



# WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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## Newsletter

Autumn Term — 27th September 2024 (Issue 3)

### Welcome to this week's Newsletter



#### School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we wrap up another exciting week at Wessex Gardens Primary School, I want to take a moment to highlight some of the fantastic learning and activities that have taken place.

#### Classroom Learning:

This week, our pupils have been deeply engaged in their learning and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and creativity in action! Thank you to our dedicated teachers for their hard work and commitment to pupil's success.

#### Extra-Curricular Activities

Since the launch of our after-school clubs, I am thrilled to report that participation has exceeded our expectations. From sports to cooking and gardening clubs, there is something for everyone. I encourage all pupils to get involved and explore their interests outside of the classroom.

#### Upcoming Events

**Harvest Festival:** We are also excited to announce our upcoming Harvest Festival on 30.09.2024. Pupils are encouraged to bring in non-perishable food items to donate to our local food bank. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a community and give back.

#### General School Reminders

- Attendance and punctuality:** As always, we stress the importance of regular attendance and arriving in school on time. Each day in school contributes to your child's learning journey.
- Uniform Policy:** A gentle reminder to adhere to our uniform policy. This helps foster a sense of belonging and pride in our school community.
- Health and Safety:** As we enter the colder months, please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the weather.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Together, we are fostering a nurturing environment where every child can thrive. I wish you all a restful weekend!

Warm regards,  
Leila Sharif  
Acting Deputy Headteacher

### SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



#### Dates for your diary

30.09.2024	Harvest Festival
02.10.2024	Nursery parents/carers meeting
	Applying for Reception September 2025
08-11.10.2024	Book Fair
15.10.2024	School Photographer— Individual and sibling photos
21-25.10.2024	Parents/Teacher consultation meetings
24.10.2024	9am—Parents/ Carers meeting
	Of SEND:- Chatty Children (details to follow)
25.10.2024	Rec-Y6 Flu Vaccinations
28.10-01.11.2024	School closed - Half term holiday
04.11.2024	School reopens



#### Harvest Festival/Food Bank Aid Week

Our Harvest Festival Assembly will be on Monday 30th September. Thank you to all those families who sent in donations this week. For any families who have not yet donated, we will still be accepting items on Monday morning. Please do bring what you can. For each item donated, your child will receive 2 dojo points. We would still love to receive tinned food, rice, pasta, tea, coffee, cereal in packets or toiletries for instance, toothpaste, toilet paper, shampoo, and cleaning products. All items received will again be donated to Food Bank Aid. Thank you very much for your support.

#### Attendance % this week

<b>Chestnut</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>Palm</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>Redwood</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>Cedar</b>	<b>87%</b>
<b>Hazel</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>Hawthorn</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>Oak</b>	<b>99%</b>
<b>Sycamore</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>Magnolia</b>	<b>95%</b>

**No classes achieved 100% attendance this week**

#### Letters home this week



No letters home this week

#### TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2024-2025

##### AUTUMN TERM 2024

FIRST HALF: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October  
HALF TERM HOLIDAY: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November  
SECOND HALF: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

##### SPRING TERM 2025

FIRST HALF: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February  
HALF TERM HOLIDAY: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February  
SECOND HALF: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

##### SUMMER TERM 2025

FIRST HALF: Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May  
MAY DAY: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May  
HALF TERM HOLIDAY: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May  
SECOND HALF: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July

## Nursery

We have had a lovely week, full of fun and learning! The children are settling in beautifully, and it's been wonderful to see new friendships forming. We introduced Zones of Regulation to help the children understand and express their emotions. By exploring feelings like happiness, sadness, and excitement, they're learning how to manage their emotions in a positive way. In maths, we focused on counting numbers 1 to 10 through fun songs and resources like counting blocks and number cards. We have been playing listening and early phonics games and introducing new vocabulary. These activities are helping develop their listening and concentration skills, key for early phonics. Next week, we will build on these skills and continue supporting your child's development. Thank you for your ongoing support!

## Reception

What a fantastic week in Silver Birch. The children are having great fun exploring and getting to know their classrooms. They have been working so hard learning how to write their names, painted incredible animal pictures and number fishing. Come inside and see your child's work hanging around our classroom. We are all very proud of how hard they are working. The children have brought home their bedtime story books this week, please return them on Friday so they can be changed. Have a lovely weekend everyone!

## Year 1

Here's an update on what your children have been learning in Year 1! Our English focus has been on the classic tale of 'The Three Little Pigs.' The children have been discussing character traits and we have created character descriptions for the pigs. In maths we've introduced the concepts of 'greater than' and 'less than.' The children are learning to compare numbers using symbols (> and <). Our science lessons have explored human-made materials. We have identified various man-made materials in their environment. In RE, we have begun learning about Buddha and his teaching and we listened to stories that illustrate Buddhist teachings. In PHSE we're focusing on building trust and seeking help. Also the children are learning about the importance of asking for help when needed and identifying trusted adults. In DT, we are starting to explore shelter designs. In history, we are using toys to identify old and new toys and how to use clues to determine a toy's age. Please encourage your child to discuss these topics with you at home.

## Year 2

We've had another busy week in Year 2! In English, we have been acting out the story Rapunzel in a small group and retelling the modern version using the past tense. In maths, we have been estimating numbers on a number line and practising making some of our own number lines. We learnt that number lines do not have to start at 0! In science, we enjoyed learning about the different stages in the human life-cycle. We talked about what we could do when we were babies and will be able to do when we are teenagers and adults. In art, we are continuing to learn about primary and secondary colours and identify how pictures are similar and different. In geography, we have been identifying the Equator, Prime Meridian, Southern and Northern hemispheres. Many thanks for all the support and encouragement you are giving your child with their homework! Have a lovely weekend.  
Year 2 Team

## Year 3

This week in Year 3, we've had an exciting time exploring different topics across our subjects! In R.E., we've been diving into religious symbols. We learned about the significance of the lotus and mandalas in Buddhism and have enjoyed discussing how these symbols represent important spiritual ideas. In science, we've been investigating animals by sorting them into groups – vertebrates and invertebrates. We have become experts in spotting the differences between creatures with backbones and those without! In English, our budding authors have been hard at work writing their own creative stories. They're excited to share their imaginative tales with you soon!

## Year 4

A fantastic week of learning in Year 4. In maths this week we have been comparing numbers to 10,000, as well as consolidating our knowledge on estimation and ordering. In English, the children have been enjoying writing their own creative fairy-tale stories. They have also been editing and improving their writing, making sure to correct punctuation and grammar. In science we have been understanding the role of evaporation and condensation in nature. The children have been using role play in geography, as they study the different features of a river. We are looking forward to another week of learning in Year 4.

## Year 5

In maths, this week we have been continuing to deepen our knowledge of place value, working with numbers up to 1,000,000. We challenged ourselves to think about how we could partition numbers in different ways. In English, we used features of formal language to write a formal letter of reply. History lessons were very exciting, as we learned about Ancient Greek mythology and the different stories behind the different gods and goddesses. In science, we carried out experiments to test the solubility of different substances. We recorded our results scientifically using tables and drawing diagrams to explain our predictions, observations and findings. Our spelling focus this week is words with silent letters. Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

## Year 6

We are super proud of Year 6 for winning fabulous Friday last week, they continue to demonstrate their improvements across the school and we are so happy it is being recognised. This week in English, we are beginning to create our recounts about our trip to the Science and Natural History Museums. In maths we have compared numbers up to 10,000,000. In PSHE, we are evaluating the importance of vaccines and what is herd immunity. We are really enjoying our Music sessions with Sally. Please support your child with accessing Bug Club as it is Year 6, it is so crucial that we read, read and read this will target so many areas. Please ensure your child is completing 2-5 pages minimum a day. Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

We are delighted to announce our new Safety Team from Year 6:



Sean  
Deen  
David  
Hamdan  
Alex  
Yusuf

Victoria  
Nour  
Stacy  
Leila  
Sara  
Yusra

## TREAT FROM THE CHEST



The children invited to take a treat from the chest were:

Chestnut	Najlae
Palm	Santiago
Redwood	Hassan
Cedar	Amelia
Hazel	Rassa
Oak	Kamaya
Hawthorn	Megan
Sycamore	Doha
Magnolia	Yusuf

**Congratulations!**

## Stars of the Week



### Superstars of the Week

Ace, 1 Chestnut class  
Kabir, Palm class  
Rassan, 2 Redwood class

### Certificate of Merit

Rumayso, 3 Cedar class  
Jojo, 3 Hazel class  
Rama, 4 Hawthorn class  
Ehsan, 4 Oak class  
Abdumalik, 5 Sycamore  
Hussain, 6 Magnolia class

### Excellent Presentation Award

Dane, 1 Chestnut  
Nicolas, Palm class  
Joel, 2 Redwood class  
Samar, 3 Cedar class  
Ines, Hazel class  
Nadine, 4 Hawthorn class  
Zahra, 4 Oak class  
William, 5 Sycamore  
Cain, 6 Magnolia class

**Well done!**

Admissions for secondary school places to start September 2025 is now open. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2024.

Admissions for reception school places to start September 2025 is now open. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2025.

Applications for both to be made online at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk)

## Increase in Childhood Infections Prompts Vaccine Call

### For Information

Childhood infections like measles and whooping cough are rising, with outbreaks in North London and across the country, including in Barnet's near neighbours, Brent and Harrow.

Such infections can have a huge impact on your child's life. They can miss out on school due to time spent unwell, be hospitalised, and even experience life-long complications and disability.

If your child isn't vaccinated, they're not protected.

It is important for parents to take up the offer of the NHS free childhood immunisation programme as soon as they are offered to ensure your child has the best protection.

However, if you or your child have missed a vaccine, it is never too late to check if you can catch up.

We are calling on all parents to check their child's Red Book to see if the children have missed any vaccines or check with their GP if they are unsure.

Please visit [www.nhs.uk/childhoodvaccinations](http://www.nhs.uk/childhoodvaccinations) for the full immunisation timetable and information on how to book.

Childhood immunisation catch up clinic

When: Thursday 3 October 1-4pm

- Where: Silkstream Children's Centre, Silkstream Road, Burnt Oak HA8 0DA
- What: For ages 0-5 years. Walk-in, no need to book. Come along and get your child up to date with their vaccinations.

## Caring for Little Teeth: Oral Health Tips and Information for Parents

### For Information

#### How to find an NHS Dentist



You can find a dental surgery that's convenient for you, whether it's near your home or work, and phone them to see if there are any NHS appointments available.

Dental surgeries will not always have the capacity to take on new NHS patients. You can [search for an NHS dentist near you](#) on the NHS website and filter results to see those dental surgeries that have space on their list to accept new children.

Women are entitled to free NHS dental treatment during pregnancy and any NHS dental treatment commenced before their child's first birthday.

#### Taking your child to the dentist:

- NHS dental care for children is free.
- Take your child to the dentist when their teeth first come through or by the age of one at the latest, this gets them off to a healthy start and accustomed to dental practice visits from an early age. The dentist can advise you on how to prevent decay and identify any oral health problems.
- When you visit the dentist, try to be positive about it and make the trip fun. This will stop your child worrying about future visits.

Take your child for regular [dental check-ups](#) as advised by the dentist.

#### Fluoride Varnish

Fluoride varnish can be applied to both baby teeth and adult teeth. It involves painting a varnish that contains high levels of fluoride onto the surface of the tooth every 6 months to prevent decay. Some children may need this more often. It works by strengthening tooth enamel, making it more resistant to decay.

From the age of 3, children should be offered fluoride varnish application at least twice a year. Younger children may also be offered this treatment if your dentist thinks they need it. If not offered, make sure to ask your dentist about fluoride varnish

# Childhood Immunisation

## Pop-up clinic

Free vaccinations available.  
Walk-in, no need to book.  
You do not need an NHS number or  
to be registered with a GP.

For ages:

**0-5 Years**

**COME AND JOIN US**

**Thursday 3rd October 2024**

**From 1.00-4.00pm**

**Silkstream Children's Centre**

**Silkstream Road**

**Burnt Oak**

**HAB 0DA**



Learn about Vaccinations and  
how to protect your Child against serious illnesses.

Scan QR  
to find  
out more

