



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Alexander Banks Deputy Headteacher: Leila Sharif



Newsletter

Autumn Term — 3rd October 2025 (Issue 4)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy October!



It has been another very busy week for everyone here at Wessex Gardens. The children are working incredibly hard and really enjoying their learning. I cannot believe how quickly those who are new to the school have settled into the routines of school life – they are doing brilliantly.

Last week's Macmillan cake sale and non-uniform day raised an incredible £253.00. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed, baked, and supported this worthwhile cause.

We also sent off many boxes of food to Food Bank Aid following our wonderful Harvest Festival celebrations. Once again, thank you for your generosity and kindness in supporting those in need.

We are very proud of our school community for showing such care and compassion.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mr Banks

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

07-10.10.2025	Book Fair
09.10.2025	Y6 School—Nursing Team: National Child Measurement Programme
24.10.2025	Non Uniform Day—Halloween dress up PTA fundraising
27.-31.10.025	School Closed—Half Term Holiday
03.11.2025	School reopens
03-07.11.2025	Parent/Teacher consultation week (Y1-Y6)



We are delighted that the Book Fair will be visiting us next week. The Book Fair will run every morning from Tuesday 7th October until Friday 10th October before school each day, from 8.30am. We would like to invite you to visit as follows:

Tuesday 7th October	Nursery and Reception
Wednesday 8th October	Year 1 and Year 2
Thursday 9th October	Year 3 and Year 4
Friday 10th October	Year 5 and Year 6

If you have children in different year groups, please feel free to visit the Book Fair on any of the days for one of your child's year group or you can visit multiple times should you wish. Please see further details later in this Newsletter.

Letters home this week



Nurs Applying for Reception place to start September 2026 (N2 parents only)

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

Admissions

Admissions for **Secondary school** places to start September 2026 is now open. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2025.

Admissions for **Reception school** places to start September 2026 is now open. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2026.

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



English for Speakers of Other Languages

This is a fun and friendly way to improve your English and will give you the opportunity to meet other parents. To take part, please come along every Thursday from 1.00-3.00pm.

Please report to the school office on arrival. Thank you.

Nursery

The children have settled in amazingly and we have had a great time talking about their families. Thank you to all those parents who brought in family pictures, if you have yet to do so, please do. This week for home learning we are sending out letter recognition. Please support your child in recognising the letters in their name. Have a great weekend from the Nursery Team!

Reception

What a fantastic first full week we've had at school! The children have settled in really well, and it's been lovely to see them beginning to form friendships, explore the classroom, and get stuck into their learning. Here's what we've been up to:

This week we've been focusing on recognising, spelling, and writing our names. The children have enjoyed using name cards, puzzles, and a range of writing tools to help them become more confident. Please continue practising at home – it really does make a difference!

We've been practising our counting to 10 through songs, games, and hands-on activities. Whether we were counting our steps, toys, or even how many times we could clap, the children are becoming more confident with numbers and one-to-one correspondence. We are looking forward to more exciting adventures next week. Have a lovely weekend!

Year 1

This week in Year 1, the children have been busy and enthusiastic learners! In English, they began writing their own stories using *The Three Little Pigs* as inspiration, showing great creativity and imagination. In Maths, we have been comparing and ordering numbers to 20. Our Science lessons have focused on sorting materials into different groups based on their properties. In History, we explored clothes from the past and present and sorted toys into old and new categories. During RE, the children learned about some of Allah's 99 names and what they mean. Thank you for supporting your children with their homework – practising at home really helps boost their confidence and understanding in class!

Year 2

We've had another exciting week in Oak Class! We were so impressed with the children's wonderfully creative models of Islands. In English, we have been asking the Witch in the story Rapunzel some very thoughtful questions. This supported with building on our developing oracy skills. We have also been focusing on using different punctuation correctly; capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks. In Maths, we have enjoyed using number lines in different ways and are continuing to develop our understanding of Place Value. In Geography, we have been identifying key features of countries near the equator including different climates and animals. In D.T; we have been evaluating different healthy wraps and designing some of our own.
Oak Class

Year 3

In History, we are exploring the Stone Age. Children have taken on the role of archaeologists, examining artifacts and discussing how they were used.

In English, we are planning and writing stories. By the end of the week, many children will have a finished piece. Their use of adjectives and descriptive language has been impressive.

In Science, we compared human and animal skeletons, learning the differences between vertebrates and invertebrates.

In Computing, we explored digital devices and how inputs and outputs allow us to use them.

Reminders for Parents:

Please ensure your child reads daily and records this in their yellow reading journal. No journals have yet been returned with entries.

Children should also use Bug Club and TT Rockstars regularly. Bug Club passwords are inside the yellow journal; the TT Rockstars password is the same as their Numbots login.

Thank you for supporting your child's learning at home.

Year 3 Team

Year 4

This week in Year 4, we've been busy diving into lots of exciting learning across our subjects! In Maths, we explored Roman numerals and had fun working out how numbers can be written in this ancient system. In Science, we've been investigating the water cycle, discovering how water moves around our world through evaporation, condensation, and precipitation. Perhaps the children can spot some everyday examples at home or on your way to school and tell you about the features they recognise. In English, we've started looking at newspapers and learning how they are written.

Year 5

What a busy and exciting week it has been in Year 5! The children have been working hard and enjoying lots of fun learning activities.

In **Maths**, we have been comparing and ordering numbers up to 1,000,000. The children were also fantastic at learning the rules for rounding numbers – they especially enjoyed challenging themselves with big numbers all the way to one million!

In **English**, we were blown away by the children's creativity and imagination when retelling the myth of *Persephone and Hades*. They used ambitious vocabulary and some brilliant writing techniques to bring the story to life.

In **Science**, the children became real scientists, carrying out hands-on investigations. They tested how to recover substances from solutions and had great fun separating mixtures using filtering and sieving.

In **History**, the classes explored daily life in Ancient Greece. They were fascinated to discover how Greek religion and mythology shaped people's beliefs and influenced their way of living.

In **RE**, we had thoughtful discussions about Dharmic worldviews and how different perceptions of a higher being can impact the way people live their lives. The children asked excellent questions and shared their own reflections.

It has been wonderful to see so much enthusiasm and hard work across all subjects. Thank you, as always, for your continued support – it really helps the children to shine in their learning.

Year 6

This week in Year 6 has been full of exciting learning! In Maths, the children practised multiplying 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers, explored common multiples, and completed a reasoning paper, which we went through together to learn from mistakes and improve. Science was especially fun as the children discovered how periscopes work and even designed their own! In Geography, they researched different biomes, focusing on climates, animals, and how living things adapt to their environments. In English, the children have started studying their new book *Letters from the Lighthouse*. They explored how actions show emotions, took part in role play and hot-seating as characters, and enjoyed a range of exciting activities alongside reading the story.

TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

1 Hawthorn	Dishaan
2 Oak	Sarah
3 Sycamore	Ishaq
4 Acacia	Jojo
5 Mahogany	Eshan
5 Cedar	Samuel
6 Magnolia	Reagan

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Hussain, Hawthorn class
Ethan, Oak class

Certificate of Merit

Alessia, Sycamore class
Nabiya, Acacia class
Kaydon, Mahogany class
Tawaab, Magnolia class

Excellent Presentation

Deon, Hawthorn class
Ezdan, Oak class
Zhivan, Sycamore class
Arij, Acacia class
Noor, Mahogany class
Olush, Cedar class
William, Magnolia class

Class Merit

Cedar class

Well done!



Dear Wessex Parents/Carers and Families,

We are excited to invite you to our travelling Book Fair event that will take place in our school!

How does the Book Fair benefit our pupils?

What better way to promote reading to all our pupils than by supporting this literary event. This event is an opportunity for pupils of all ages to build their home libraries and further their love of reading.

How does the Book Fair benefit our school?

Earn free books for your school with a Travelling Book Fair. Book Fairs help to bring children and books together, delivering Book Fairs – pop-up bookshops – to thousands of schools in the UK every year. Every Book Fair showcases the very best books to engage every type of reader, and every book sold can help to earn free books and teaching resources for your school.

We are delighted that the Book Fair will be visiting us next week. The Book Fair will run every morning from 8.30am-8.50am and parents are welcome to come along with their child/ren to browse/buy books and other items. Please see following timetable to see which morning your child's year group is attending.

Year Group	Date
Nursery & Reception	Tuesday 7 th October 2025
Years 1 & 2	Wednesday 8 th October 2025
Years 3 & 4	Thursday 9 th October 2025
Years 5 & 6	Friday 10 th October 2025

We invite you to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books.

Payment to be made in cash at the Book Fair.

For Kids 4+
Donations
£8 per
session



Book on Eventbrite

Kids Garden Club

**EXPLORE, LEARN, GROW AND
CREATE**

CHILDREN WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO GET
THEIR HANDS DIRTY AND LEARN ABOUT:

- SEED SOWING
- SOIL PREPARATION
- GERMINATION
- PLANTING & PLANT CARE
- PINCHING AND PRUNING
- WEEDING
- COMPOSTING

Date & Time
4-5:30pm

- 12th September
- 19th September
- 26th September
- 3rd October
- 10th October
- 17th October
- 24th October

THE SUGGESTED AGE IS 4+
HOWEVER, YOUNGER CHILDREN CAN
PARTICIPATE WITH AN ACCOMPANYING
ADULT
PARENTS OF CHILDREN 6+ CAN ENJOY
SOME COFFEE & CAKE FROM OUR
LOVELY SHOP AND COLLECT THE
CHILDREN AFTER THE CLUB SESSION.



Find us in Clitterhouse Playing Fields, off Claremont Rd NW2 1AP
cultivate@clitterhouse.com - www.ouryard.org



Free Child Car Seat Safety Checks

Barnet Council is offering **free child car seat checks** to help families ensure their children are travelling safely.

Wednesday 8th October, 10am – 3pm

Tesco car park, Coppetts Centre, North Circular Rd, N12 0SH

A trained expert from Good Egg Safety will be on hand to check seats and offer advice – no booking required.

Last year, 92% of car seats checked in Barnet had errors, most of them serious enough to put children at risk of injury or death in a collision. Let's work together to keep children safe on the roads.

road.safety@barnet.gov.uk / [Barnet - Child Seat Community Checking Event | Facebook](#)