3

A beautiful start to the cold week in Year 3 as we set off on our journey to visit the gudwara in Brent. The children were able to explore the local temple and understand all the amazing things that we have been learning at school about Sikhism. Our trips are very important to our children's learning and we are very grateful to all our parent volunteers who support our trips. This is the last trip for this term but we have had so much fun. Learning in maths includes our 2,3 and 5 timestables. It is important that we know our timestables in preparation for next year. In English we have written a beautiful poem on our wishes for the future and will begin writing our recount of our trip. In PSHE, we continue to look at supporting our children in regards to bullying through our bounce project. In science, we have been analysing and creating our own bar graphs. Thank you for your support in learning and we look forward to more learning and Christmas preparations!

Year 4

This week Year 4 have begun thinking about the features of instructions and when instructions are used in real life. Next week, they will write their own instructions to teach their families how to weave! They have loved using a loom to practise weaving as part of our DT topic this term. In science, the children have started creating their own lines of enquiry to investigate. We've looked at how sounds can be muffled to make them quieter and also what happens when you move further away from a sound source. In history, they've begun to learn about the first Viking longboat landings in Britain! Very exciting! In computing they've been learning how to program by creating instructions to write their initials on FMSLogo. Another busy and fun-filled week!

Year 5

In science this week Year 5 have been investigating solubility. They investigated what types of materials eg sugar, salt, coffee etc dissolved in cold water and how quick. They also looked at what type of materials do not dissolve - and to further their learning, to think about what types of materials in their homes are soluble and not soluble. The Year 5s had fun as they worked together investigating and writing down what they had learnt. In English the children are still working and learning on the topic of Mama Miti, but have been learning how to write a narrative. They are using prepositional phrases, compound clauses and used their five senses to work out how Mam Miti might be thinking about the deforestation of Kenya. The students are improving immensely in their writing and spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Year 6

What a wonderful week we've had in year 6. Year 6 enjoyed a breath-taking performance of The Nutcracker at the Royal Opera House; the children had so many wonderful things to say about this experience. Their homework this week will include writing their plans for their recount on this trip, please ensure that this is brought in for Monday morning. In English this week, the children produced some beautifully written and planned flashback stories from the perspective of William Beech the evacuee. They focused on using descriptive writing, showing not telling, as well as using different punctuation marks, such as semi colons and dashes consistently in their writing. We have also had assessment week this week, whereby the children completed their reading and SPAG paper; we are really proud of the children's resilience and positivity during this time. We are looking forward to visiting the Churchill War Rooms, as we continue exploring our World War topic in history.

TEA WITH THE HEAD



The children invited to Tea with the Head were:

Chestnut	Enzo
Maple	Alexzandra
Palm	Davi
Redwood	Arthur
Cedar	Barish
Hazel	Ahyan
Oak	Roman
Hawthorn	Abdumalik
Acacia	Adonis
Sycamore	David
Mahogany	Maya
Magnolia	Kami

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Cassius, Chestnut class

David, Maple class

Emily, Redwood class

Samar, Palm class

Certificate of Merit

Hussein, Cedar class

Rahaam, Hazel class

Shae, Oak class

Amelia, Hawthorn class

Yusuf, Acacia class

Aaliyah, Sycamore class

Keyaan, Mahogany class

Malek, Magnolia class

Reader of the Week

Grace, Chestnut class

Nicolas, Maple class

Ruqayya, Redwood class

Bushra, Palm class

Mohammed and Kaleb, Cedar class

Olush, Hazel class

Annis, Oak class

William, Hawthorn class

Rayhana, Acacia class

Nour, Sycamore class

Munai, Mahogany class

Kristella, Magnolia class

Well done!