



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Alexander Banks Deputy Headteacher: Leila Sharif



Newsletter

Autumn Term — 21st November 2025 (Issue 10)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

What a great week! We began the week with children's individual and family photographs, and it was lovely to see so many happy smiles. We can't wait to share the finished photos with you once they are ready.

Across the classrooms, pupils have been engaging in lots of great learning, from hands-on activities to thoughtful discussions. Staff have been incredibly proud of the focus, determination and enthusiasm shown by all year groups. It really has been fantastic to see pupils striving to be the best they can be.

This week, we have also renewed our focus on showing our very best behaviour around school. We have been reminding pupils about kindness, respect and making positive choices. Thank you for your continued support at home, it truly makes a difference.

To support this, we will be reintroducing 'Circle Time' in every class. Circle Time is a special moment in the week where pupils and adults sit together in a circle to take part in structured discussions, games and reflection activities. Circle Time helps create calm, connected and supportive classrooms where every pupil feels valued and heard.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our non-uniform day by donating items for the Christmas Fair. Your generosity means we can make this year's Fair even more exciting and enjoyable for the whole community. We truly appreciate your kindness and involvement.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Mr Banks
Headteacher

Remembering Zanaba



We are holding a collection for our dear ex colleague, Zanaba, following her untimely death. All money received will be passed on to her family to use as they need. Should any of our families wish to contribute, send cards or messages to her family, please give them to the school office and we will make sure these are passed on to them. Thank you.

Attendance % this week

Silver Birch	81%
1 Hawthorn	96%
2 Oak	86%
3 Sycamore	91%
4 Acacia	94%
5 Cedar	98%
5 Mahogany	96%
6 Magnolia	94%

No classes achieved 100% attendance this week

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

02.12.2025	School Disco 3.30-5.00pm Rec-Y6
04.12.2025	Christmas Fair 3.30-5.00pm
10.12.2025	Christmas Lunch
11.12.2025	Nursery & Reception Christmas Sing-a-Long
12.12.2025	Y6 trip to Churchill War Rooms
16.12.2025	Y1 & Y2 Christmas Nativity production
19.12.2025	End of term—school closing 1.15pm

School Disco

Tuesday 2nd December



Reception—Year 6: 3.30pm-5.00pm



Reception—Year 2

Tickets cost £3.00 & include a drink, crisps and chocolate treat.

Years 3—6 :

Tickets cost £2.50 and children to bring pocket money to buy drinks, crisps and/or chocolate treat

Tickets on sale online at www.schoolmoney.co.uk

Only children attending the disco after school may come to school in non uniform (own clothes) that day. Thank you.

Letters home this week

Y6 Trip to Churchill War Rooms 12.12.2025



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

Nursery

This week, the children enjoyed a range of exciting learning experiences. They visited the school library, choosing books to share and developing their love of reading. We explored ice, encouraging the children to observe changes, make predictions, and talk about what they discovered. The children loved creating letters and pictures for their families. The envelopes have been well used this week! As part of our story work, the children made their own Three Little Pigs puppets, bringing the characters to life through creative play. It has been a wonderful week of hands-on learning! Have a wonderful weekend! See you all on Monday!

Reception

This week, the children explored our learning themes through exciting hands-on activities, including our space topic where they designed and built their own rockets. The rockets looked incredible! They enjoyed hospital role play, helping them develop language, confidence, and empathy, and they loved visiting the school library to discover new stories. In maths, we focused on finding one less, using practical activities to support understanding. We also explored ice, encouraging curiosity as the children observed melting, textures, and temperature. It has been a wonderful week of learning through play! Remember disco tickets are now on sale. Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Year 1

This week in Year 1, despite the chilly weather, the children have been working incredibly hard! In English, we retold the story *Jack and the Beanstalk*. The children sequenced the events from beginning, middle, to end, and then rewrote the story in their own words. We were very impressed with their understanding! In maths we continued our work on addition, using a range of apparatus to help us. The children also created their own addition stories. In History, we explored the year **1605** and learned about how the King ruled the country at the time of the Gunpowder Plot. In Science we have been recording the weather and observing how it changes during Autumn. In PHSE our focus this week was understanding that everyone has different opinions—and that it's perfectly okay. We encouraged the children to listen and respect each other's ideas. In Art, we continued experimenting with colour mixing, using primary and secondary colours to create new shades.

In RE, we learned about the Christian creation story and discussed what Christians believe about how the world began.

Year 2

We've had a very busy week in Year 2. We continue to enjoy our the story of *How to Find Gold* and have had lots of fun retelling the story. In maths, we have been learning number bonds to 10 and 20 crossing 10 by subtracting or adding. In History, the children have been learning what life was like without Fire Engines during the Great Fire of London. In ICT we have been using a camera to take landscape and portrait photos. In Science, we have been learning about living things and non living things and what we need to survive. In PE we have had fun learning new ball skills. In DT we have been learning different techniques using charcoal, colouring pencils and chalks and in Art we have been learning about different textures. Reminder that Year 2 girls are now swimming on Wednesdays at 1.30pm.

Year 3

The children have had a fantastic week and continue to show great enthusiasm for their learning.

Science

We are continuing with our topic on Forces and are currently exploring magnetic fields through hands-on experiments. The children have enjoyed investigating how magnets behave and discussing their findings like real scientists.

Design & Technology

In DT, we have been learning about where our food comes from, including how much of our food is imported into the UK and which fruits and vegetables are grown seasonally here. We have also talked about why eating seasonal produce is important.

This week, the children practised key food-preparation skills such as the claw and bridge cutting techniques. They also learned how to peel safely by drawing the peeler away from the body in a smooth, controlled motion.

Geography

In Geography, the children have continued exploring the United Kingdom, focusing on how major cities such as London, Manchester, and Liverpool developed - particularly around rivers, ports, and industry.

We are proud of how engaged and focused Year 3 have been this week. They are making excellent progress across all subjects.

Year 4

In Year 4, we have had an exciting and productive week! In Guided Reading, we have been exploring a new story – *The Amazing Tale of Ali Pasha* by Michael Foreman – and developing key reading skills, including inference, and using evidence to support our ideas. In Maths, we have been learning the 3 and 6 times tables, practising quick recall and using our knowledge to solve multiplication and division problems. In History, we have begun our new topic on the Anglo-Saxons, focusing this week on Anglo-Saxon place names and what they reveal about how people lived in the past. In R.E., we have been learning about Hindu stories of creation, exploring the three cycles of creation, preservation, and destruction and how these reflect key Hindu beliefs. We have really enjoyed our learning this week and can't wait to see what exciting activities next week will bring!

Year 5

What a busy and exciting week we have had in Year 5!

English

This week in English, *Stormbreaker* inspired us to plan and write our own mystery stories. The children focused on using rich description, fronted adverbials, and suspenseful punctuation—including dashes and ellipses—to create tension in their narratives. At the end of the week, they carefully reviewed their writing, identified areas for improvement, and edited their final paragraphs. We are very proud of how much their writer's skills are developing!

Maths

In Maths, we began our new unit on Fractions. The children explored how to find fractions equivalent to both unit fractions and non-unit fractions. They used number lines, fraction walls, bar models, and a range of concrete resources to deepen their understanding of how and why fractions can be equivalent.

Geography

In Geography, we used a range of resources—including climate maps and Europe atlases—to explore Europe's main environmental regions and climate zones. The children discussed how different climates affect vegetation, animals, and the ways people live across the continent. They made thoughtful links to real-world geography and showed great curiosity throughout the lesson.

Science

Science was full of excitement this week as we investigated air resistance. The children predicted what would happen to objects falling through the air and then tested their ideas using parachutes, paper, and other materials. Lots of great scientific thinking and teamwork!

PSHE

In PSHE, we focused on similarities and differences between people, discussing how each of us is unique, special, and valuable. We also explored strategies for what to do if someone is not being treated kindly, helping children build empathy and confidence in supporting others.

Year 6

This week in Year 6, the children made fantastic progress across all subjects. In **Maths**, they worked on dividing and multiplying whole numbers by fractions, growing more confident with each lesson. In **English**, the children annotated, planned, and wrote their own flashback stories inspired by *Goodnight Mister Tom*, using powerful description and emotion. During **Science**, they explored the heart in greater detail, learning how it pumps blood around the body. In **History**, they studied the Battle of Britain and learned about the important role of the RAF during the war. The children also completed a **reading assessment paper** and performed brilliantly, showing lots of improvement. In **arithmetic**, they continued practising core skills through revision. For **PSHE**, the focus was kindness, and the children designed thoughtful posters encouraging others to be kind and to recognise the ways they themselves can show kindness each day.

TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

1 Hawthorn	Chris
2 Oak	Shivya
3 Sycamore	Alexzandra
4 Acacia	Barwaqo
5 Mahogany	Mia and Nour
5 Cedar	Rama
6 Magnolia	Sumiya

House Points

Citrine	2601
Emerald	2807
Ruby	2827
Sapphire	3726

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week
Bader, Hawthorn class
Rashad, Oak class

Certificate of Merit
Alessia, Sycamore class
Lucas, Acacia class
Brooke, Mahogany class
Rahaam, Cedar class
Jannah K, Magnolia class

Excellent Presentation
Ali, Hawthorn class
Malak, Oak class
Grace, Sycamore class
Nabiya, Acacia class
Zahra, Mahogany class
Rawda, Cedar class
Shae, Magnolia class

Well done!

W E SWIM SCHOOL E X



Saturday afternoon swimming lessons 3.30–5.30pm.

Please register your interest in pool birthday parties 🎂 on Saturday afternoons and adult swimming lessons. Let me know if you'd like to join, as I'm planning to organize both soon.

We're offering lessons with clear swimming techniques, building water confidence, water safety, and enjoyment in the pool.
Teachers with 14 plus years experience

FOR INFORMATION :

Contact Bryony : Text – 07943788100
Email: knightsbryony@gmail.com

£12.50
per session

£10.50
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Children

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