



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Autumn Term — 6th December 2024 (Issue 12)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's beginning to look very Christmassy around school, with an great buzz in the air! Alongside the excitement, I'm so proud to see so much wonderful learning taking place in classrooms, particularly in our science lessons, where children have been fully engaged and inspired.

Huge thanks to everyone who came along to our Christmas Fair yesterday. Together, we raised an impressive **£1,219.74**. A special thank you goes to Miss Nash for her incredible effort in organising the event, to all the helpers who made it run so smoothly, and of course, to Santa for taking time out of their busy schedule to join us!

As always, thank you for your continued support in making our school such a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Mr Banks
Headteacher



SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

09.12.2024	Rec-Y6 Pantomime (afternoon)
10.12.2024	Y1 Tower of London
11.12.2024	Christmas Lunch
12.12.2024	Nursery & Reception Singalong 9am parents invited
13.12.2024	Rec-Y6 Flu vaccinations for children who missed first session
18.12.2024	KS1 Christmas Nativity 9.30am <i>date change</i> Parents invited
20.12.2024	Last day of term school closes at 1.15pm
20.12.2024	Owls closed (afterschool club)

Attendance % this week

Silver Birch	94%
Chestnut	94%
Redwood	90%
Cedar	100%
Hazel	99%
Hawthorn	99%
Oak	92%
Sycamore	97%
Magnolia	98%

Congratulations Cedar class on 100% attendance this week

Change of Club Names

We have a lot of clubs running at school and to make it easier to identify we have changed the name of the *Breakfast Club* to *Larks* and the *Afterschool Club* to *Owls*.

If you are booking your children into these online you will find them under their new names on www.schoolmoney.co.uk Thank you.



Larks (Breakfast Club)



Owls (Afterschool Club)

Letters home this week



N-Y6 Changes to school entrance information
Y6 Unicorn Theatre trip—28.01.2024

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2024-2025

AUTUMN TERM 2024
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



Reminder: School opening time

The school is open from 8.00am for children attending Larks. Children not attending Larks should arrive at school from 8.30am when there will be staff member in the playground. The children may go to their classrooms from 8.40am. Please stay with your children outside the school gate if you arrive to school before 8.30am. Thank you.

Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have had lots of festive fun! The children were excited to help decorate our Christmas tree, adding bright lights, colourful baubles, and shiny tinsel. They also enjoyed making playdough, using their hands to create all sorts of wonderful shapes. In our learning time, we focused on counting to 10, with the children practising their number skills through games. Our Santa's workshop roleplay area was a huge hit, where the children took turns pretending to be elves, making toys and wrapping presents.

In storytime, we read the classic tale of *The Gingerbread Man*, and the children loved acting out the characters and repeating the catchy phrases. We have also started practising for our Christmas singalong, and the children are looking forward to singing some festive songs. It has been a joyful week full of creativity, learning, and Christmas spirit! The adventure continues next week. Have lovely weekend.

Reception

This week in Reception has been filled with festive cheer and exciting activities. The children worked together to decorate our Christmas tree, making it sparkle with their creative touches. They had great fun playing in Santa's grotto, immersing themselves in the magic of the season. For the Christmas Fair, the children made delicious cake pops, showcasing their baking and decorating skills. We also crafted Christmas puppets, which were a wonderful way to explore creativity and storytelling. In addition, we have started practising for our Christmas show, and we are all eagerly looking forward to sharing it with you soon.

In our learning this week, we went on a number hunt, focusing on numbers one to five. The children enjoyed this hands-on approach to exploring numeracy, which helped to develop their number recognition and counting skills. As always, we are proud of their enthusiasm and engagement in all activities. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to more festive fun in the coming weeks.

Year 1

Year 1 this week, in maths the children have been learning subtraction using the number line by counting back and solving different number problems

In English, the children have been introduced to how to write instructions. They will be writing how to grow magic beans using imperative verbs and time connectives.

In science, we are continuing our topic on seasonal changes. We now have a weather diary to track the weather and the time of sunset.

In PSHE, we had to do chores to earn money! We used it to buy things we wanted to eat. In RE, we looked at how people around the world celebrate festivals at home.

In history, we learned what happened at the end of the Gunpowder Plot and where the plotters were jailed. Get plenty of rest and go to bed early the night before our exciting trip to ensure your child is energetic and ready for the day's adventures!

Year 2

We've had another busy week in Year 2! In maths, we have been focusing on drawing 2D shapes accurately and learning about symmetry. In English, we have been focusing on writing instructions using prepositions and describing nouns using adjectives to make our writing more interesting to read! In R.E, we have been talking about the qualities that make people special. In PHSE, we have been creating our own spending and saving plans. In D.T, we have been voting for our favourite recipe and evaluating different types of casserole! In science, we have been sorting foods into different groups according to whether they give us energy or help us grow. We talked about the importance of having a healthy balanced diet! Many thanks for supporting your child with their homework and returning it on time! Have a lovely weekend.

Year 2 Team

Year 3

Year 3s had a very positive week. In English we have been writing the final draft of our imaginative story, Moon Man's Adventure in the Enchanted Snowy Forest. We were amazed from the effort and beautiful handwriting from all the children.

In maths, the children were applying their knowledge of equal groups and use concrete manipulatives and pictorial representations to explain the link between counting in 8s and multiplying by 8. We were using doubling number facts in our calculations, and discovered that multiplying by 8 is the same as doubling three times. Please help your child to consolidate 2s, 5s and 10s times tables and learn their 3s and 4s times tables.

In science, everyone enjoyed predicting and investigating whether two magnets attract or repel based on the position of their poles (north, south). Also, we have been looking at magnetic field and explain how it relates to a magnet.

In geography, we have been identifying the position and significance of latitude, longitude, the Equator, the Northern Hemisphere, and the Southern Hemisphere.

Thank you very much for your contributions for the Christmas Fair, it was a great success!

Year 4

Year 4 have been working incredibly hard in English, completing their exciting adventure stories and now moving on to the challenge of writing persuasive texts. In maths, they have been applying their knowledge of multiplication facts to solve division problems and exploring the concepts of multiplying by 1 and 0. In science, the class have been continuing their fascinating investigations into vibrations, exploring how they affect volume and deepen their understanding of sound. DT has been particularly exciting, as the children have been learning about the features of effective packaging before designing and constructing their own 3D packages using 2D nets. Next week promises even more engaging activities, as Year 4 will begin a new maths topic and further develop their persuasive writing skills in English.

Year 5

What a fantastic week we've had in Year 5! We proudly published our adventure stories into our special new books, showcasing all our hard work and creativity. In maths and reading, we completed assessments to check our learning and understanding so far. In science, we conducted an exciting investigation into how the size of parachutes affects air resistance, with everyone showing great teamwork and problem-solving skills. Our geography lessons explored different climate zones and how they influence agriculture and daily life around the world. To top it all off, we had a wonderful time at the whole-school Christmas Fair —thank you so much for your amazing support!

Year 6

We are kicking off December with our Christmas spirit in full time high! We have completed our narrative flashback in English and have published this in our official big write books which we can show you next year. We have officially began our SATs mocks where we are helping our pupils to become ready for May time. We have begun with arithmetic this week. In history, we have delved deep into the RAF and German air force and in science we have executed many experiments exploring blood and we had an exciting lesson led by Ms Sharif who taught us everything to do with the circulatory system. In PSHE, we have learnt about kindness and are applying this with all our friends and staff members. Thank you for ensuring our children are studying at home, please do ensure they are completing their CGP books.

TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

Chestnut	Rashad
Redwood	Alexandra
Cedar	Nabiya
Hazel	Elias
Oak	Kamaya
Hawthorn	Rama
Sycamore	Ersi
Magnolia	Greta

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Jacob, Chestnut class
Velroy, Redwood class

Certificate of Merit

Qudos, Cedar class
Jana, Hazel class
Kahi, Oak class
Shirley, Hawthorn class
Ranim, Sycamore class
Leila, Magnolia class

Excellent Presentation Award

Sultan, Chestnut class
Grace, Redwood class
Aqil, Cedar class
Matar, Hazel class
Rayan, Oak class
Rahaam, Hawthorn class
Kai, Sycamore class
Aaminah, Magnolia class

Well done!