



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Autumn Term — 25th October 2024 (Issue 7)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter



Dear Parents and carers,

A very busy week! I continue to see lots of great learning across the school. I am continuing my focus on our presentation skills! Please encourage your children to be proud of what they produce and to present it in the best possible way.

Thank you to all parents who attended parents consultations this week. It was great hearing the children talk to you about all their learning. If you haven't yet met with your child's teacher please do contact the school to arrange an appointment.

Macmillan Fundraising

Huge thanks for all the donations today and for supporting our non-uniform day and cake sale, I am proud to say that we raised the amazing total of £397.37.

Smartphone Free Childhood

Thank you to those who came to the smartphone meeting yesterday. We had a great discussion and I shared some worrying statistics around the impact that smartphones are having on our children.

Smartphones for our pupils will be banned from school from Monday 4th November. I sent out a letter yesterday with more information. I am hoping this school ban will help to moderate your child's iPhone use at home. Please also do not use your phone on the school site!

I hope you have a relaxing half term and Happy Diwali to all those who celebrate.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Mr Banks
Headteacher

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

28.10-01.11.2024	School closed - Half term holiday
04.11.2024	School reopens
05.11.2024	Y1 visit local church
14.11.2024	Y6 Remembrance Day Assembly Parents invited
27.11.2024	Non uniform day bring in £1 No Pens Day
05.12.2024	Christmas Fair 3pm-5.00pm
13.12.2024	Rec-Y6 Flu vaccinations for children who missed first session
20.12.2024	Last day of term school closes at 1.15pm

Swimming after half term



Children in each class will be swimming as follows:

1 Chestnut	Group 2	Friday
2 Palm	Boys	Thursday
2 Redwood	Boys	Thursday
3 Cedar	Girls	Thursday
3 Hazel	Girls	Friday
4 Oak	Boys	Friday
4 Hawthorn	Boys	Thursday
5 Sycamore	Boys	Monday
6 Magnolia	Boys	Monday

e Admissions

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

Applications to be made online at www.eadmissions.org.uk

Letters home this week



- Y6 CGP SATs Busters Revision Books
- Y2 Mrs McDuling maternity leave and Y2 class arrangement
- N-Y6 Vacancy Advert—Part Time Assistant Caretaker
- N-Y6 Smartphone Free Childhood letter and flyer
- Y1&2 Cooking club letter
- Y1&2 Art club letter

Attendance % this week

Silver Birch	96%
Chestnut	90%
Palm	87%
Redwood	95%
Cedar	92%
Hazel	95%
Hawthorn	98%
Oak	93%
Sycamore	92%
Magnolia	89%

No classes achieved 100% attendance this week

Nursery

What a wonderful first half term we have had! A big well done to all the children for settling into their school routines so well. It has been lovely to see them coming to school happily and adjusting to their new environment with enthusiasm. We celebrated Black History Month by making beautiful African print necklaces. The children showed great creativity and they also joined the rest of the school to watch a special Black History Month performance and sat so beautifully throughout – we were very proud of them! Although Diwali falls over the half term break, we got into the spirit early by making our own diva lamps to celebrate the Festival of Lights. The children enjoyed creating their own little lamps and learning about this important festival. We also had a fun filled Halloween party, with lots of exciting activities and spooky treats. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to seeing the children back after the holidays, ready for more learning and fun!

Reception

What a wonderful half term we have had in Silver Birch, full of exciting adventures. In maths, we have been exploring shapes. We had lots of fun searching for shapes during our shape hunt in the big playground. In phonics, the children have been working hard learning lots of new phonemes. Please use your child's Bug Club login to read with your child daily. The children created colourful necklaces for Black History Month. We even got the chance to go to the assembly to watch some incredible dancers and wonderful singers. Please remember our P.E Day is Tuesday. We hope you all have a wonderful half term. See you after the holiday, ready for more wonderful adventures!

Year 1

Another week filled with exciting learning! In maths this week we have been consolidating number and place value, we started to learn about the whole-part model. In our English lessons, we explored biography (Mary Seacole) and acrostic poetry, with a creative focus on the beautiful season of Autumn. In our final science lesson on materials, we reviewed key concepts through interactive activities and finished with a quiz to test our understanding of different materials' properties and uses. In our RE lesson, we learned about Diwali, the colourful Hindu Festival of Lights, where we explored how families celebrate by lighting lamps, sharing sweets, and creating beautiful rangoli patterns. We celebrated the children's fantastic achievements with a fun Class Dojo party, rewarding their hard work and positive behaviour throughout the term. The adventure continues next half term with more exciting learning opportunities and experiences for your children. Reminder: On Fridays, Group 2 will have their swimming lesson, while Group 1 will participate in the PE lessons next term. Have a wonderful half term holiday!

Year 2

We have enjoyed another busy week in Year 2! In maths, we have been continuing to learn our number bonds to 10 and 20 and have enjoyed working out different number problems. In English, we have been learning about Black History Month including learning a poem by Langston Hughes and a song to perform in the Black History Month assembly. In R.E, we have been learning about the traditions associated with the Hindu festival, Diwali. In geography and science, we have been recapping our learning this half term. In art, we looked at Yinka Ilori's artwork and created some of our own work based on this. Many thanks for supporting your child with their homework. It was lovely to meet so many of you at parents' evening. Have a restful half term break!
Year 2 team

Year 3

We've had a fantastic week in Year 3, diving into a range of exciting topics across our subjects! In English, we have been busy writing and publishing our own diary entries. We've really enjoyed getting into character and sharing our thoughts and feelings as if we were someone else. The creativity has been amazing, and we're proud of the writing we've produced! Over in computing, we've been investigating the important roles that servers and switches play in networks. The class has done a brilliant job understanding how these systems work to keep our devices connected, and they were very curious about the technology we all rely on daily. Finally, in science, we've been creating informative resources to help others learn about healthy lifestyles. The children worked hard to make plans and guides, packed with tips and advice on how to maintain a balanced diet and an active lifestyle. It's been a wonderful week, and we're looking forward to even more learning adventures after half term.

Year 4

This week in Year 4, the children have been busy writing up their newspaper reports on the story, Into the Forest, showcasing their creativity and comprehension skills. As the week progressed, they also enjoyed crafting their own shape poems about rivers, which ties in beautifully with our geography topic. In maths, they wrapped up their unit on addition and subtraction with an end of topic assessment. Additionally, the students have completed their topics on states of matter in science and rivers in geography. We encourage the children to read on Bug Club to further enhance their reading fluency. As we look forward to the new term, we ask the children to practise their times tables over the break to strengthen their skills. Wishing you all a restful break!

Year 5

This week in Year 5, we have been very busy writing and publishing our final drafts for Theseus and the Minotaur. We even had Year 4 come and visit us so we could share our stories with them- it was a lovely experience for all involved! In maths, we have been learning all about common multiple and factors. We were fascinated to discover lots of interesting patterns which led us to make some really interesting connections. We brought our learning around Ancient Greece to an exciting end while learning about the Hoplites, soldiers who fought for the Greek city-states. Year 5 were very interested to learn about the weapons they used, and why they were so successful in defeating other armies. In science, we investigated reversible changes involving processes such as melting, solidifying, evaporation and condensing. Thank you for all of your support this half term in ensuring your children have settled in well and continue to develop positive behaviours for learning. Have a wonderful, relaxing half term! 😊

Year 6

We made it to the end of Autumn 1 and what a term filled with getting to know our pupils, introducing Year 6 standards and expectations. We had a very important visit from Mr Banks regarding PANTS, it is very important that we communicate with our children about keeping themselves and their bodies safe. We have started our arithmetic sessions which are proving very successful across the board. We will aim to continue to do this weekly. Our interventions with early reading and maths are also supporting our pupils. Please ensure you are accessing your Bug Club, it is very important as it supports our fluency and retrieval skills. We are looking at poetry this week and the language devices that comes along with poetry. In science, we have been conducting multiple science experiments: Shadows, reflection and refraction, we have experimented with bubbles and shadow puppets! Please continue to practise your fundamental timetables skills. Have a lovely relaxing holiday, come back feeling refreshed! Best wishes, Year 6 team

TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

Chestnut	Igor
Palm	Yaquib
Redwood	Inas
Cedar	Ali
Hazel	Elias
Oak	Enrico
Hawthorn	Mohamed
Sycamore	Abdumalik
Magnolia	Cain

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Arthur and Rihan, Chestnut class,
Jena and Grace, Redwood class

Certificate of Merit

Lucas, Cedar class
Filip, Hazel class
Zahra, Oak class
George, Sycamore class
Sean, Magnolia class

Excellent Presentation Award

Gabi, Palm class
Mia, Redwood class
Arij, Cedar class
Layan, Hazel class
Kydon, Oak class
Izabela, Hawthorn class
Shae, Sycamore class
David, Magnolia class

Class Merit

Hawthorn class

Well done!