



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 — 13th March 2026 (Issue 23)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter



FRIDAY 20 MARCH

Another lovely week at school! The children have been extremely busy with their learning and have shown great enthusiasm in lessons. We are currently focusing on developing strong learning behaviours to encourage pupils to become active learners. Please do ask your child about how they are practising being focused, joining in and showing curiosity in their learning—we are very proud of their efforts.

Next Friday, 20th March, is Comic Relief Day. We will be selling red noses from Monday 16th for £2.50, so please make sure you buy yours before Friday as they may sell out. We will also be having a non-uniform day on Red Nose Day. The children are invited to wear something red, and we kindly ask for a £1 donation to support this wonderful charity.

As we approach Easter, we will also be holding an Easter Egg Competition. Families are invited to decorate an egg and enter either the child-only category or the family category if you would like to work on it together. Please see details attached to this Newsletter for more information.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Mr Banks
Headteacher

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

19.03.2026 Reception Hearing & Vision Screening Recalls
20/03/2026 Comic Relief—Red Nose Day—Non uniform day (bring £1 donation)
24.03.2026 Y1 trip to London Zoo
26.03.2026 Y5 trip to Science Museum
26.03.2026 Last day of term for Nursery
27.03.2026 End of term—school closes at 1.15pm
Nursery closed
After school club closed

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2025-2026

SPRING TERM 2026

FIRST HALF: Monday 5th January – Friday 13th February
HALF TERM

HOLIDAY: Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

SECOND HALF: Monday 23rd 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

Attendance % this week

Silver Birch	90%
1 Hawthorn	92%
2 Oak	89%
3 Sycamore	92%
4 Acacia	95%
5 Cedar	98%
5 Mahogany	96%
6 Magnolia	97%

No classes achieved 100% attendance this week

Letters home this week



Y5 Science Fair at Clarion School
Y1 Trip to London Zoo 24.03.3036

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2026-2027

AUTUMN TERM 2026

FIRST HALF: Thursday 3rd September – Friday 23rd October
HALF TERM

HOLIDAY: Monday 26th October – Monday 2nd November

SECOND HALF: Tuesday 3rd November – Friday 18th December

SPRING TERM 2027

FIRST HALF: Tuesday 5th January – Friday 12th February
HALF TERM

HOLIDAY: Monday 15th February – Monday 22nd February

SECOND HALF: Tuesday 23rd February – Thursday 25th March

SUMMER TERM 2027

FIRST HALF: Monday 12th April – Friday 28nd May
MAY DAY: Monday 3rd May

HALF TERM

HOLIDAY: Monday 31st May – Monday 7th June

SECOND HALF: Tuesday 8th June – Thursday 22nd July

Nursery

This week the children have been enjoying a variety of fun and active learning experiences. In Maths, we played a number counting game to help develop the children's confidence with recognising and ordering numbers. During PE, the class practised their physical skills on the obstacle course and took part in group games, where they worked together and built their teamwork skills. We also focused on developing ball skills such as throwing, catching and rolling. At home, please continue to practise putting on your child's shoes and socks independently, as this really helps to build their confidence and independence at school. Finally, we would like to wish all of our wonderful mums and carers a very Happy Mother's Day this weekend!

Reception

This week in Silver Birch we have been very busy with lots of exciting learning. In Maths, the children have been working on number bonds and practising how numbers fit together to make different totals. In English, we have been creating an Ostrich Class fact file, where the children have been researching and sharing interesting facts. Did you know ostriches have two toes on each foot? We have also been recapping our Phase 3 phonics to strengthen the children's confidence with sounds and blending. The class enjoyed some creative time with model making, using a variety of materials to design and build their own creations. Please continue to support your child with their daily reading at home, as this really helps to build their fluency and confidence. Finally, we would like to wish all of our wonderful mums and carers a very happy Mother's Day this weekend!

Year 1

This week in Year 1, the children have been busy with lots of exciting learning. In Maths, we have been learning about measuring length, using cubes and rulers to measure different objects. In English, we started writing invitations to invite the Year 2 children to our dance party. In Geography, we used positional language to describe where things are located. In Science, we have been observing the signs of Spring and recording how plants grow. In RE, we learned about Eid and how families celebrate this special festival at home. Please remember to write a letter to your child and post it in the box outside the office by Monday morning. They will be very happy and excited to receive a letter from you!

Year 2

It has been a lovely week in Year 2! In English, we are continuing to learn about The Lonely Beast and the features of a story. During Maths, we have been learning about multiplication and division. This includes learning about equal groups and arrays. Our Science topic is Living Things and their Habitats and we have been learning about the basic needs of living things. We have also been investigating the question 'What makes a good home?' by exploring habitats in our school. Well done Team Oak on your fantastic efforts!

Year 3

In Year 3, we have had a wonderful and busy week of learning! In Maths, we have been exploring equivalent fractions, learning how different fractions can represent the same value. The children enjoyed using visual models and practical activities to help them see the relationships between fractions and build their confidence. In R.E., we began thinking about worldviews, discussing what shapes our own beliefs, values and perspectives. The children shared thoughtful ideas about the influences in their lives, such as family, culture and experiences. A real highlight of our week was our gardening session. We would like to say a huge thank you to one of our Year 6 parents who kindly donated plants for our class! The children loved getting involved in planting and caring for them, and it was a fantastic opportunity to learn outdoors while working together. We are very grateful for the support in helping us make this such an enjoyable experience!

Year 4

This week in Year 4, we continued building on our learning in Maths by developing our understanding of fractions. We explored mixed numbers and improper fractions, learning how to recognise them and understand the relationship between the two. We practised representing these fractions in different ways and began converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions. Using visual models and practical examples helped us deepen our understanding and build confidence when working with more complex fractions. In PSHE, we focused on how to be safe and responsible with medicine. We discussed why medicines are used and why they should only ever be taken with the permission and supervision of a trusted adult. We also explored the importance of not sharing medicines and understanding how medicines help people when they are used correctly. We had thoughtful discussions about how to keep ourselves and others safe. It has been another busy and productive week in Year 4, and we are looking forward to continuing our learning next week!

Year 5

We have had a busy and productive week in Year 5! This week in English, the pupils have been working on making their writing flow smoothly and building tension in their battle retellings. They have used pronouns, synonyms, and deliberate repetition, and practiced linking ideas with adverbials of time and place to guide the reader through shifts in the story, moving from the hall to the mere, from the perspective of a frightened villager or Beowulf. In Maths, we have explored equivalent fractions, decimals, and percentages, helping pupils understand the relationships between different forms of the same number. Year 5 have been locating and comparing mountain landscapes in Geography, describing the physical features of the Lake District and the Alps using maps, contour lines, and relief shading. In Science, the children investigated the movement of the Earth and other planets around the Sun, using models to explore rotation and orbit. In PHSE, we discussed strategies for resolving disputes safely, encouraging pupils to think about effective communication and empathy. In RE pupils used the local census to explore the diversity of religions and worldviews in our community, developing an understanding of how people's beliefs shape their lives.

Year 6

This week in Year 6, the children have been fantastic and worked really hard across all subjects. In Maths, they focused on identifying and recognising different types of quadrilaterals and exploring nets, using physical resources to help them understand 3D shapes. In English, they wrote the features of a narrative, planned their key scene, and drafted the opening and build-up of their setting. The grammar focus was on using a variety of sentence types effectively. In History, the class learned about King John and the Magna Carta, while in Science they explored inheritance, identifying which features are genetic, environmental, or a combination of both. The children's excellent efforts were rewarded with a well-deserved golden time.

TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

- 1 Hawthorn Seosy
- 2 Oak Malak
- 3 Sycamore Yaqub
- 4 Acacia Mohammed
- 5 Mahogany Alaa
- 5 Cedar Oliwier
- 6 Magnolia Ramani

Congratulations!

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week
Deon, Hawthorn class
Ivyan, Oak class

Certificate of Merit
Lamar, Sycamore class
Arifah, Acacia class
Noor, Mahogany class
Matin, Cedar class

Excellent Presentation
Safiya, Hawthorn class
Dane, Oak class
Ola, Sycamore class
Davi, Acacia class
Mia, Mahogany class
Sharanya, Cedar class
Ranim, Magnolia class

Class Merit
Magnolia class

Well done!

DaCapo are offering an exciting opportunity for 5-6 year olds to start to learn an instrument

The Ensemble Music Programme (EMP) is group instrumental and musicianship tuition with the renowned DaCapo approach. Guitar and Woodwind options available.

INFO HERE



Saturdays
starts April '26
at
Wren
Academy
N12 9HB

Limited
places

£275 per term

Free trial
March 21 & 28

www.dacapo.co.uk
07595 367194
jam@dacapo.co.uk

music&drama
education awards 2025
FINALIST



DaCapo
MUSIC FOUNDATION

ALL FOR SPORT Kids

HIGH QUALITY
HOLIDAY CAMPS



10% OFF

EY461026

Ofsted

**CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED.**

Early
drop off
8:30am

£10

Late
pick up
5pm

£10

Age:

5yrs - 11yrs
10am - 4pm

Daily

£39

Week
4 days

£117



**WEEK 1: (4 days) 30th March -
2nd April**

WEEK 2 (4 days): 7th - 10th April

ST MARYS ST JOHNS



(NEALE HOUSE
CAMPUS)
HENDON
NW4 3SL



www.allforsport.co.uk

AFS Kids
HIGH QUALITY HOLIDAY CAMPS

SMJ St Mary's
and St John's
CE School

AGES
5-11

1 DAY
£39

SMSJ FOOTBALL camp

4 DAYS
£117

WEEK 1 (4 DAYS): 30TH
MARCH - 2ND APRIL
WEEK 2 (4 DAYS): 7TH -
10TH APRIL

FROM 10 A.M. TILL 4 P.M.

REGISTER ONLINE:
THROUGH OUR NORMAL BOOKING
PAGE AND SELECT THIS IMAGE.



FLYBIRD DISCOUNT UNTIL 13TH MARCH

10%

USE CODE:
AFS_APR_26

OUR BREAKTIME AND LUNCHTIMES ARE THE SAME AS
OUR MULTIACTIVITY CAMP SO YOU CAN STILL CATCH
UP WITH FRIENDS THAT ARE SIGNED UP TO THE USUAL
CAMP.