



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

Summer Term — 26th June 2026 (Issue 35)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

I hope everyone is doing their best to keep cool during this heatwave and managing to stay safe in the high temperatures.

We have had a very quiet week at school, with only a handful of children attending each day. Fortunately, the weather forecast for next week looks much cooler and we are looking forward to getting back to normal routines and welcoming everyone back into school.

Despite the heat, we were fortunate to be able to play the Year 5 and Year 6 finals of the Wessex World Cup before the hot weather set in. The children showed fantastic teamwork, resilience and sportsmanship throughout the competition. Any postponed matches will be played next week so that the tournament can be brought to an exciting conclusion.

I will be letting you know your child's class teacher for next year on Monday, and we know the children will be excited to find out their new classes and teachers.

Please note that all school communication is now being sent via email rather than School Ping. To ensure you continue to receive important updates and information, please make sure that the school office has an up-to-date email address for you.

Mr Banks
Headteacher



SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

29.06.2026	Transition Morning—class swap
30.06.2026	Reception Class Assembly
01.07.2026	Nursery and Reception Sports Day
02.07.2026	Y2 Class Assembly
07.07.2026	Y3 Class Assembly <i>change of date</i>
07.07.2026	Y1 trip to London Aquarium
08.07.2026	Y1-6 Sports Day
09.07.2026	Y4 Class Assembly <i>change of date</i>
09.07.2026	Y6 End of Year Production
17.07.2026	End of term school closing 1.15pm
17.07.2026	Nursery closed
17.07.2026	No After School club

Class Assemblies

Each class are delighted to invite their parents and carers to their class assembly (please see dates above). Each assembly will start at 9.00am and will last approximately 20-30 minutes. Please make sure you arrive in plenty of time. Thank you.

Have your say on school aged childcare in Barnet

Barnet Council is inviting parents and carers to complete a short survey about childcare for school aged children, including holiday provision.

This information has been requested by the Department for Education and will help the Council plan and improve childcare services for local families.

[Parent/ Carer School Aged Childcare Sufficiency Survey – Fill out form](#)

Deadline: Friday 31 July 2026

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

Letters home this week



No letters home this week

Year 1

In this hot weather, we have had a busy and enjoyable week in Year 1! In English we worked on our oracy skills by telling our partner a sentence about the 3Rs – **Reduce, Reuse and Recycle**– before writing it down. In Maths, we began learning about money exploring different coins and their values. In Geography we identified the capital cities of the countries in the United Kingdom. In RE, we read a Muslim story and enjoyed acting it out together.

Year 2

It has been a very warm week and Year 2 have done well. In English, we have been learning about the beginning, middle and end of stories, and applying this to 'Tidy'. In Maths, we have started a new topic on Statistics and have been learning about tally charts. We have also been consolidating our learning on time, fractions, multiplication and division. In Science, we discussed our findings from our investigation as environmental scientists last week in the school playground. We have started to learn about the effects of litter pollution on animals, plants and people. Keep up that lovely effort Year 2!

Year 3

Year 3 have had another exciting week of learning! In Maths, we have been exploring 3D shapes, identifying their properties and learning about faces, edges and vertices. In English, we have continued reading *Lob* and are thoroughly enjoying the story as it unfolds. In Science, we have started growing our own butterflies, and the children have been fascinated to see our caterpillars reach the chrysalis stage. In Geography, we have been investigating how the Brent Cross area has changed over time, comparing what it was like in the past to what it is like today. The children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm throughout the week, and we look forward to seeing our butterflies emerge soon!

Year 4

This week in Year 4, we have been delving into our class text *The World Burns Down*. Through our reading and discussions, we have been exploring environmental issues affecting the Amazon rainforest and considering how these challenges can have an impact on people and wildlife across the globe. The children have shown great curiosity and thoughtfulness when discussing ways we can help protect our environment. In Science, we have been learning about extinct animals, including the dodo bird and the sabre-toothed tiger. We have investigated what these animals were like, how they lived, and the possible reasons for their extinction. The children have enjoyed comparing these fascinating creatures with animals that are still alive today and discussing the importance of protecting endangered species.

Year 5

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, due to the exceptionally hot weather, we had a shorter learning week. Despite this, the children continued to work hard and made good progress across all areas of learning.

In Maths, the children developed their understanding of negative numbers. They practised counting through zero in 1s and in multiples, before learning how to compare and order negative numbers. The class showed increasing confidence when working with numbers below zero and applying their knowledge to a range of activities.

In English, we began our new balanced argument unit by exploring the question, "Should the wilderness be developed into housing?" This lesson acted as a hook into our learning and encouraged the children to think critically about a real-world issue. Through discussion and debate, the children considered both sides of the argument and practised expressing and justifying their opinions. They were introduced to persuasive language features, including modal verbs and rhetorical questions, and used these to help communicate their viewpoints effectively. We are looking forward to developing these ideas further as we continue our balanced argument writing next week.

In Science, we explored the formation of fossil fuels. The children learned about the processes involved over millions of years and were able to sequence the stages correctly. They then represented their understanding by creating models that demonstrated how fossil fuels are formed. The class enjoyed investigating this important aspect of Earth's natural resources.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Year 6

Despite the extreme heat this week, Year 6 showed fantastic resilience and continued to work hard throughout all of their learning. We were very proud of how maturely and sensibly the children adapted to the hot weather while staying focused and engaged. This week, the children also took part in production practice and have been working enthusiastically on their performances. Their energy, teamwork and growing confidence have been wonderful to see. In Geography, Year 6 have been learning about **climate change** and its impact on different regions around the world, including **the Arctic, Bangladesh, Florida and the Amazon Rainforest**. As part of this topic, the children created **PowerPoint presentations** to showcase their understanding of how climate change affects people, wildlife and environments in these contrasting locations. They worked hard to research, organise their ideas and present their findings clearly.