



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Summer Term — 3rd July 2026 (Issue 36)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter

What an incredibly busy week we have had at Wessex Gardens!

We have finally concluded the Wessex World Cup, which was postponed last week due to the hot weather. It was wonderful to see the competition come to such a successful end, with children demonstrating excellent teamwork, resilience and sportsmanship throughout.

We also sent a large group of children to the Barnet Athletics event, where they represented the school exceptionally well and made us all very proud.

Our choir performed brilliantly at the St Jude's Prom, showcasing both their talent and enthusiasm, while Reception enjoyed a fantastic day out at Topsy Turvy World. Year 5 pupils had the opportunity to experience a taste of secondary school life by spending the day at Clarendon School, giving them an exciting glimpse of what lies ahead.

Children across the school also met their teachers for next year and spent time getting to know their new classes and learning environments in preparation for September.

Year 2 and Year 5 Mahogany both performed their class assemblies for parents this week. Both were incredibly impressive and highlighted just how much learning, creativity and hard work takes place during a typical day at school.

The forecast suggests that we may experience another spell of hot weather next week. There are currently no weather warnings in place so please send your children into school as normal. Should the situation change, we will inform you promptly.

Mr Banks
Headteacher

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION

Dates for the Diary!

Dates for your diary

07.07.2026	Y3 Class Assembly
07.07.2026	Y1 trip to London Aquarium
07.07.2026	Y5 trip to Hyde Park
08.07.2026	Y1-6 Sports Day—Basing Hill Park (parents invited)
09.07.2026	Y4 Class Assembly
10.07.2026	Nursery & Reception Sports morning (parents invited)
10.07.2026	5C Class Assembly
10.07.2026	Y6 Prom 3.30-5.30pm
13.07.2026	Parents Meeting—Reception Class September 2026 9am OR 4.30pm
14.07.2026	Y1 Class Assembly
14.07.2026	Y6 End of Year Production (parents invited)
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.

Y6 Prom

Prom for Y6 will be on Friday 10th July straight after school from 3.30-5.30pm. The children are to come to school in school uniform as usual and bring their change of clothes with them to change into after school. All children to be collected promptly at 5.30pm. Thank you.

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

Nurs-Y5 New classes for next academic year



Thank you all for your support in this years Wessex World Cup

Well done to all the teams involved, and apologies to early years who did not get the chance to play due to last weeks heatwave and time constraints.

A big CONGRATUALIONS to this years winners:

KS1
SENEGAL (Y1 Boys)
SPAIN (Y2 Girls)

LSK2
ARGENTINA (Y4 Girls)
SOUTH AFRICA (Y4 Boys)

UKS2
SCOTLAND (Cedar Boys)
CAPE VERDE (Cedar Girls)

Commsations to Ms Cavalcante and Mr Escobar (TEAM SALSA) who will be subject to the infamous ICE BUCKET next week after loosing 10-8 to Mr Khalil's TEAM SAUCE!

Attendance % this week

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

No classes achieved 100% attendance this week

Reception

We have had another busy and enjoyable week in class, with lots of exciting learning taking place. Yesterday, the children thoroughly enjoyed our school trip to Topsy Turvy. They had a fantastic time exploring, playing and developing their teamwork and communication skills. It was wonderful to see everyone showing excellent behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the visit. We also took part in our Class Transition Day, where the children had the opportunity to meet their new teacher, explore their new classroom and experience what next year will be like. The children approached the day with confidence and excitement, and it was lovely to see them embracing this new experience. In Maths, we have been focusing on sharing, helping the children understand how objects can be shared equally into groups. We have used practical resources and real-life examples to develop their understanding and confidence. In English, the children have been busy writing a class fact file. They have thought carefully about what makes our class special and have included interesting facts about themselves. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to another exciting week ahead.

Year 1

This week in Year 1, we have had another busy and exciting week of learning! In Maths, we learned about money, including the different coins and notes and their values. We also explored the days of the week and talked about what we do throughout the day as an introduction to our new topic on time. In English, we have been planning our own superhero stories, ready to publish and display in our classroom. The children have worked hard to make their writing exciting by using similes in their descriptions. In Geography, we used an atlas to locate the seas surrounding the United Kingdom. In Science, we learned about the impact of plastic pollution on sea life and discussed ways we can help protect our oceans. In RE, we talked about making the right choices by being kind and considerate to others. In PSHE, we explored the important roles of the people who help us in our community. We also had a fantastic time cheering on our Year 1 football teams. It was wonderful to see everyone encouraging and supporting one another with such enthusiasm.

We only have two more weeks until the end of the school year! We have also renewed our subscription to Numbots. Please let me know if you have any difficulties logging in so your child can continue practising at home. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 2

We have had a lovely week in Year 2. The children practised and performed fantastically well during the class assembly - well done everyone!

In English, we planned the beginning, middle and end of our stories based on 'Tidy'. We will be using first person pronouns, past tense verbs and expanded noun phrases. In Maths, we have continued our topic on 'Statistics'. We are applying our learning on tally charts and exploring different ways of presenting information. In Science, we are finding out more about litter pollution and how it affects animals, plants and people.

Well done and keep up your wonderful efforts Team Oak!

Year 3

Year 3 have had another fantastic week of learning! In English, we have been busy writing our own nature spirit adventure stories, inspired by our class text Lob. In Maths, we have started learning about statistics, carrying out a tally of which country the teachers at Wessex think will win the World Cup before presenting our results using pictograms.

In Science, we celebrated a very exciting milestone as our butterflies emerged from their chrysalises. We had lots of fun releasing them into the school garden and watching them begin their new journey. It was a wonderful way to bring our learning about life cycles to life! The children have shown fantastic enthusiasm and teamwork across all of their learning this week. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and can't wait for another exciting week of learning ahead!

Year 4

This week in Maths, we looked at geometry, exploring quadrilaterals, polygons and lines of symmetry. We identified and compared the properties of different shapes and used our understanding to recognise and create symmetrical patterns.

In English, we have been focusing on formal letter writing. We explored the features of a formal letter, using formal language and making polite requests. We also practised organising our ideas clearly and using the correct layout for a formal letter.

Year 5

We have had another busy and enjoyable week in Year 5!

In English, the children have been developing their persuasive writing by using rhetorical questions, persuasive vocabulary and modal verbs to present arguments for and against building homes on wilderness land.

In Maths, we have been practising converting between different metric units, including kilograms, kilometres, millimetres and millilitres.

In RE, the children compared the life stories of Jesus and Buddha, reflecting on their journeys as religious founders.

In Geography, we explored how goods are transported around the world and how transport networks support global trade. The children also investigated the different methods of transport used to move goods efficiently across countries and continents.

In Science, we investigated how burning fossil fuels causes pollution and contributes to climate change. We discussed how reducing our energy use and choosing cleaner alternatives can help protect our planet.

On Wednesday, the children had a fantastic experience visiting Clarion Secondary School for a taster day. They thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a range of activities and represented our school brilliantly with their excellent behaviour and enthusiasm.

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

Year 6

It has been another busy week for Year 6! In **Computing**, the children have been introduced to **spreadsheets**, learning how to input simple formulae to carry out calculations. They have thoroughly enjoyed these lessons and have shown great enthusiasm for developing their computing skills. We have also been learning about **financial literacy**, helping the children develop their understanding of money and the wider world. As part of this, they designed their own banknotes, which was a fun and creative activity. This week, the children also attended their **Secondary Transition Day**, spending the day at their new secondary schools. It was a valuable experience that has helped prepare them for the exciting next chapter beginning in September. Well done, Year 6!

TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

1 Hawthorn	Leo
2 Oak	Fatima
3 Sycamore	Rania
4 Acacia	Arij
5 Mahogany	Alaa
5 Cedar	Megan
6 Magnolia	Bronek

Congratulations!

House Points

This week are

Citrine 519

Emerald 446

Ruby 550

Sapphire 464

Stars of the Week



Superstars of the Week

Dishaan, Hawthorn class
Everyone in Oak class

Certificate of Merit

Barin, Sycamore class
Rickai, Acacia class
Rama, Cedar class
Sirine, Magnolia class

Excellent Presentation

Eman, Hawthorn class
Orabelle, Oak class
Santiago, Sycamore class
Layan, Acacia class
Jalil, Mahogany class
Matin, Cedar class
Celin, Magnolia class

Class Merit

Mahogany class

Well done!

Sports Day is nearly here!

Here are the details for **Y1-6 Sports day**, which will be taking place next week **Wednesday 8th July 2026** at **Basing Hill Park**, NW11 8QY, just a short 5 minute walk from Wessex.

Family and Friends are very welcome to attend and support your children on the day. Please **meet us at Basing Hill Park for 9:15am**, ready for a **9:30am start**. Parents and Carers, if you are able to help walk with us from school to the park and return, please let your class teacher know.

We are aiming to finish and head back to school for around 11:45am.



WESSEX GARDENS ★
SPORTS DAY (Y1-3) ★

Wednesday 8th July

Please arrive at 9:15am ready for **9:30am** start, kicking off with the 60m sprints & relay races

Activity stations will start at around **10:30am** - your start point is labelled on the diagram attached

When you hear the whistle, move around with your group in a clockwise direction

Each station will last approximately 5-7 minutes

Please make sure an adult goes with the children to the toilets, which are located in the outhouse at the far end of the park

Illustration of children running on a track with flags.



WESSEX GARDENS ★
SPORTS DAY (Y4-6) ★

Wednesday 8th July

Please arrive at 9:15am ready for a **9:30am** start

Activity stations starting points are labelled on the diagram attached

When you hear the whistle, move around with your group in a clockwise direction

Each station will last approximately 5-7 minutes

Sprints & Relay races will begin at around **10:30am**

Please make sure an adult goes with the children to the toilets, which are located in the outhouse at the far end of the park

Illustration of children running on a track with flags.

Early Years sports day will be in school on **Friday 10th July**, from **9:00am - 10:30am**. Family and friends also more than welcome to spectate.



Wessex Gardens

Nursery and Reception Class

Sports Day - Friday 10th July 9.00-10.30am



Children who do not usually attend Nursery on Friday mornings are welcome to come in with their parents from 9.00-10.30am – parents must stay and take their children home directly after the event.

The children should come to school in PE kit (shorts, t-shirt and trainers and bring their water bottles).



Read to the Beat! Summer Reading Challenge 2026

From Saturday 4 July

Barnet Libraries are taking part in the **Read to the Beat! Summer Reading Challenge 2026** and will soon be inviting children to get into the rhythm of reading over the school holidays. Delivered in partnership with The Reading Agency and Universal Music Group UK, this music-themed challenge celebrates how stories and songs can inspire, connect and spark imagination.

It's a great way to address children's reading 'dip' over the summer, build on literacy skills, and keep up the momentum of reading for pleasure.

Children from 4 to 12 years can sign up at any Barnet library from **Saturday 4 July** and throughout the holidays. To complete the challenge, participants must **read six library books** of their own choice – from stories to comics to factual books. They can also read eBooks via [Libby](#) and eAudiobooks via [BorrowBox](#). Children will collect rewards and stickers for reading, and a certificate and medal on completion. There is also a special mini challenge for under 4s, encouraging families with younger children to join in the fun.

Alongside the challenge, libraries will host a lively programme of music-themed events, including craft activities, DJ and rap workshops, STEM sessions, and instrument-making.

Find out more at www.barnet.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge.

How schools can get involved

Primary schools have always been a great help to libraries in getting the message out there to children, parents, and carers. Your school can:

- Contact Barnet Libraries for a link to join our virtual assemblies on 9 and 13 July

- Talk about it at assemblies or in the classroom. Request a copy of our short presentation, or use [The Reading Agency's video](#) for visuals.

- Inform parents/carers about Read to the Beat! via school newsletters

- Encourage parents to sign up for our newsletter for families at www.barnet.gov.uk/librarynewsletters

Contact us

For more information and resources, email libraryevents@barnet.gov.uk

Rachel Reilly

Service Development Librarian

Barnet Libraries

Week 1

AFS Kids

Week 4

Week 2

Week 3

HIGH QUALITY
HOLIDAY CAMPS



SPORTS AND
ACTIVITY
CAMP



ST MARYS ST JOHNS SCHOOL
(NEALE HOUSE
CAMPUS)
HENDON
NW4 3SL



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