

# 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 — 22nd March 2024 (Issue 24)

### Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another super week at Wessex Gardens! It has been lovely to see Spring arrive this week - even though today it seems to have disappeared again!

#### Parent Governor

Firstly **WE HAVE A NEW PARENT GOVERNOR!** Mrs Blesilda Sala has volunteered to be our other Parent Governor. Blesilda is one of our Reception children's parent. She will be part of the team to help make Wessex Gardens the best it can be! I am very grateful to her for volunteering her time for such an important role. Welcome to the Governing Body Blesilda!

#### Shakespeare Week

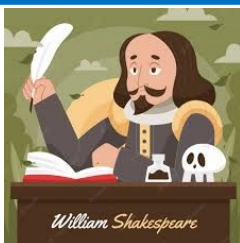
This week we have been learning all about Shakespeare. I began the week with an assembly linking Shakespeare to Netflix and other streaming platforms - the connection being entertainment. Did you know that 'The Lion King' is loosely based on Hamlet? The plays he wrote tell such amazing stories.

#### Speak Out Stay Safe

Today we had the NSPCC visit to deliver workshops to our Y2, Y5 and Y6 children. This was the final part of this programme and the children have responded so well to what can be a quite challenging to hear. They now know the ChildLine number and know a lot more about keeping themselves safe.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Alexander Banks  
Headteacher



William Shakespeare

### SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



#### Dates for your diary

- 28.03.2024 Last day of term school closes early 1.15pm
- 28.03.2024 Afterschool club closed
- 29.03.2024-
- 12.04.2024 School closed Easter holiday
- 15.04.2024 School reopens
- 16.01.2024 National offer day Reception places 2024 (evening)

#### Easter Raffle



If you have not already bought tickets for our Easter Raffle, these can still be purchased from the school office or from Gemma/Dawn in Silver Birch class.

Tickets cost £1 for a strip of 5 (5 chances to win). Prizes are as follows:

- 1st Prize Family Topsy Turvy Ticket and Easter egg
- 2nd Prize Family Topsy Turvy Ticket and Easter egg
- 3rd Prize Family Topsy Turvy Ticket

With lots more prizes and Easter eggs to be won!

#### Attendance % this week

<b>Chestnut</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>Maple</b>	<b>98%</b>
<b>Palm</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>Redwood</b>	<b>98%</b>
<b>Cedar</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>Hazel</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>Hawthorn</b>	<b>99%</b>
<b>Oak</b>	<b>92%</b>
<b>Acacia</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Sycamore</b>	<b>98%</b>
<b>Magnolia</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Mahogany</b>	<b>99%</b>

**Congratulations to Acacia and Magnolia classes on 100% attendance this week**

#### Letters home this week



Nurs-Y6 Easter Raffle Tickets

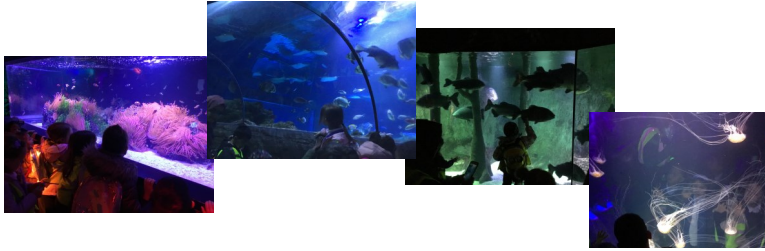
## Nursery

We've enjoyed another busy week in Nursery! This week we have been exploring the story 'The very hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. We are beginning to respond to 'why' questions about the events in the story. In maths, we have been representing numbers to 5 using fruit. We have also been sequencing the different stages of the life cycle of a butterfly and talking about changes observed. We created beautiful butterfly prints and models of caterpillars by following some simple instructions. Please continue to look on Tapestry regularly to access your child's home learning, fridge words and latest achievements!  
We wish you an enjoyable weekend!  
The Nursery Team

## Reception

Wow, What an exciting week in Silver Birch. It has been full of adventures. The children had lots of fun, making Easter chocolate nests. They wrote incredible recipes to share with the children in Year 1. The Easter chocolate nests tasted delicious! Using our spy pens the children enjoyed writing secret messages to each other. You are only able to read the secret message by switching on the spy light. In maths, we have been exploring and naming 3D shapes. Over the weekend have a look around your house and local area for 3D shapes. We have enjoyed playing cross the river, hide and seek and writing in shaving foam in our outside classroom. Next week we will be performing to the whole school our poem "Spaghetti Spaghetti" we are working hard to remember and we cannot wait! We hope you all have a lovely weekend. See you on Monday. Please remember to read on Bug Club!

## Year 1



Here are the highlights of our adventurous week:

Our trip to the aquarium was a splash-tastic experience! The children were mesmerised by the colourful marine life, and their behaviour on the Underground was exemplary. Seeing London landmarks in person brought our geography lessons to life, sparking excitement and making learning memorable. Outdoor activities helped the children grasp volume and capacity concepts, while using balancing scales enhanced their understanding of mass. We introduced 'Buddy' as part of our PSHE learning. Please ask your child about their thoughts on Buddy. Have a wonderful weekend, and the adventure continues next week!

## Year 2

Good Day Parents,

This week has been a tough one with our assessments but we got through. We had our maths and reading assessments this week. We also celebrated Shakespeare week and learnt all about the famous playwright William Shakespeare. We acted in a play of The Three Little Pigs and got to make predictions about a Shakespeare play called A Midsummer Night's Dream. We also had to use our imagination to create a short play and act it out.

In RE, we learnt about how we feel in our special places and how people feel in their religious special places. In history, we continued with the Great Fire of London and we got to be architects and design our own reconstructed city and label the improvements that we decided to make to avoid another Great Fire. That was so much fun! We also looked at primary and secondary sources to explore historical facts from the past. In science, we learnt about the different ways in which exercise benefits our body and choosing the right foods so that we have a balanced diet. We also learnt about the benefits of eating from the different food groups. Last swimming session for boys is next Wednesday so please remember swimming kits.

## Year 3

The children are blowing the minds of so many adults in the school with the amount of knowledge they have regarding volcanoes, rocks and soils! We hope they have shared this with you too, if not, ask them what they know. In maths, the children have been mastering their skill of equivalent fractions and in English we have completed our holiday brochure and currently are in the process of publishing it! Also in English, it is Shakespeare week. We have looked at who Shakespeare was and even began reading some scripts of his e.g A Midsummer Night's Dream. We even had a little treat of watching the play. In R.E, we have compared symbols between Islam and Christianity. In geography we have analysed the differences between cinder cone, composite and shield volcanoes! We even made our own with clay. Lastly in science we investigated which rocks were permeable and impermeable.  
As always, thank you for all you do. The children are making fantastic progress.

## Year 4

This week, Year 4 delved into a creative whirlwind! Year 4 were fully engaged in block printing motifs inspired by the renowned artist William Morris, they explored intricate designs in their art project. In English, we embodied the character of 'Ruskin', expressing our frustrations as he might have by scrunching up our diary entries before dramatically tossing them away. Also, well done to all who embraced the spirit of fun on Red Nose Day with wild and wacky hairstyles, adding a splash of colour and cheer to the school last Friday! Finally, as we are celebrating the month of Ramadan, we would love to request you send in any photos of your Ramadan activities such as iftar at home to share in assembly.

## Year 5

Once again the Year 5s, have been immersed this week in Shakespeare. How great that the students are learning about a man who has established so many sayings within the English language. The students have been reading throughout this week William Shakespeare's plays, the comedies as well as the tragedies. The students are also attempting to reconstruct the play 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', by writing their own playscript.

This week, the students also performed a poem in front of their peers, which was truly amazing to see, and which some said once they had got over the nerves, they really enjoyed, we say—well done Year 5.

## Year 6

We would like to say a huge well done to our Year 6 pupils as they have completed another set of mock tests. They demonstrated such positivity and growth mindsets when doing so, making us immensely proud of them. We will be giving the children their results next week before going through each test giving them opportunities to ask question and address any misconceptions. In other news, we had a wonderful experience when learning all about William Shakespeare and his works. We explored language used by him and its significance to language that we still use today. Soon after, we analysed the witches' spell in The Tragedy of Macbeth before having a go at writing our own spells with four beats to a line. We also responded to the play The Tempest, creating a stormy sea picture using different art materials. We are continuing to learn about classification in science focusing on the animal kingdom. In geography, we used research to answer the enquiry, 'How are polar oceans different from other oceans on Earth?' As always, wishing you a peaceful weekend!

## TEA WITH THE HEAD



The children invited to Tea with the Head were:

Silver Birch	Najlae
Chestnut	Aresema
Maple	Kabir
Palm	Diya
Redwood	Freya
Cedar	Zahra
Hazel	Harun
Oak	George
Hawthorn	Havin
Acacia	Lisa
Sycamore	Leila
Mahogany	Raissa
Magnolia	Magnolia

**Congratulations!**

## Stars of the Week



### Superstars of the Week

Yahia, Silver Birch class  
Chestnut class  
Maple class  
Arij, Palm class  
Ines, Redwood class

### Certificate of Merit

Darren, Cedar class  
Jannah, Oak class  
Sumiyah, Hawthorn class  
Cain, Sycamore class  
Sadiyah, Mahogany class

### Reader of the Week

Arthur, Silver Birch class  
Enzo, Chestnut class  
Maryam, Maple class  
Hans, Palm class  
Alaizza, Redwood class  
Enrico, Cedar class  
Ahyan, Hazel class  
Pandora, Oak class  
Jana, Hawthorn class  
Denis, Acacia class  
Sycamore class  
Aris, Mahogany class  
Kyan Lee, Magnolia class

### Class Merit

Hazel class  
Acacia class  
Magnolia class

**Well done!**