



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Spring Term — 23rd February 2024 (Issue 20)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope you had a wonderful half term break. Despite being a shorter week, it has still been just as busy with lots of great learning taking place.



This week in assembly I spoke to the children about the charity 'Food Bank Aid' that raises funds for food banks. They asked us to help promote their charity by sending photos of plates decorated by our pupils. It was a great wet play activity for us!

Swimming Pool

We need to do some repairs on the roof of our swimming pool. Scaffolding will be put up on Monday. We will ensure the site is secure and that swimming can continue during the refurbishment.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Alexander Banks
Headteacher

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

- 27.02.2024 Y4 visit to Synagogue
- 04.03.2024 Y4 trip to Lee Valley
- 07.03.2024 World Book Day
- 10.03.2024 Mothering Sunday
- 20.03.2024 Y1 trip to London Aquarium

Attendance % this week

Chestnut	90%
Maple	90%
Palm	98%
Redwood	95%
Cedar	93%
Hazel	94%
Hawthorn	99%
Oak	98%
Acacia	96%
Sycamore	73%
Magnolia	98%
Mahogany	99%

No classes achieved 100% attendance this week. Hawthorn and Mahogany—so close!

Letters home this week



- Nurs-Y6 World Book Day
- Y4 Trip to Synagogue (27.02.2024)

TERM DATES 2023-2024

SPRING TERM 2024

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

Dates for the academic year 2024-2025 are shown later in this Newsletter

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Barnet Fostering are looking to recruit more foster carers across Barnet. If you are interested in becoming a foster carer, please collect information leaflet from the school office. Thank you.

Nursery

We've enjoyed another busy week in Nursery! This week we have been exploring the story '1,2,3 Do the Dinosaur' by Michelle Robinson and Rosalind Beardshaw. We have been practising chomping, stomping, swishing our tails and roaring like dinosaurs. In maths, we have been developing our sorting and counting skills. We have been creating some lovely artwork on a small scale using dinosaur footprints. We are very proud of our achievements. We are making lots of progress with settling back into the routine after the holidays! Many thanks for working in partnership with us during the settling process. Have a lovely weekend!
The Nursery Team

Reception

What an exciting week of learning in Silver Birch. We started our new power of reading story this week, the children are yet to know the title of our story. We can't wait to find out the title next week! In maths, we have been exploring the numbers 6, 7 and 9. We have represented the different numbers using numicon, counters and bead strings. We have enjoyed role playing in the vets. The children have been taking good care of all the animals. The children challenged themselves in P.E this week, climbing up high on the large climbing equipment. We are nearly finished teaching the children our phase 3 phonics sounds. Please read with your child on Bug Club as it is a great way to support your child's reading skills. Have a lovely weekend everyone and see you all on Monday!

Year 1

We hope you all had a restful break. Here's a glimpse into what we've been up to and what's ahead: We have embarked on an exciting new book journey, delving deep into storytelling and literature through the exploration of illustrations. Maths this week, the children are mastering place value and counting up to 100, with a focus on counting in 10s and grouping up to 50. Religious education we have been exploring the roles, responsibilities, and differences among religious leaders. Our topic is 'London: Bright Lights, Big City'. The children will be discovering the culture and landmarks of London in geography. In design and technology we will delve into vehicle components like axles, chassis, and wheels. In science our focus this term is on animals including humans, with the children learning about vertebrates, from reptiles to mammals. If you have a pet, could your children bring a picture? Wishing you a wonderful weekend as the adventure continues next week!

Year 2

Hope you all have had a great half term break. We have been very busy in Year 2 with our learning. In maths we started our new block - Multiplication and Division. We have been learning how to add equal groups of objects using repeated addition and multiplication. Please ask your child to draw a pictorial representation. In English, we have started a new lovely power of reading book - The Lonely Beast by Chris Judge. We enjoyed writing a character description and created a dialogue with the Beast. In art we learned about the primary colours and explored mixing secondary colours. Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit on Thursday, ready for their PE session. Have a wonderful weekend!

Year 3

AN EXPLOSIVE START TO THE HALF TERM! That's right, our topic this term is all things volcanoes! We are so excited to delve deep into this topic. In English, we are beginning our sequence of writing an explanation text on 'How a Volcano erupts'. We have studied exactly that and the features of how to create an explanation text. We can't wait to write our final piece next week. In maths, we have continued our learning on length and perimeter, and have recapped the knowledge on mm, cm and m and how to convert between all three measurements we are very impressed with the knowledge so far. In PSHE, we continue to work on our social and emotional health with our bounce project and address our new topic this term with identity, society and equality and exploring our differences and similarities. Please continue accessing your home learning online and completing your active learn. Have a lovely weekend.

Year 4

This week in Year 4, we have been delving into a new class novel - Krindlekrax! We have loved making predictions from the front cover and analysing the story for more clues. We have also been identifying similarities between characters and drawing inferences about what may come next! We can't wait to continue reading the next chapter! In science, we have started learning about electricity. We used Venn diagrams to sort battery-powered, mains-powered appliances and non electrical appliances. We were surprised at just how many we could spot in the environment around us!

Year 5

The Year 5s have had a good start to the week. They have been learning about the human life developmental stages in science, this has been good for them to discuss, enquire and research as it shows the difference between birth and old age. In English they are starting on a new book, which they do not know the title of as yet, but they do know, it is about Greek mythology, which ties in with their history class, this gives a great link with their learning, as they draw upon what they have been learning across the two subjects. One student even asked if there was going to be a trip to Greece.

Year 6

It has been a fantastic start to the second half of the Spring term for Year 6. In maths, we have been learning about position and direction, as well as revising previous topics. In English, the children have been learning about Ernest Shackleton, who was an Anglo-Irish Antarctic explorer. The children were very impressed with Shackleton's leadership qualities and are very much looking forward to writing an application letter next week, expressing their desires to be chosen by Shackleton to join him on his expedition to the South Pole. In R.E, we have been continuing to learn about pilgrimage, focusing on Judaism and the Western Wall. It was particularly interesting to observe the children drawing lots of similarities between their religions. In geography, we learned about the Polar regions of Earth, locating the Arctic and Antarctic circles. We are also beginning to explore similarities and differences between both regions. Boys will be swimming this half term. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

TEA WITH THE HEAD



The children invited to Tea with the Head were:

Silver Birch	Rashad
Chestnut	Ilyas
Maple	David
Palm	Basit
Redwood	Matar
Cedar	Jalil
Hazel	Shirley
Oak	Reagan
Hawthorn	Erika
Acacia	Zahra
Sycamore	Neil
Mahogany	Ethan
Magnolia	Mehraveh

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Arkham, Silver Birch class
Nabil, Chestnut class
Isaq, Maple class
Amelia, Palm class
Yasin, Redwood class

Certificate of Merit

Mia and Ehsan, Cedar class
Ahyan, Hazel class
Jannah, Oak class
Ersi, Hawthorn class
Avesta, Acacia class
Alex, Sycamore class
Keyaan, Mahogany class
Katrin, Magnolia class

Reader of the Week

Igor, Silver Birch class
Rasan, Chestnut class
Marinel, Maple class
Ridha, Palm class
Elias, Redwood class
Zahra, Cedar class
Ethan, Hazel class
Shae, Oak class
Sumiya, Hawthorn class
Denis, Acacia class
Keleecia, Sycamore class
Shahruza, Mahogany class
Sumaya, Magnolia class

Well done!

WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2024 / 2025

AUTUMN TERM 2024

FIRST HALF: Wednesday 4th September – Friday 25th October

HALF TERM HOLIDAY: Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November

SECOND HALF: Monday 4th November – Friday 20th December

SPRING TERM 2025

FIRST HALF: Monday 6th January – Friday 14th February

HALF TERM HOLIDAY: Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February

SECOND HALF: Monday 24th February – Friday 4th April

SUMMER TERM 2025

FIRST HALF: Tuesday 22nd April – Friday 23rd May

MAY DAY: Monday 5th May

HALF TERM HOLIDAY: Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May

SECOND HALF: Tuesday 3rd June – Friday 18th July