



# WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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## Newsletter

Autumn Term — 12th December 2025 (Issue 13)

### Welcome to this week's Newsletter

We had a very busy week last week, filled with lots of great learning.

We held a Hanukkah assembly, giving pupils the opportunity to learn about and reflect on this important festival, and today I shared the Christmas story with the children. We also enjoyed a most delicious Christmas lunch on Wednesday, and Santa paid a special visit, bringing presents for each classroom.

Our younger children have been preparing for their Nativity and Singalong, which will be shared with parents this week. I do hope you are able to come and see your child, as it makes the occasion extra special for them.

Many staff attended the funeral for Zanaba on Thursday, which was a beautiful and moving service. Her family has asked me to pass on their thanks and gratitude for all the love and support shown to them during this difficult time.

A reminder that school will close for the Christmas break on Friday at 1:15pm. There is no afterschool club.

Mr Banks  
Headteacher



### SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



#### Dates for your diary

- 15-17.12.2025 Y2 Parent Teacher Consultation evenings *postponed*
- 16.12.2025 Y1 & 2 Christmas Nativity 9.30am parents invited
- 17.12.2025 Nursery & Reception Sing-a-long 9.30am
- 19.12.2025 End of term—school closing 1.15pm
- 19.12.2025 After school club closed
- 22.12.2025-02.01.2026 School closed Christmas holiday
- 05.01.2026 School and Nursery reopen
- 05.01.2026 Y2 Teacher Parent Consultation evening *changed*
- 06.01.2026 Y2 Teacher Parent Consultation evening *changed*
- 07.01.2026 Y2 Teacher Parent Consultation evening *changed*

Y2 parents/carers—please look out for Schooling to book new appointment to meet with your class teacher—apologies for any inconvenience.

#### Final Reminder



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

Applications 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
- INSET DAY: Thursday 11<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 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February
- SECOND HALF: Monday 23<sup>rd</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

### Attendance % this week

<b>Silver Birch</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>1 Hawthorn</b>	<b>92%</b>
<b>2 Oak</b>	<b>93%</b>
<b>3 Sycamore</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>4 Acacia</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>5 Cedar</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>5 Mahogany</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>6 Magnolia</b>	<b>95%</b>

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

### Letters home this week

No letters home this week



## Nursery

This week the children have been full of excitement as we get ready for our Christmas Sing-a-long, practising our songs with lots of enthusiasm and growing confidence. We have also been busy with Christmas craft activities, creating festive pieces the children are very proud of. In class, the marble run has been a huge hit, encouraging teamwork, problem-solving, and plenty of laughter as the children experimented with different designs. A very special highlight was our visit from Santa, which brought lots of smiles and wonder to the day. We have also continued developing our ball skills and taking part in group games, helping the children build coordination, cooperation, and turn-taking. It has been a lovely, festive week of learning and fun for everyone. Have a wonderful weekend!

## Reception

This week the children have been very busy and enthusiastic in their learning. In Maths, we have been exploring *patterns*, looking closely at how sequences repeat and how we can create our own using colours, shapes, and everyday classroom objects. The children have enjoyed spotting patterns around the room and challenging one another to continue them. We have also been embracing the festive season with some delightful Christmas craft activities. The children have been cutting, sticking, decorating and designing with great care, and they are very proud of the wonderful creations they have made. Pop in our class to see our Christmas tree!

In phonics, we played two of our much-loved games, *Cross the River* and *Catch the Phoneme*. These activities encourage careful listening and help the children to recognise and use different phonemes with growing confidence. The children engaged brilliantly, showing real focus and excitement throughout. Alongside all this, we have continued to rehearse for our Christmas show, which will take place next Wednesday. The children are learning the songs, actions, and any lines with such enthusiasm, and it is lovely to see their confidence developing as the performance approaches. Thank you, as always, for your continued support at home—it really does make a difference to the children's learning and enjoyment

## Year 1

This week in Year 1 has been full of exciting learning! In English, we began writing instructions on *how to grow a magic bean*. The children are working hard to make their instructions clear so they can share them with our Reception friends. In Maths, we started exploring 2D and 3D shapes, learning to name and describe their features. In Science, we talked about the different clothes we wear in each season and why certain materials are suitable for different types of weather. In History, we learned about why we remember the 5th of November and explored the events of the Gunpowder Plot. In PSHE, we discussed money—what it is used for, where it comes from, and why it is important. In RE, we looked at different creation stories and talked about how various cultures explain the beginning of the world. We also had some wonderful news: the children earned 2,000 dojo points on Wednesday! We will be celebrating with a special dojo party. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope to see you at the KS1 show on Tuesday next week.

## Year 2

This week Year 2 have enjoyed creating and responding to poetry! In Maths we've learnt how to recognise if a problem is an addition or subtraction. In History we've learnt how King Charles II helped during the Great Fire. We have been practising for our Christmas show next week and can't wait to show you all! Please keep practising over the weekend.

## Year 3

Year 3 have had a very good week and have worked hard across the curriculum. In DT, the children made their seasonal tarts, which they thoroughly enjoyed eating and taking home to share with their families. They showed great confidence when working with food and following their plans. In Maths, the children have been learning to multiply by 4, using strategies such as doubling and repeated doubling to solve problems efficiently. In English, we have begun writing the introductions to our non-fiction reports about London. It would be really helpful if children could do some independent reading or research about London at home to support their writing. Well done to Year 3 for another successful week of learning!

## Year 4

This week in Year 4, we rounded up our Maths work on multiplication and division, focusing on recalling key facts and using a range of strategies with confidence. In DT, we continued developing our pavilion structures by adding weaving, experimenting with different materials to strengthen and decorate our designs. In PSHE, we explored the difference between safe and unsafe secrets and discussed who our trusted adults are and who we can speak to if we ever feel worried. We've had a productive and thoughtful week, and we look forward to more exciting learning ahead!

## Year 5

We have had another busy and fun-filled week of learning! In Maths this week, Year 5 have been learning how to add fractions in different ways. They have practised adding fractions within 1, adding fractions where the total is greater than 1, adding to a mixed number and adding two mixed numbers. The children worked hard to build their confidence and explain their thinking. In English, the children have been building their grammar knowledge by creating their own spy gadget and writing an advertisement for it. They learned how to use different types of sentences to make their writing clear and exciting, while also using a formal tone and third-person language. Pupils drafted and improved their work to make their adverts informative and engaging. In Geography, we have been learning about Europe's landscapes and how they are formed. The children explored different types of landscapes such as mountains, rivers and plains and discussed how people use them in everyday life. In Science, Year 5 carried out investigations to explore friction by testing how different materials affect stopping distance. They also made simple levers and tested how changing the position of the fulcrum changed the amount of force needed to lift an object. Thank you for your continued support

## Year 6

This week in Year 6 has been fantastic, with the children showing incredible motivation, resilience, and focus throughout Mock Week. In **Maths**, they tackled arithmetic and reasoning challenges, demonstrating strong problem-solving skills. In **History**, they explored the roles people played on the home front, learning about women in factories, evacuees, rationing, and community contributions during the war. In **Science**, they studied the right side of the heart and how deoxygenated blood travels through it to the lungs, using diagrams and models to deepen their understanding. In **English**, they planned and wrote their own newspaper reports, analysing examples of excellence to see what makes a strong article. The highlight of the week was our **trip to the Churchill War Rooms**, where the children were fascinated by the underground bunkers, Churchill's rooms, and interactive exhibits that brought their History learning to life. We are so proud of their hard work, curiosity, and enthusiasm throughout the week!

## TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

1 Hawthorn Mohamad  
3 Sycamore Rasan  
4 Acacia Nazanin  
5 Mahogany Afsa  
5 Cedar Ahyan

**Congratulations!**

## Stars of the Week



**Superstars of the Week**  
Haowen, Hawthorn class

**Certificate of Merit**  
Abdulo, Mahogany class

**Excellent Presentation**  
Lilia, Hawthorn class  
Rania, Sycamore class  
Kaleb, Mahogany class  
Matin, Cedar class

**Class Merit**  
Sycamore class  
Cedar class

**Well done!**