



# WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

Wessex Gardens, Golders Green, London NW11 9RR  
Tel: 020 8455 9572 Email: office@wessexgardens.barnet.sch.uk  
Headteacher: Alexander Banks Deputy Headteacher: Leila Sharif



## Newsletter

Autumn Term — 17th October 2025 (Issue 6)

### Welcome to this week's Newsletter



Another lovely week at Wessex Gardens! We've started sending our teams to Barnet sporting events, including cross country, boys' football, and girls' football. It's so important that our children have the opportunity to take part in these events, thank you to the parents who volunteer to help. Without your support, we simply wouldn't be able to attend.

I am very proud of our pupils who represent our school so well at these events, their teamwork, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm truly shine. A special thank you to Mr Khalil for organising and coordinating all of these sporting opportunities. Sports reports will follow soon!

A reminder that next Friday is our Halloween Non-Uniform Day. Please bring £1 to support the school (remember, nothing too scary, please!)

Please also note that Parent Consultation Evenings will take place during the first week back after half term. More information will follow shortly.

Finally, Happy Diwali to all those who will be celebrating next week. We wish you joy, light, and happiness during the festival.

Please note the school will be closed for the half term break Monday 27th to Friday 31st October. We will reopen as usual on Monday 3rd November.

Have a wonderful weekend!  
Mr Banks  
Headteacher

### SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



#### Dates for your diary

- 24.10.2025 Non Uniform Day—Halloween dress up  
PTA fundraising day
- 26.10.2025 British Summer time ends—  
clocks go back 1 hour
- 27.-31.10.2025 School Closed—Half Term Holiday
- 03.11.2025 School reopens
- 03-07.11.2025 Parent/Teacher consultation week (Y1-Y6)

#### Attendance % this week

<b>Silver Birch</b>	<b>93%</b>
<b>1 Hawthorn</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>2 Oak</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>3 Sycamore</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>4 Acacia</b>	<b>92%</b>
<b>5 Cedar</b>	<b>98%</b>
<b>5 Mahogany</b>	<b>86%</b>
<b>6 Magnolia</b>	<b>93%</b>

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

### Letters home this week

No letters home this week



### e 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](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk)

#### TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2025-2026

##### AUTUMN TERM 2025

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

##### SPRING TERM 2026

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

##### SUMMER TERM 2026

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



### 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

We've had a fun-filled and creative week in Nursery! The children have been busy exploring, building, imagining and working together in so many lovely ways. Here's a look at some of our highlights: This week, we tried a new art technique – marble painting! The children placed marbles into trays with paint and rolled them around to create colourful patterns. It was a great way to explore colour mixing and fine motor skills. The role play house has been buzzing with activity! From cooking meals and looking after babies to setting up cafés and having tea parties. It's lovely to see their language skills growing as they act out real-life scenarios and work together to tell stories. The train set has been a real hit. The children collaborated to build long, winding tracks and carefully connected pieces to make bridges and tunnels. It was fantastic to see them sharing ideas, taking turns and negotiating where the next part of the track should go. All aboard! We're so proud of how the children are growing in confidence, creativity, and kindness. Thank you for your continued support.

## Reception

This week in Silver Birch, we've been focusing on recognising and exploring the numbers 1 to 5. We used counting songs and hands-on activities to help us spot numbers in our environment and practise counting objects. The children are becoming very confident at showing numbers using their fingers and counting objects. We thoroughly enjoyed reading *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson. The children loved joining in with the repeated phrases and discussing all the different characters the witch met on her journey. We talked about kindness, teamwork, and using our imaginations to fly off on our own magical broomsticks! In P.E. this week, we were introduced to hockey! The children practised holding the hockey sticks correctly and worked on moving a ball around cones. It was wonderful to see everyone working on their coordination. Thank you for your continued support. We hope you have a restful weekend and look forward to another week of fun and learning ahead.

## Year 1

This week in Year 1, we started writing our own version of *The Three Little...* stories! The children chose a variety of animals for their characters – from rabbits and kittens to turtles and tigers. We then shared our stories with the class. In Maths, we revisited the concept of 1 more and 1 less using number tracks, unifix cubes, and dominoes. In History, we looked at objects from the past and learned how people used to iron, telephone and wash clothes using washboards and collect water from pumps or wells. In Science, we explored materials that are transparent and waterproof and matched them to different objects. In PSHE, we discussed our strengths and how each of us is unique and special. In Computing, the children practised using keyboards and typed their own names. We are excited to bring back our puppets next week – the children are very proud of their work!

## Year 3

We've had another busy and exciting week in Year 3! In our early morning work, we've been focusing on learning our three times table and developing our mental maths skills, particularly practising our number bonds to 100. In History, we began exploring Stone Age monuments such as Stonehenge, thinking about their significance and what they can tell us about life in the past. In English, the children are working towards writing their Stone Age diary entries. We're focusing on using the past tense accurately (including regular and irregular verbs) and adding descriptive detail to make their writing more vivid and engaging. In Art, we continued our study of prehistoric cave paintings, looking at how ancient artists used handprints. The children created their own handprint art using spray bottles and earthy tones, reflecting on what messages these early artists might have wanted to leave behind. Thank you for your continued support at home – the children are making great progress!

## Year 4

This week in Year 4, we've been busy scientists exploring *reversible* and *irreversible* changes! We carried out exciting investigations to see what happens when materials are heated, mixed, or cooled, and we've been learning how to tell whether a change can be undone or not. In Maths, we've started a brand-new topic on addition and subtraction. We've been practising different strategies to help us add and subtract efficiently, including using column methods and checking our answers with inverse operations. In English, we've been hard at work as budding journalists, planning and writing our very own newspaper articles. The children have been learning how to write catchy headlines, include quotes, and report events clearly and formally. It's been a fun and thoughtful week full of curiosity, creativity, and collaboration!

## Year 5

We have had another busy and exciting week in Year 5, full of learning and enjoyment across all subjects! In English, we focused on using past and present tense to describe historical events accurately. The children also practised using fronted adverbials to link ideas and expanded noun phrases to add vivid detail to their writing. Their creativity and growing confidence as writers have been wonderful to see! In Maths, we worked on using inverse operations to check our answers and challenged ourselves with multi-step problems and reasoning questions. The class showed great perseverance and teamwork when explaining their mathematical thinking. In PSHE, we had a passionate discussion about children's rights and responsibilities. Pupils reflected thoughtfully on why these are important and how they help keep everyone safe, respected, and cared for. In History, we travelled back in time to Ancient Greece to take part in the Olympic Games! Afterwards, we compared these ancient events with the modern Olympics, identifying similarities and differences. The children were fascinated by how some traditions have continued for thousands of years. In Science, we enjoyed hands-on investigations into reversible and irreversible changes. We explored what happens when we melt chocolate, boil water, and freeze water, making predictions and recording our results carefully.

## Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been working incredibly hard across all their subjects. In maths, the children have been exploring different methods to solve division problems, including partitioning, mental division, and written strategies. They have also focused on BIDMAS to help them apply the correct order of operations when solving more complex calculations. In SPaG, the children completed an assessment, carefully marked their work, and went through each question to identify areas for improvement. They have been making excellent progress in their weekly assessments. In English, the class have been analysing and annotating a model diary entry, identifying key features such as chronological order, emotive language, and first-person perspective. They then planned and wrote their own diary entries from the viewpoint of an evacuee child during World War II. Next week, they will edit, improve, and publish their final pieces, as well as begin exploring poetry in greater depth. In geography, the children have been learning about interdependence by investigating how plants, animals, and vegetation rely on one another within a food web. During guided reading, their key focus has been developing the skill of summarising, identifying the main ideas and key details from the texts they have read. We are looking forward to some more wonderful learning in the last week of term.

## TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

- |            |         |
|------------|---------|
| 1 Hawthorn | Milan   |
| 2 Oak      | Sarah   |
| 3 Sycamore | Inas    |
| 4 Acacia   | Davi    |
| 5 Mahogany | Kaleb   |
| 5 Cedar    | Rawda   |
| 6 Magnolia | Natalie |

**Congratulations!**

### House Points

<b>Citrine</b>	1359
<b>Emerald</b>	1629
<b>Ruby</b>	1501
<b>Sapphire</b>	1621

### Stars of the Week



#### Superstars of the Week

Marwa, Hawthorn class  
Eve, Oak Class

#### Certificate of Merit

Ismael, Sycamore class  
Uzair, Acacia class  
Alaa, Mahogany class  
Rahaam, Cedar class  
Roman, Magnolia class

#### Excellent Presentation

Dorsa, Hawthorn class  
Ezdan, Oak class  
Nicholas, Sycamore class  
Jana, Acacia class  
Ehsan, Mahogany class  
Natalia, Cedar class  
Annis, Magnolia class

**Well done!**

**W  
E  
SWIMMING  
SCHOOL  
E  
X**



**BOOK NOW  
FOR OCTOBER  
HALF  
TERM  
CRASH  
COURSE**

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT  
BRYONY KNIGHTS  
TEXT/WA: 07943788100  
EMAIL:  
KNIGHTSBRYONY@GMAIL.COM**

**30 MINUTE LESSONS  
£12.50 PER CHILD**

**MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER  
TUESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER  
WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**10:30 AND 11:00**

**£3 OFF  
LESSONS WITH  
CODE  
SWIMOCT25**

**£12.50  
per session**

**FUN SESSION  
@ 11:30AM  
GAMES  
&  
ACTIVITIES  
£10 PER CHILD**

**£2 OFF CODE  
FUNOCT25**

**BRYONY KNIGHTS  
SWIMMING TEACHER  
AT  
WESSEX GARDENS  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**12 YEARS EXPERIENCE**

**ASA  
QUALIFIED**

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON  
& ADULT SESSIONS  
COMING SOON...  
REGISTER INTEREST NOW!**