



# WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Alexander Banks Deputy Headteacher: Leila Sharif



## Newsletter

Autumn Term — 13th February 2026 (Issue 20)

### Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy and rewarding final week of the half term!

We have had some fantastic learning taking place across the school, alongside lots of exciting sporting events, including cross country and basketball. The children represented us so well—I was incredibly proud of their teamwork, determination and positive attitudes. They truly demonstrated our core values of respect, resilience, responsibility and aspiration, both in the classroom and on the sports field.

Throughout the week, pupils have shown a real commitment to striving for excellence, supporting one another and taking pride in their achievements. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they challenge themselves and celebrate success together.

After the half term break, we begin straight away with our parents' consultations. Please make sure you book a slot to meet with your child's class teacher. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to discuss progress, celebrate success and talk about any next steps.

Reminder that the Nursery timings will be changing straight after half term. **Morning sessions will be 8.30am-11.30am. Afternoon sessions are 12.30pm-3.30pm. Full time children and any children who attend two full days, the finishing time will now be 2.30pm on those days.**

Wishing you all a safe, restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Mr Banks  
Headteacher



### SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



#### Dates for your diary

16.02.2026-20.02.2026 Half term holiday—school closed  
23.02.2026 School reopens  
24.02-05.03.2026 Parent Teacher Consultation evenings



Parent Teacher Consultation meetings will start straight after half term. You will have received a message on Schoolping to book your time slot. If you have not yet booked a time, please book your appointment as soon as possible.

Please note, 3 Sycamore meetings have changed to the following week. Any appointments previously booked have been changed to the same time and day but for the week commencing 02.03.2026. Apologies for any inconvenience.



#### Swimming next half term

Silver Birch	See Class Teacher	Tuesdays
1 Hawthorn	Group 2	Wednesdays
2 Oak	Boys	Wednesdays
3 Sycamore	Boys	Mondays
4 Acacia	Boys	Thursdays
5 Cedar	Girls	Wednesdays
5 Mahogany	Girls	Thursdays
6 Magnolia	Boys	Thursdays
	Girls	Thursdays

#### Attendance % this week

<b>Silver Birch</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>1 Hawthorn</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>2 Oak</b>	<b>86%</b>
<b>3 Sycamore</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>4 Acacia</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>5 Cedar</b>	<b>99%</b>
<b>5 Mahogany</b>	<b>93%</b>
<b>6 Magnolia</b>	<b>92%</b>

**No classes achieved 100% attendance this week  
Cedar class—so close!**

#### Letters home this week



Y2 Changes in class  
Y5-6 Ramadan letter (permission for child to fast)

#### TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2025-2026

##### 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

SECOND HALF: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

## Reception

This week's learning has been full of creativity and hands-on fun. We enjoyed exploring the core book Errol's Garden, focusing on character descriptions and using our imaginations to design our own dream gardens, which we then brought to life through thoughtful caption writing. In Maths, we used the part-part whole model to help us understand how numbers can be broken apart and put back together. We also got creative with junk model making, using a range of materials to design and build our own creations. Outdoors, we had lots of energy and excitement playing the spray the phoneme game, combining movement with phonics learning and making the most of being outside. Please read daily with your child over the half term holiday, it makes a huge difference to their confidence. Have wonderful half term!

## Year 1

The first half of the Spring term has come to an end, and the children have worked extremely hard. In English, they wrote and published a recipe based on the one they made last Friday, which we are excited to share with the Year 2 children. In Maths, the children learned about finding the difference between two numbers and explored fact families. In Geography, we revisited our learning about weather and created posters to showcase what we have learned. In Science, we completed our topic on animals and are very much looking forward to our visit to London Zoo after the holiday. In RE, we explored different artefacts and discussed their meanings, noticing how meanings can change depending on the person. In PSHE, we learned about the people who help keep us healthy and safe. We hope you all have a lovely half-term holiday!

## Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic week! We've enjoyed learning how to write similes, inspired by the poem 'The Moon' by Robert Louis Stevenson. Year 2 focused on using adjectives to give more information and build their own poems! We had great fun learning to recite and perform them. Ask your children to recite them to you! In maths, we have learnt about volume and capacity. If you buy a can of fizzy drink this weekend, or a bottle of water, ask your children to tell you what the capacity of the container is! How much liquid can it hold? We created little booklets of information about Mogadishu and London in Geography. Ask your children what they can tell you about Mogadishu! Have a wonderful half term break. The Year 2 Team

## Year 4

This week, Year 4 had an exciting trip on Wednesday to HMS Belfast and Tower Bridge! We learned about Britain's history, engineering, and life on board an historic naval ship. We showed excellent behaviour and curiosity throughout the day and asked thoughtful questions about what we saw and experienced. In Science, we are learning about teeth and oral health. We have been exploring the different types of teeth and investigating how certain foods and drinks can cause cavities and tooth decay. We are also discussing how good dental hygiene helps keep our teeth healthy. In English, we are writing diary entries from the point of view of Ruskin from Krindlekrax. We are focusing on writing in role, using first person, and including thoughts and feelings to show how the character is experiencing events!

## Year 5

We have had a very busy and exciting week in Year 5 and the children have worked incredibly hard across all subjects!

This week in English, the children focused on persuasive writing. They carefully planned and drafted a persuasive letter using a range of persuasive techniques. They worked on writing a clear opening, well-structured arguments and a strong conclusion, while also using emotive language, rhetorical questions and modal verbs to strengthen their ideas. The children organised their writing into paragraphs using persuasive sentence starters, added extra detail using parentheses and ensured their arguments followed a logical order. We were very impressed with the effort they put into redrafting their work.

In Maths, we began our new topic of Decimals and Percentages. The children have been learning about decimals up to two decimal places and exploring equivalent fractions and decimals (tenths). They showed great resilience when tackling new concepts and are becoming increasingly confident with place value.

In Science, we created a comprehensive human development timeline from birth to old age. Pupils identified the key stages of development and discussed the significant physical, emotional and social changes that occur throughout life.

In History, our learning about the Early Islamic Civilisation continued. The children explored why Baghdad became a centre of learning and compared it with another centre of learning. They explained what was similar, what was different and why this made Baghdad such an important city. Pupils discovered how knowledge, inventions and scholarship from this period still influence the world today.

In PSHE, the children explored what makes a positive and healthy friendship. We discussed the importance of respect, kindness and trust, as well as listening to others' feelings and resolving disagreements calmly and fairly. Pupils also talked about who they can go to for support if they have worries.

In Art, the children investigated space and scale by creating their own 3D installation rooms. They carefully planned their designs and considered perspective, proportion and detail while constructing creative miniature spaces. The class thoroughly enjoyed bringing their ideas to life. We would like to wish you all a wonderful and restful half-term break and thank you for all your continued support.

## Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been exploring a variety of subjects. In Science, they studied flowering and non-flowering plants, looking at their features and how they reproduce, and then learned why scientists classify organisms into groups like kingdom and phylum, thinking about what makes each group unique. In Maths, they practised line graphs and pie charts, learning how to draw and read them, listed possible outcomes in different situations, and calculated the mean, mode, and median to better understand data. English lessons focused on parentheses—when and how to use them—and the children applied this while planning, drafting, and completing balanced arguments, making sure they presented both sides clearly. In PSHE, they discussed bullying and its effects, which led to some thoughtful conversations about empathy and respect. Geography lessons looked at the challenges caused by uneven resource distribution and how scarcity happens when there isn't enough of a resource to meet people's needs. Overall, the week encouraged the children to think carefully, apply their learning, and reflect on real-world issues.

## TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

- |            |          |
|------------|----------|
| 1 Hawthorn | Otilia   |
| 2 Oak      | Siwar    |
| 3 Sycamore | Ismaeel  |
| 4 Acacia   | Bushra   |
| 5 Cedar    | Sharanya |
| 6 Magnolia | Mohammed |

**Congratulations!**

## Stars of the Week



### Superstars of the Week

Ali, Hawthorn class  
Ezdan, Oak class

### Certificate of Merit

Savanna, Sycamore class  
Mohamed, Acacia class  
Izabela, Cedar class  
Kai and Reagan, Magnolia class

### Excellent Presentation

Amelia, Hawthorn class  
Shivya, Oak class  
Alessia, Sycamore class  
Davi, Acacia class  
Rama, Cedar class  
Jana, Magnolia class

**Well done!**



# W E SWIM SCHOOL E X

ALL  
WELCOME

JOIN OUR  
CLASSES  
£12.50  
PER  
SESSION

## 30 Minute sessions

12+ years of experience  
Warm, private pool  
Wessex Gardens Primary School  
Wessex Gardens  
London NW11 9RR

## PRIVATE LESSONS 30 MINS SESSION

£35  
ONE-ON-ONE



3 DAY CRASH COURSE  
16/17/18 FEB  
10.00am & 10.30am

**SIGN UP TODAY!**

**KNIGHTSBRYONY@GMAIL.COM & 07984473196**

Wessex pupils £2.00 discount

Claydon, Childshill & All Saints pupils £1.50 discount



Reply