



# 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 — 28th November 2025 (Issue 11)

### Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Another busy week at Wessex Gardens!

We've seen lots of lovely learning taking place across the school, and it has been wonderful to see our pupils so engaged and enthusiastic.

In assembly this week, our theme was **independence**. I spoke to the children about the many ways they can show how brilliant they are at being independent, from trying new methods in maths, to taking responsibility for getting themselves ready in the morning.

Please do talk to them about this at home and support them in developing their independence further.

We are also looking forward to seeing the children at the school disco on Tuesday, and to welcoming all our families to the Christmas Fair on Thursday. These are always highlights in our school calendar, and we hope you can join us.

A reminder that school will be closed on Thursday 11th December to enable staff to attend Zanaba's funeral. She was a much-loved member of our community, and many staff wish to pay their respects. We are holding a collection for the family; if you would like to contribute, please drop any donations at the school office.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend, and thank you for your continued support.

Mr Banks  
Headteacher

### Attendance % this week

<b>Silver Birch</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>1 Hawthorn</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>2 Oak</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>3 Sycamore</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>4 Acacia</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>5 Cedar</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>5 Mahogany</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>6 Magnolia</b>	<b>94%</b>

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

### Letters home this week

No letters home this week.



### SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION

Dates for the Diary!

#### 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	School Closed—1 day only
12.12.2025	Y6 trip to Churchill War Rooms
16.12.2025	Y1 & Y2 Christmas Nativity production 9.30am <i>changed</i>
17.12.2025	Nursery and Reception Sing-a-long 9.30am
19.12.2025	End of term—school closing 1.15pp
19.12.2025	After school club closed
05.01.2026	School reopens

**Reminder: Football, Dance and Multisport with Football clubs finished this week—only Basketball club will have last session next week (catch up session).**

#### 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](http://www.schoolmoney.co.uk)

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

#### 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

## Nursery

This week the children have been exploring a range of hands-on learning experiences inspired by our core book. They loved working together to build dens, using their problem-solving skills and imagination to create cosy spaces just like the characters in the story. We also introduced torches, which the children used to investigate light and shadows inside their dens—sparking lots of curiosity and conversation. We have been experimenting with different instruments and rhythms. Our dolls' house has also been very popular, encouraging storytelling, role play, and social interaction. It has been a wonderful week full of exploration, creativity, and collaborative play.

Have a wonderful weekend!

## Reception

This week the children have been busy exploring a range of exciting learning experiences. In our imaginative area, they enjoyed hospital role-play, using language to describe how they were helping patients and working together with lots of care and empathy. During phonics, the children began writing CVC words with support, listening carefully to each sound and having a go at forming the letters independently. In PE, they challenged themselves on an obstacle course, practising balance, coordination, and confidence as they moved in different ways. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and growing skills across all areas of learning. Have a wonderful weekend everyone!!

## Year 1

This week in Year 1, the children have been busy and enthusiastic learners!

In English, we focused on speaking in full sentences and sharing our ideas confidently. In Maths we used the part-part-whole model to help us understand addition and subtraction. In Science, we learned about animals that hibernate and migrate and why they do this. In History, we explored who Guy Fawkes was and why he is remembered. In PSHE, we talked about how everyone is different and why our differences make us special. In RE, we looked at the Christian Creation Story. Well done to all the children for their hard work this week!

## Year 2

This week has been wonderful! We've started thinking about writing instructions for finding diamonds. In Maths we have learnt how to subtract a 1-digit number from a 2-digit number crossing the 10s barrier. In History we've continued learning about the Great Fire of London. In Science we have been learning about healthy eating.

## Year 3

Year 3 have had a busy and enjoyable week. In Science, the children investigated magnetic fields and used iron filings to make the patterns around magnets visible. In Maths, they began working with multiples, using arrays and repeated addition to build early multiplication skills.

In DT, the class tasted a range of seasonal fruits and vegetables as preparation for making their own seasonal tarts. Parents can support this learning at home by involving children in simple food preparation and talking about seasonal produce while shopping.

In English, we continued with *The Moon Man*, linking the story to our geography work on the UK. The Moon Man has now arrived in London, and the children will soon write a factual report about the city from his perspective.

The children have shown great enthusiasm across all subjects, and we are proud of their efforts.

## Year 4

This week in Year 4, we've had a fantastic time diving into lots of exciting learning across our subjects! In Maths, we started our brand-new topic of multiplication. We've been focusing on the 3, 6, and 9 times tables and exploring all the patterns that link them together. The children have been working really hard and showing great determination as we build our fluency.

In History, we became Anglo-Saxon detectives! We examined different pieces of Anglo-Saxon art and culture and used the clues from these artefacts to find out more about what life was like during that time. The children were brilliant at thinking like historians and making thoughtful observations. In Science, we continued our topic on sound and even made our own telephones using two cups and a piece of string. We tested how sound travels along the string and had a great time experimenting. Maybe you could recreate this at home and see how far your sound can travel!

We've had a wonderful week of learning, and we can't wait to see what discoveries we make next week!

## Year 5

This week has been a wonderful week of learning in Year 5. In Maths we continued with our fractions block and we have been learning how to simplify fractions and also how to change improper fractions to a mixed number and vice versa.

In English, we have begun our 2nd writing cycle and oh what fun we have been having inventing a gadget for 14 year Alex Rider, who is an MI6 spy. We have been learning all about the features of an informative advert and using expanded noun phrases to describe the features for our own gadget.

In Science we had an amazing time learning all about friction and water resistance with some really fun investigations.

In Geography we continued learning all about the physical features in Europe and the different climates experienced across the continent. It was so interesting to find out all these amazing facts about Europe.

In PSHE we learned about the different ways we can include everybody and not make anyone feel left out. We will be sure to use some of what we have learnt and put it to practice.

Please remember that Year 5 Cedar girls swim on Wednesdays so everyone should have their swimming kits and Year 5 Mahogany swim on Thursday.

Have a wonderful weekend and keep warm!

## Year 6

This week in Year 6 has been full of rich learning experiences across all subjects. In Science, the children deepened their understanding of the circulatory system by exploring the functions of blood, taking part in a hands-on investigation where they created their own "blood samples" using materials to represent plasma, red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets—an activity that was both fun and highly effective for consolidating learning. In Maths, the class completed their fractions post-assessment, reflecting on their progress, before moving on to metric units, where they took part in an engaging practical task comparing and converting millimetres, centimetres, metres, grams and kilograms to build confidence with real-life measurement. They also sat their weekly arithmetic test, which has been sent home for children to correct and review. In History, Year 6 focused on the Blitz, examining how the bombings impacted everyday life, and went on to analyse wartime propaganda posters, discussing persuasive language, imagery and the techniques used to influence public opinion during World War II.

# TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

- |            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 1 Hawthorn | Annabel    |
| 2 Oak      | Zion       |
| 3 Sycamore | Alexzandra |
| 4 Acacia   | Zach       |
| 5 Mahogany | Jalil      |
| 5 Cedar    | Amarni     |
| 6 Magnolia | Ioane      |

**Congratulations!**

## Stars of the Week



### Superstars of the Week

Mia, Hawthorn class  
Ethen, Oak class

### Certificate of Merit

Barin, Sycamore class  
Arifah, Acacia class  
Zahra, Mahogany class  
Nadine, Cedar class  
George, Magnolia class

### Excellent Presentation

Dishaan, Hawthorn class  
Mona, Oak class  
Basil, Sycamore class  
Davi, Acacia class  
Yusuf, Mahogany class  
Megan, Cedar class  
Bilan, Magnolia class

**Well done!**