



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Autumn Term — 24th April 2026 (Issue 27)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

Another great week at Wessex Gardens! We have certainly been enjoying the sunshine.

The outdoor areas have been full of energy and excitement this week. The sandpit has been especially popular during lunchtime—with buckets and spades. It really feels like we're at the beach! We have also seen lots of active play with pupils enjoying games, exploring different spaces and making the most of the warmer weather. Outdoor learning continues to be an important part of our provision, supporting both physical development and social integration.

I am currently focusing on class routines and transitions to ensure all our children move around the school safely and calmly. This includes reinforcing clear expectations when lining up, walking through corridors, and moving between lessons. Staff are modelling positive behaviours, using consistent language, and giving pupils time to practise these routines so that transitions are smooth, purposeful and minimise any lost learning time. We are also supporting pupils to become increasingly independent and responsible for their behaviour during these key moments of the day.



We hope you are looking forward to our first ever Wessex Gardens Movie Night! This will take place on Thursday 30th April, and we will be showing Zootopia 2! Snacks included!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.
Mr Banks
Headteacher



SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

- 30.04.2026 9.00am Y5 Parents Meeting— Secondary Transfer Rec-Y6 Movie Night 3.30-5.00pm (ticket required)
- 04.05.2026 School closed—May Day Bank Holiday
- 11.05.2026 Y6—SATs week
- 21.05.2026- School Closed -
- 01.06.2026 Half Term Holiday
- 02.06.2026 School reopens

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2025-2026

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

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

Attendance % this week

Silver Birch	94%
1 Hawthorn	98%
2 Oak	90%
3 Sycamore	92%
4 Acacia	96%
5 Cedar	96%
5 Mahogany	96%
6 Magnolia	98%

No classes achieved 100% attendance this week

Letters home this week



Rec-Y6 Movie Night flyer

Nursery

This week, the children have been playing in the sandpit, which has just been reopened and enjoyed being outside in the sunshine. In Nursery the children continue to explore sea life and the different sea creatures; while in pre-Nursery the children have been delighted hear the story *The Hungry Caterpillar*. We have also been welcoming new friends in to our setting and helping them to settle into our routines.

Reception

This week in our learning, we have been exploring our new core book *Stanley's Stick*, which has inspired lots of imaginative play and storytelling in the classroom. The children have enjoyed thinking about all the different things a simple stick can become! In our creative area, we have been experimenting with marbles and paint to create colourful, patterned artwork, developing both our creativity and fine motor skills. In Maths, we have been practising counting up to 20 and working on recognising and making numbers using ten frames, bead strings and counters. These hands-on activities are helping the children to build confidence and a deeper understanding of numbers in a fun and engaging way. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and we will see you all on Monday.

Year 1

This week in Year 1, we have been busy with lots of exciting learning! In English, we have been exploring our core text *Lila and the Secret of Rain*, focusing on what happens at the beginning, middle, and end of the story using time words. In Maths, we have been learning about equal and unequal groups and sorting them into arrays. In Science, we compared and classified different plants. In History, we explored how transport has changed over time. In RE, we began thinking about our Big Question: *What is the goal (the good) for which we should strive?* In DT, we are getting ready to make smoothies by learning how to plan a simple recipe.

Year 2

Year 2 have made a great start to the Summer term. In English, we have started a new book, 'Grace and Family'. Making links and drawing on our previous learning on 'The Lonely Beast', we have been discussing character, setting and the features of a story. In Maths, we are continuing to learn about fractions. The children have been recognising and finding halves, and thinking about key words such as a whole, equal parts, numerator and denominator. In Science, we have been learning about the different parts of a seed and their functions. Keep up your lovely efforts Team Oak!

Year 3

In Year 3, we have had a great week of learning! In English, we had fun exploring the differences between the Caribbean and the UK in relation to our class text, *Gregory Cool*. In History, we have been learning about daily life in Ancient Rome and comparing it to modern life today. In Maths, we have been focusing on adding and subtracting fractions, developing our confidence with this topic. The children have shown great enthusiasm in their discussions and have been keen to share their ideas. We are proud of their hard work and look forward to another exciting week ahead!

Year 4

This week in Year 4, we were disappointed that we were not able to go ahead with our trip to the London Aquarium due to the disruption caused by the tube strike. As soon as we have an alternative date, we will let you know. We took the children to the local park and enjoyed our packed lunches together—thank you to all the parents and helpers who came along so the children still got to enjoy some time away from the class room. In English, we have been studying a new story and focusing on developing our writing skills. We have been practising using fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases to make our writing more detailed and engaging. In Geography, we have been learning about the features of the Amazon rainforest. We have shown great interest in understanding its climate, wildlife, and importance to our planet. Well done, Year 4, for another fantastic week of learning!

Year 5

This week in Year 5, we have been busy developing our skills across a range of subjects. In Maths, we have been learning how to read and interpret timetables and two-way tables. The children worked hard to extract and compare information, building their confidence in handling data. We also consolidated our division skills, focusing on accuracy and using efficient written methods. In English, we have been focusing on developing descriptive writing. The children practised using expanded noun phrases to describe sensory and emotional details, helping to make their writing more vivid and engaging. We also explored how to link ideas across paragraphs using adverbials of time and place, improving the flow and structure of their writing. In Science, we have been learning about life cycles. The children observed and sequenced the stages of different organisms and began to raise thoughtful questions about how living things grow and develop. In History, we have started exploring the Benin Kingdom. The children used a range of sources and evidence to make inferences about this fascinating civilisation, developing their skills as young historians. We are very proud of the children's enthusiasm and effort this week. Keep up the great work!

Year 6

This week in Year 6, the children completed their maths mock assessments and showed excellent progress, demonstrating improved confidence and problem-solving skills. In English, they have been learning about cohesive devices and how to create a smooth flow in their writing, using techniques such as repetition, conjunctions, and fronted adverbials effectively. In Maths lessons, the focus has been on fractions, where pupils have been developing their understanding of equivalence, addition, subtraction, and applying these skills to more complex problems. In RE, the children explored what it means to live a good life, considering a range of worldviews and the values that support positive and meaningful living. In Science, we have begun an exciting new topic on electricity, where pupils are starting to learn about circuits, components, and how electrical systems work in everyday life. Overall, it has been a productive and engaging week across all subjects.

TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

- | | |
|------------|--------|
| 1 Hawthorn | Ali |
| 2 Oak | Shivya |
| 3 Sycamore | Lamar |
| 4 Acacia | Ridha |
| 5 Mahogany | Jalil |
| 5 Cedar | Ethan |
| 6 Magnolia | Kai |

Congratulations!

House Points

This week are

Citrine 198

Emerald 154

Ruby 227

Sapphire 141

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Dorsa, Hawthorn class
Saya, Oak class

Certificate of Merit

Inas, Sycamore class
Nazanin, Acacia class
Kamaya, Mahogany class
Olivier, Cedar class
Annis, Magnolia class

Excellent Presentation

Malak, Hawthorn class
Maneel, Oak class
Razeem, Sycamore class
Uzair, Acacia class
Abdulo, Mahogany class
Rawda, Cedar class
Lewis, Magnolia class

Well done!



W
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SWIM
SCHOOL
E
X

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Lessons save lives!
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