



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Alexander Banks Deputy Headteacher: Leila Sharif



Newsletter

Summer Term — 17th July 2026 (Issue 38)

Welcome to this week's Newsletter



As we come to the end of another wonderful academic year, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has helped make this year such a success. Our sincere thanks go to our dedicated staff, supportive governors, and our fantastic parents and carers for the encouragement, partnership and trust you have shown throughout the year.

Most importantly, thank you to our incredible children. Your enthusiasm, kindness, resilience and determination have made us all immensely proud. To our Year 6 pupils and all those leaving Wessex Gardens Primary and Nursery School, we wish you every success and happiness as you begin the next stage of your journey. We know you will achieve great things. To everyone returning in September, we look forward to welcoming you back, refreshed, ready to learn and excited for another successful year together.

Finally, thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness at the end of term. The many cards, kind messages and gifts received by our staff have been greatly appreciated. Your kindness means a great deal to us and is a wonderful reminder of the strong partnership we share as a school community.

Have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday. We look forward to seeing our returning pupils in September, ready for another exciting year at Wessex Gardens Primary and Nursery School.

Mr Banks
Headteacher

SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



Dates for your diary

03.09.2026	School reopens Y1-Y6
07.09.2026	Nursery reopens for existing children
07.09.2026	Reception staggered intakes— please check your letter for start date
26-30.10.2026	Half term—school closed

Nursery will reopen for existing children on Monday 7th September 2026.

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2026-2027

AUTUMN TERM 2026

FIRST HALF:	Thursday 3 rd September – Friday 23 rd October
HALF TERM	
HOLIDAY:	Monday 26 th October – Monday 2 nd November
SECOND HALF:	Tuesday 3 rd November – Friday 18 th December

SPRING TERM 2027

FIRST HALF:	Tuesday 5 th January – Friday 12 th February
HALF TERM	
HOLIDAY:	Monday 15 th February – Monday 22 nd February
SECOND HALF:	Tuesday 23 rd February – Thursday 25 th March

SUMMER TERM 2027

FIRST HALF:	Monday 12 th April – Friday 28 nd May
MAY DAY:	Monday 3 rd May
HALF TERM	
HOLIDAY:	Monday 31 st May – Monday 7 th June
SECOND HALF:	Tuesday 8 th June – Thursday 22 nd July

Letters home this week



No letters home this week.

Nursery	As we come to the end of another wonderful year in Nursery, I would like to say what an absolute privilege it has been to watch each and every one of our children grow in confidence, independence and curiosity. To our amazing children, thank you for filling our days with laughter, kindness, imagination and endless smiles—you have made us incredibly proud, and we know you are more than ready for your exciting next adventure either in Reception or those returning to Nursery. To our parents and families, thank you for your trust, encouragement and partnership throughout the year; your support has played such an important part in your children's success. Finally, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to my incredible team—Asiya, Phil and Lilia. Your dedication, care, patience and commitment have created a nurturing environment where every child has been able to flourish. It has been a joy working alongside you all, and together we have shared so many special moments that we will always treasure. Wishing everyone a happy, safe and relaxing Summer, and every success for the exciting journey ahead.
Reception	It has been a pleasure to watch the children grow in confidence, develop new skills and create many happy memories together. This term has been filled with exciting learning opportunities, celebrations and achievements, and we are incredibly proud of everything the children have accomplished. Their enthusiasm, resilience and kindness have made this a truly special year. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our families for your support with school events, trips, fundraising and day-to-day school life. Your involvement makes a real difference to our school community. To those families moving on to new schools or new adventures, we wish you every success and happiness for the future. You will always be a valued part of our school family. Thank you once again for a fantastic year. With best wishes, The Silver Birch team
Year 1	Thank you so much for coming to our Year 1 Singing Assembly. The children worked incredibly hard for their performance, and we hope you enjoyed watching them. It has been wonderful to see how much they have grown in confidence throughout the year, and I am so proud of all they have achieved. Thank you for all your support this year. It has made a real difference, and it has been a pleasure teaching your children. We wish you all a happy, relaxing Summer break!
Year 2	It has been a lovely week in Year 2. The children finished writing their own versions of 'Tidy' and put in a great effort towards these. Keep up that remarkable writing Team Oak and I'm looking forward to finding out about those diary entries that you will be writing over the Summer holidays! In Maths, the children interpreted pictograms and had to count in 2s, 5s and 10s. Remember to keep practising those times tables! In Science, we created fantastic posters to reduce litter pollution, showing our scientific learning and understanding. A huge well done on your amazing efforts this year Team Oak! I hope you all have a wonderful, restful holiday.
Year 3	Year 3 have had a fun end to the term! We have been practising our times tables and, in English, the children have been using their imaginations to write their own creative stories about a flying saucer. We also enjoyed celebrating all of our hard work with a fantastic class party, which was a lovely way to end the school year together. We would also like to say a huge thank you to Ishaq for kindly donating a book for every child in the class. Your thoughtful generosity has made the class so happy, and we are incredibly grateful! As this is my final Newsletter, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all of the children, families and staff for your kindness and support throughout my time teaching at Wessex. It has been a privilege to teach 3 Sycamore, and I am so proud of everything the children have achieved. I wish you all the very best as you move into Year 4—keep working hard, believing in yourselves and enjoying every opportunity to learn. Have a wonderful, safe and relaxing Summer. Well done, Year 3!
Year 4	This week, we spent time reflecting on our Year 4 journey together. We looked back at our favourite memories, celebrated our successes and shared food together as a class to mark the end of a wonderful year. It was a lovely opportunity to appreciate how much everyone has grown and to celebrate the friendships that have been made. In English, we completed our final writing piece by writing persuasive letters to local officials about environmental issues that matter to us. We used everything they have learned this year to present clear arguments, support their opinions with evidence and encourage positive action to help protect our environment. Their thoughtful ideas and passion for making a difference were wonderful to see. A big thank you to all the families who joined us for our class assembly. The children worked so hard to learn their lines, songs and performances, and we were delighted to be able to share their learning and celebrate their achievements with you. They should all feel incredibly proud of themselves. As the Summer holidays begin, we hope everyone has a well-deserved rest and enjoys spending time with family and friends. We would like to wish all of our Year 4 children the very best as they move on to Year 5. We know they are ready for the exciting challenges ahead and are confident they will continue to shine. Thank you for all of your support throughout the year. It has been a pleasure teaching such a fantastic class, and we wish you all a safe, happy and relaxing Summer break.
Year 5	What a fun final week we have had in Year 5! It has been a wonderful way to end a fantastic year together. In English, the children completed and published their persuasive debate writing. They explored different viewpoints, giving reasons for and against the development of wilderness areas. They worked hard to use modal verbs, rhetorical questions and persuasive language to strengthen their arguments, producing some excellent final pieces. In Maths, we focused on calculating and comparing volume, using our understanding of multiplication and measurement to solve a range of practical problems. We also enjoyed celebrating the end of the year with our class parties, giving us the opportunity to spend time together, reflect on all we have achieved and make some wonderful final memories as a class. Thank you for all your support throughout the year. It has been a pleasure teaching your children and watching them grow in confidence, independence and resilience. We are incredibly proud of everything they have accomplished and know they are ready for the exciting challenges of Year 6. Wishing you all a wonderful, relaxing and safe Summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming the children back in September for another exciting year of learning!
Year 6	As we come to the end of an unforgettable year, we would like to thank all our families for your continued support. This week, our Year 6 production was a huge success, and we are incredibly proud of the children's confidence, talent and hard work. Thank you to everyone who came to watch and support them. The children also enjoyed signing each other's shirts, a wonderful tradition that gave them the chance to celebrate the friendships and memories they have made during their time at primary school. To our amazing Year 6 pupils, thank you for being such a fantastic class. We are so proud of how much you have grown in confidence, resilience and maturity, and we know you are ready for the exciting journey ahead. We wish you every success and happiness in secondary school—believe in yourselves, work hard, be kind and make the most of every opportunity. Have a wonderful Summer, and good luck!

Summer Holiday Club

FREE on
the **GROW**
Farm!

**For benefit-
related free
school meal &
looked-after
children.**

**10am-2:30pm
Daily**

Farm activities & Games
Harvesting & Cooking
Chicken care
GROW Licenses
Arts & Crafts
And more!

**3rd - 6th August
11-13 year olds**

**10th - 13th August
8-10 year olds**

**CLICK HERE
TO SIGN UP**

www.wearegrow.org / [@wearegrow](https://www.instagram.com/wearegrow)
The GROW Farm, The Totteridge Academy, Barnet Lane, N20 8AZ



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

EXCLUSIVE SCHOOL PARTNER DISCOUNT

10% OFF SUMMER CRASH COURSES 2026

– Available for pupils attending: –

- ✓ Wessex Gardens Primary & Nursery School
- ✓ Claremont Primary School
- ✓ Child's Hill School
- ✓ All Saints' C.E. Primary School

USE CODE:
WESSEX10
WHEN BOOKING



As a thank you to schools that support our swimming programme.



SUMMER SWIMMING CRASH COURSES 2026

WARM
PRIVATE
POOL
(31°C)



Learn • Improve • Build Confidence • Have Fun!



HELPING CHILDREN MAKE FAST PROGRESS THIS SUMMER

- ✓ Learn to swim
- ✓ Improve stroke technique
- ✓ Build water confidence
- ✓ Water safety skills
- ✓ Small group teaching
- ✓ Suitable for all abilities



**GROUP
CRASH COURSE**

£12.50

PER SESSION



**1:1
LESSONS**

£35

PER SESSION



**2:1
LESSONS**

£50

PER SESSION
JUST £25 PER CHILD



A safe, warm and welcoming environment for your child



WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

Lessons take place in our warm private pool (31°C) at Wessex Gardens.



DELIVERED BY BRYONY KNIGHTS



- ✓ Over 12 years' teaching experience
- ✓ ASA Swimming Teacher
- ✓ STA Swimming Teacher Qualification for Children with Additional Needs (SEN)
- ★ Experience teaching club swimmers and competitive swimmers
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- ✓ Small Groups
- ✓ Make Fast Progress
- ✓ Safe and Secure School Environment
- ✓ Have Fun!

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Spaces are limited! ★



07984 473196 (Call or WhatsApp)



knightsbryony@gmail.com



Find us on Facebook
'Bee's Wessex Swim School'



I look forward to welcoming you!



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

EARLYBIRD
DISCOUNT UNTIL
11TH JULY
USE CODE:
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10% OFF

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VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED.



www.allforsport.co.uk

AFS Kids

Week 1



Week 2



Week 3



Week 4



10% OFF

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Ofsted

CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED.

Early
drop off
8:30am

£10

Late
pick up
5pm

£10

Age:

5yrs - 11yrs
10am - 4pm

Daily

£39

Week

£156

SAVER • SAVER • SAVER • SAVER • SAVER
5 DAYS
FOR THE
PRICE OF
4

Football Camp
also available the
same dates!

WEEK 1 : 20th - 24th JUL

WEEK 2 : 27th - 31st JUL

WEEK 3 : 3rd - 7th AUG

WEEK 4 : 10th - 14th AUG



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