



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Autumn Term — 8th May 2026 (Issue 29)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

A lovely week at Wessex Gardens.

This week we have been working hard on our behaviour and transitions around the school. I am introducing a new strategy to help children develop and maintain positive behaviour. It is called 1-2-3 Magic — a research-based behaviour management approach which has been proven to be very successful. Please ask your child about it! Ask them whether they have received any 1s, 2s or 3s... hopefully the answer will be no! I will provide an updated Behaviour Policy in due course.

A quick reminder about snacks coming into school. Recently, I have had to confiscate a number of food items being brought into school. Please remember that the only snack children should bring in is fresh fruit. Please do not send in crisps, biscuits or other treats. We have our tuck shop on Fridays, where the children are able to enjoy a treat. This forms part of teaching the children about having a balanced diet and making sensible choices.

Finally, we will be thinking especially of our Year 6 pupils next week as they undertake their SATs. I know you will join me in wishing them all the very best of luck!

Thank you for your continued support, and have a wonderful weekend.

Mr Banks
Headteacher

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

11.05.2026 Y6—SATs week (Monday to Thursday)
12.05.2026 Y4—trip to London Aquarium (Sea Life)
25.05-01.06.2026 School Closed -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	97%
1 Hawthorn	100%
2 Oak	98%
3 Sycamore	95%
4 Acacia	99%
5 Cedar	100%
5 Mahogany	98%
6 Magnolia	97%

Congratulations Hawthorn and Cedar class on 100% attendance this week!

Letters home this week



Y6 End of Year Trips
Y6 Year 6 Leavers' Year Book

Nursery

Another week of fun in Nursery this week.

Our 3 and 4 year olds have been learning the story of Goldie Locks and the Three Bears and have enjoyed repeating the story back. We have been focusing on numbers 1-10. While our 2 year olds had a great time with their dinosaur play and building sandcastles.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and looking forward to more fun with our friends next week.

The Nursery Team

Reception

We have had another busy and exciting week in class, with lots of wonderful learning taking place across the curriculum. In Maths, the children have been practising adding using ten frames. This has helped them to develop their understanding of number bonds, counting accurately and seeing numbers in different ways. The children have shown great confidence when using counters and explaining their thinking.

In English, we are continuing to see fantastic improvements through our daily writing practice. The children are becoming more independent writers and are working hard to use their phonics and finger spaces. It has been lovely to see their confidence and creativity grow each day.

We have also been busy "unlocking the superheroes" in class. The children have enjoyed completing challenges and demonstrating our learning powers such as resilience, teamwork and determination.

In Art, the children have started creating canvases for our upcoming art show. They are putting in so much care and creativity, and the artwork is looking wonderful already. We are very excited to share their finished pieces with you soon. Further details about the art show will follow shortly. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Year 1

This week in Year 1, the children have been working hard across all subjects. In English, they wrote a diary entry from Lila's point of view, using adjectives and verbs to make their sentences more interesting. In Maths, we have been exploring halves of shapes and quantities. In Science, we compared evergreen and deciduous trees and discussed their differences. In PSHE, we talked about trusted adults and who can help us stay safe. In RE, we listened to a Muslim story and reflected on how it is similar to stories from other faiths. Please continue reading daily on Bug Club, as regular reading is very important for your child's progress.

Year 2

There has been a lot of lovely effort in Year 2 this week. In English, the children have been writing a retell of 'Grace and Family', and planning their stories. In Maths, we have been learning about unit and non-unit fractions, as well as learning more about a numerator and denominator. In Science, we have been making careful observations of the seeds that we planted at the beginning of our topic on plants. We have checked and recorded if they have germinated, and whether they appear healthy or unhealthy.

Keep up the great effort Team Oak!

Year 3

In Year 3, we have had a productive week in class! In English, we have been finishing our fantasy stories, inspired by Gregory Cool.

In Maths, we have been focusing on adding and subtracting money, developing our confidence with real-life calculations. In Art, we have been exploring drawing techniques, heading outside into the school garden to sketch different plants using simple shapes as a starting point. Our Science and Art learning has been closely linked, as we explored the different structures of plants and discussed how to keep them healthy. The children showed great focus and creativity during their outdoor learning.

Year 4

This week in Year 4, we completed our Maths assessments on decimals, and we were very pleased to see that almost all pupils made strong progress. In Science, we have been building circuits and learning about the role of switches, which we really enjoyed. In R.E., we have been discussing and debating what is good and evil, using role play to explore different perspectives. In Art, we have been inspired by rainforest images, creating imaginative work based on colours, patterns and textures. Overall, it has been a very positive and productive week.

Year 5

This week, Year 5 pupils worked hard across the curriculum and developed a wide range of skills.

In Maths, pupils developed their understanding of geometry and angles. They learned how to calculate angles around a point and on a straight line, as well as finding missing lengths and angles in different shapes. The children also explored the properties of regular and irregular polygons.

In English, we focused on report writing linked to environmental issues and tree planting. The children explored the purpose and audience of a report by reading a fictional letter from the Greening Project and discussing the importance of tree planting for the environment and local communities. They worked hard to develop formal and subject-specific vocabulary, expanded noun phrases and organisational features used in report writing.

In Science, pupils learned about the life cycles of birds and mammals. They described the stages within each life cycle and compared similarities and differences using comparison charts. The children enjoyed exploring how animals grow and change throughout their lives and presented their findings clearly and thoughtfully.

In History, pupils studied the Kingdom of Benin. They learned about the structure of Benin society and explored the important role of the monarchy within the kingdom. Pupils engaged in thoughtful discussions about leadership, social hierarchy and the achievements of the Benin civilisation.

In RE, we discussed the idea that individuals within religions and worldviews may see living a good life as an ultimate goal. The children reflected respectfully on different beliefs, values and the ways people made positive choices in their lives.

Year 6

In Maths, Year 6 have been working hard on a range of important topics including prime numbers, Roman numerals, rounding, and sequences, strengthening their number skills and problem-solving strategies. In English, the children have been inferring Jackie's feelings using evidence from the text, as well as further exploring the historical context to deepen their understanding of the story. In Science, they created their own electrical circuits, built them successfully, and drew diagrams of their work in their books, which really sparked curiosity and interest. Across all subjects, the children have been doing lots of revision as this is the final push before SATs, and they have shown great focus and determination. We wish them the very best for next week!

TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

- | | |
|------------|---------|
| 1 Hawthorn | Lilia |
| 2 Oak | Max |
| 3 Sycamore | Ibrahim |
| 4 Acacia | Mohamed |
| 5 Mahogany | Hamza |
| 5 Cedar | Rawda |
| 6 Magnolia | Roman |

Congratulations!

House Points

This week are

Citrine 507

Emerald 485

Ruby 508

Sapphire 471

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Mohamed, Hawthorn class
Eve, Oak class

Certificate of Merit

Nabil, Sycamore class
Jojo, Acacia class
Matin, Cedar class
Yusuf, Mahogany class
Natalie, Magnolia class

Excellent Presentation

Rateb, Hawthorn class
Saya, Oak class
Ismaeel, Sycamore class
Arij, Acacia class
Shirley, Cedar class
Noor, Mahogany class
Kai, Magnolia class

Well done!