



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Alexander Banks Deputy Headteacher: Leila Sharif



Newsletter

Autumn Term — 12th September 2025 (Issue 1)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have come to the end of our first full week, and what a busy week it has been! We would like to give a special welcome to all the new families who have joined us this September, particularly in our Early Years. The children have settled very well into their new routines, and it has been wonderful to see them so engaged.

We are looking forward to seeing you next week at our Meet the Teacher meetings. This will be a valuable opportunity to hear all about the year ahead and to receive important information.

This term, we are placing a renewed focus on attendance. As well as the office staff following up on absence, teaching staff will give you a call if your child is away for more than one day. This is to check that everything is okay and to let you know that we are looking forward to welcoming them back to school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Banks
Headteacher

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

15.09.2025	9.00am Y1 Meet the Teacher meeting
15.09.2025	3.10pm Y6 Meet the Teacher meeting
16.09.2025	9.00am Y2 Meet the Teacher meeting
16.09.2025	3.10am Y5 Meet the Teacher meeting
17.09.2025	9.00am Y3 Meet the Teacher meeting
17.09.2025	3.10pm Y4 Meet the Teacher meeting
18/09.2025	ESOL classes start 1.00-3.00pm
24.09.2025	Rec-Y6 Flu vaccination (AM)
07-10.10.2025	Book Fair
27.-31.10.025	School Closed—Half Term Holiday
03.11.2025	School reopens

Feeding Hungry Minds



There has been a change to the ordering of school lunch on the Feeding Hungry Minds website. You will now only need to select 'Main Meal' and 'Pudding' for each day. If you would like to see the full menu, please find this on our school website www.wessexgardens.co.uk under the Parent Zone section.



English for Speakers of Other Languages

Barnet and Southgate College offer free ESOL classes here every Thursday from 1.00-3.00pm starting Thursday 18th September.

This is a fun and friendly way to improve your English and will give you the opportunity to meet other parents.

Where: Wessex Gardens Primary and Nursery School
Term Dates: Thursday 18th September – Thursday 11th December 2025
Time: 1.00-3.00pm

If you would like to attend the course, please give your name and contact details to the school office.

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2025-2026

AUTUMN TERM 2025

FIRST HALF: Wednesday 3rd September – Friday 24th October
HALF TERM
HOLIDAY: Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October
SECOND HALF: Monday 3rd November – Friday 19th December

SPRING TERM 2026

FIRST HALF: Monday 5th January – Friday 13th February
HALF TERM
HOLIDAY: Monday 16th February – Monday 23rd February
SECOND HALF: Tuesday 24th February – Friday 27th March

SUMMER TERM 2026

FIRST HALF: Monday 13th April – Friday 22nd May
MAY DAY: Monday 4th May
HALF TERM
HOLIDAY: Monday 25th May – Monday 1st June
SECOND HALF: Tuesday 2nd June – Friday 17th July

Letters home this week



Nursery N2	Nursery Provision Review
Y1	Tapestry download letter
Y4,5&6	Football club (Mondays)
Y3,4&5	Dance Club (Thursdays)
Y1&2	Multi-Sports club (Fridays)
Y6	Secondary Transfer information pack
Y6	SATs Revision Books information/order

Nursery

Welcome back to Nursery to our returning families, and a warm welcome to the newer families who have joined us this year. We have had a wonderful time getting to know all our children and families and hearing all about the wonderful Summer holidays. As we continue to resettle into school life, we look forward to the many wonderful things the children begin to share with us as they explore their new environments.

Reception

We are so pleased to welcome you and your children back to school! It has been wonderful meeting our new pupils and reconnecting with familiar faces. The children have settled in amazingly, and we are already beginning an exciting year of learning and growth together.

During these first few days, we are focusing on building our classroom community. The children are learning our daily routines, practising our class rules, and getting to know one another. Establishing these foundations helps to create a safe, supportive and happy environment where every child can thrive.

We look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the year. Thank you for your support as we begin this journey together—we can't wait to see all the wonderful things your children will achieve!

Please remember to order your child's lunch for next week!

Year 1

Welcome back! The children have settled beautifully into our Year 1 routine, and we're excited to share what they've been learning this week. In English we've started reading *The Three Little Pigs*. This classic fairy tale is helping the children explore story structure, character development, and new vocabulary. In Maths the children have been sorting and counting objects in groups of 10, helping to build strong number sense and early grouping skills. We're consolidating our phonics knowledge, beginning with Phase 3. The children have been revisiting familiar sounds and building their confidence in blending and segmenting. In Religious Education, we've been exploring the question: "What is real?" The children have been thinking about how beliefs help shape people's understanding of the world around them. Reminders: **PE lessons are on Mondays** – please make sure your child comes to school in their PE kit. **Swimming lessons are on Wednesdays** – don't forget to pack swimwear and a towel! We're looking forward to seeing you at the Meet the Teacher meeting on Monday at 9:10!

Year 2

We've had a very positive start to the year in Oak Class. We are doing well with learning our new routine and expectations. We are responding well to lots of praise and encouragement with our learning! In English, we have been acting out the story Rapunzel and are learning all about nouns, verbs and adjectives. In Maths, we have been learning about Place Value; focusing on representing our learning in lots of different ways and building our confidence when using a variety of resources (counters, dienes, number lines and 100 square). We are also enjoying completing our challenges! In Geography, we labelled a World Map to show the 7 continents. We were able to identify the continent we live in, the smallest and largest continent. In R.E., we have been sharing stories about 'Faith', identifying what we have faith in (Allah, God, our families, the weather, that we will all make lots of progress with our learning this year!).

Our swimming day Wednesday; girls this half term and boys will be doing P.E.

Please continue to support your child with their home learning and write a comment weekly in your child's Reading Record. Many thanks for all your support.

Year 3

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to Year 3. They have settled in brilliantly and are already showing enthusiasm for their learning. Together, we have set our class rules to create a positive and supportive environment for everyone.

This week, we have carried out baseline assessments to understand each child's starting point and to set achievable targets with high expectations for the year ahead.

In English, we have started our core text, *The Stone Age Boy*, which links to our History topic on the Stone Age. We encourage children to explore books or online resources about this period and monuments like Stonehenge.

In Religious Education (RE), our big idea is *What is real and what exists?* We are exploring Angels in Christianity, Islam, and Judaism, reflecting on belief in things we cannot see, and considering the roles of Angels as messengers, helpers, and protectors.

In Art, we are exploring prehistoric art and cave paintings, linking to our Stone Age topic.

In Maths, we are focusing on place value and partitioning numbers to 100. The children should be confident with 2, 5, and 10 times tables, and this year will also focus on 3, 4, and 8 times tables. TT Rockstar's and Bug Club logins will be given out on today and stuck inside reading record books.

Important Reminders

- PE: Thursdays — children should come in PE kit.
- Swimming: Mondays — this term, girls swim first.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead and are excited to share the children's progress with you.

Year 4

This week, we've loved welcoming everyone back after the Summer holidays and starting our brand-new school year together! We've already got stuck into our learning, beginning some beautiful artwork inspired by rivers, where we experimented with watercolours and wax crayons to create flowing, textured effects. In Science, we are starting our exciting new topic: *States of Matter*. We'll be exploring the different forms materials can take and investigating how they change. It's been a wonderful start, and we're looking forward to all the learning and adventures ahead this term!

Year 5

Welcome back to school after the summer break! We've had a brilliant start to Year 5 and it's been wonderful to see everyone settling in so well.

We have spent time reminding ourselves of our school rules and the *Zones of Regulation*. We've been practising strategies to help us return to the green zone, so that we feel calm, focused and ready to learn.

In English, we began our exciting unit on *Greek mythology*. We explored the features of myths and learned about different gods, goddesses, and mortals from Ancient Greece.

In Maths, we have been working with place value up to 1 million. We have been learning to read, write and compare large numbers, as well as identify the value of each digit. We have also been practising how to partition numbers in different ways and round them to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000 and 10,000. Alongside this, we explored Roman numerals, discovering how to write different numbers and use them in calculations.

In RE, we dived into our big question: *What is real?* We had some really thoughtful and interesting discussions, sharing our ideas and listening to different viewpoints.

Our first Art lesson was great fun! We created unique *poem self-portraits* using colourful backgrounds to express our personalities.

Reminders:

- PE lessons – Tuesdays
- Swimming lessons – Mahogany Class: Thursdays | Cedar Class: Wednesdays

We're looking forward to lots more exciting learning this term!

Year 6

We have had a fantastic first full week in Year 6! In English, the children have started exploring *Hansel and Gretel* by Neil Gaiman through drama role-play, writing dialogue, practising balanced arguments, making predictions, and using expanded noun phrases. In Maths, we began our place value unit, looking at numbers up to ten million, while in Geography we launched our *Changing World* topic by creating posters on climate change. The children also completed their first assessments of the year, and there is no need to worry about scores as these are simply a starting point to guide us in supporting their learning. A reminder that homework is sent out on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and is marked daily, so please ensure it is completed. Finally, I am very much looking forward to meeting you all at our Meet the Teacher meeting on Monday 15th September at 3.10pm.

TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

1 Hawthorn	Amelia
2 Oak	Eve
3 Sycamore	Alexandra
3 Acacia	Arvin
5 Mahogany	Afsa
5 Cedar	Amarni
6 Magnolia	Doha

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Isabel, 1 Hawthorn class
Max, 2 Oak class

Certificate of Merit

Ismaeel, 3 Sycamore class
Arifa, 4 Acacia class
Ahyan, 5 Cedar class
Shae, 6 Magnolia

Reader of the Week

Ahmed, 1 Hawthorn class
Layan, 2 Oak class
Kabir, 3 Sycamore class
Alaizza, 4 Acacia
Mia, 5 Mahogany
Shirley, 5 Cedar
Deenah, 6 Magnolia

Class Merit

5 Mahogany

Well done!