

# WESSEX GARDENS PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Alexander Banks Deputy Headteacher: Leila Sharif



## Newsletter

Summer Term — 10th July 2026 (Issue 37)

### Welcome to this week's Newsletter

The highlight of this week has undoubtedly been our Sports Days. On Wednesday, we had a fantastic time at Basing Hill Park.

Despite the hot weather, the children showed great enthusiasm, determination and team spirit, and everyone had lots of fun. We also enjoyed a wonderful Sports Day for our Early Years children, who were an absolute delight to watch. Thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to support the children. Your encouragement helped make both events so special.

A special thank you to Mr Khalil and Mrs Atanassova for organising two fantastic Sports Days this week. Their hard work, planning and enthusiasm ensured that both events ran smoothly and provided such enjoyable experiences for all of our children. Thank you also to all of the staff who helped prepare equipment, supervise events and cheer the children on throughout the day. It was a real team effort, and we are incredibly grateful for everything they did to make these memorable occasions such a success.

We have also continued to enjoy our class assemblies. These are such an important opportunity for children to develop their confidence, perform in front of an audience and celebrate their learning. Thank you once again for your incredible support. The turnout from families has been fantastic, and I know it means so much to both the children and staff.

Sadly, we had to cancel one of our school trips this week. School trips rely on parent volunteers to ensure that we have enough adults to supervise children safely. Although we initially had sufficient volunteers, a number had to withdraw at the last minute, leaving us unable to meet the required staffing ratios. If you have volunteered for a trip and find that you can no longer attend, please let us know as early as possible so that we have the opportunity to ask another parent to take your place. Your support really does make these valuable experiences possible for our children.

As we head into the final week of what has been an incredible school year, there is still much to look forward to. While the hot weather continues to present some challenges, we are excited to finish the year on a positive and memorable note.

Mr Banks  
Headteacher



### SCHOOL REMINDERS & INFORMATION



#### Dates for your diary

|            |                                                                 |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13.07.2026 | Parents Meeting—Reception Class September 2026<br>9am OR 4.30pm |
| 14.07.2026 | Y6 End of Year Production 9.00am (parents invited)              |
| 15.07.2026 | Y1 Singing Assembly 9.00am (parents invited) <i>changed</i>     |
| 16.07.2026 | Last Day of term for Nursery                                    |
| 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.

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

#### Fond Farewells

We shall enjoy our final week with Y6 and will wish them well in their transition to secondary school.

We will also be saying goodbye to **Chelsea Javier (Y3 teacher)**, **Maria Flores (lunchtime First Aider)**, **Iwona Al-Azzawi (TA)**, **Gladys Cavalcante (TA)**, **Asiya Chelihi (Nursery)** and **Heena Hemnani (TA)**. Thank you for everything you have done for the children and being part of our Wessex community. We will miss you and wish you every success for the future.

#### TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2026-2027

##### AUTUMN TERM 2026

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

##### SPRING TERM 2027

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

##### SUMMER TERM 2027

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

### Attendance % this week

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| Silver Birch | 92% |
| 1 Hawthorn   | 91% |
| 2 Oak        | 95% |
| 3 Sycamore   | 96% |
| 4 Acacia     | 97% |
| 5 Cedar      | 99% |
| 5 Mahogany   | 99% |
| 6 Magnolia   | 94% |

No classes achieved 100% attendance this week  
Cedar and Mahogany class—so close!

### Letters home this week

Nurs-Y6 **Mealtime Supervisor vacancy**  
**Please delete attachment sent in error and reply to Mr Banks via link. Thank you.**



## Year 1

It has been a super busy and exciting week in Year 1! We had a fantastic trip to the aquarium, where we saw a wonderful variety of fish, sharks and turtles. The children thoroughly enjoyed the visit, followed by a picnic lunch on the field and time to play in the playground. On Wednesday morning, we took part in Sports Day at the park, where the children tried a range of different activities. It was a memorable first Sports Day experience as primary school children. In Maths, we have started learning to tell the time using clocks. In English, we wrote recounts about our aquarium trip, and in PSHE we created posters about trusted adults and the people who help us. To summarise our learning about how we should act, we also designed posters to share our ideas in RE. In Science, we explored how plastic can be both useful and harmful, particularly for sea life and the environment. In Geography, we recapped the key map-reading skills we have learned this term including how to use maps and atlases. We have just one more week to go before the Summer holidays, and we look forward to welcoming you on Wednesday for our Singalong Assembly!

## Year 2

It has been another busy week in Year 2. In English, we have planned our own versions of 'Tidy' and are writing the beginning, middle and end. We are making sure that we use first person pronouns, past tense verbs, feelings and descriptions. In Maths, we have been learning about block diagrams and pictograms. We have used our previous learning on addition, subtraction and multiplication. In Science, we have continued our learning on environmental science and litter pollution. We have learnt more about how litter pollution affects animals, plants and people. Well done on your fantastic efforts during sports day too Team Oak!

## Year 3

Year 3 have had another fantastic week of learning! Thank you to everyone who came to watch our class assembly. The children worked incredibly hard and loved sharing all the wonderful things they have learnt this year.

In Maths, we have been learning about bar charts, interpreting and presenting data in different ways. In English, we have begun exploring our new text, *Mother Earth Is Weeping*, thinking about nature's emotions and how human actions can affect the environment. In Science, we have been learning about food chains, discovering how living things depend on one another to survive.

The children have shown excellent teamwork and thoughtful ideas throughout all of their lessons this week. We are incredibly proud of their hard work, confidence and enthusiasm, and we look forward to another exciting week of learning together. Well done 3 Sycamore! Your confidence, kindness and enthusiasm have made us incredibly proud this week.

## Year 4

What a fantastic week we have had in Year 4! A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who came to watch our class assembly. The children made us incredibly proud with their beautiful singing, brilliant acting and confident speaking. They worked so hard to prepare, and it was wonderful to see their efforts come together in such a memorable performance. Thank you for your continued support. We also enjoyed a fantastic Sports Day! It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers cheering the children on throughout the day. The children showed excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship in every event. One of the highlights of the day had to be the parents' race, which brought plenty of excitement, laughter and smiles to everyone watching! In Maths, we completed our unit on statistics, where we learnt how to interpret and draw a variety of graphs and charts, including bar charts and line graphs. We will be having our end-of-unit assessment on **Monday**, so please encourage your child to review what they have learnt over the weekend and come to school well rested. We hope you all have a lovely weekend and look forward to another exciting week ahead!

## Year 5

We had another busy and productive week in Year 5, with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum.

**English:** This week, the children wrote a balanced discussion about development. They explored different opinions, presented arguments for and against building new houses, and wrote a conclusion with their own viewpoint.

**Maths:** We converted between metric and imperial units, converted units of time, and used timetables to answer a range of real-life questions. The children developed their confidence in selecting the correct units of measurement and applying their knowledge to everyday contexts.

**Science:** The children compared renewable energy sources and evaluated the benefits of using renewable energy.

**RE:** We learned about the Noble Eightfold Path and discussed how its practices help Buddhists follow their beliefs. We also reflected on how these teachings can inspire us to become kinder, more thoughtful, and better people in our own lives.

**PSHE:** We explored how life changes such as loss, separation, divorce and bereavement can affect people and discussed ways to understand and support others.

## Year 6

Our Year 6 pupils have an incredibly exciting week ahead as they celebrate the end of their primary school journey. On Monday, they will proudly perform their production for the whole school, followed by a special performance for parents on Tuesday at 9.00am. This week will end in style with their much-anticipated Year 6 Prom today – a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all they have achieved together. The children are full of excitement, and we know these events will create memories to last a lifetime. Looking ahead to next week, pupils will receive their SATs results, sign each other's shirts and spend time saying their goodbyes before beginning an exciting new chapter. We would like to wish all of our Year 6 pupils the very best as they move on to secondary school. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and will miss them all dearly. Good luck, Year 6!

## TREAT FROM THE CHEST



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

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| 1 Hawthorn | Seosy   |
| 2 Oak      | Sarah   |
| 3 Sycamore | Nicolas |
| 4 Acacia   | Zahra   |
| 5 Mahogany | Kaydon  |
| 5 Cedar    | Talia   |
| 6 Magnolia | Kai     |

**Congratulations!**

## House Points

**This week are**

**Citrine** 663

**Emerald** 657

**Ruby** 495

**Sapphire** 494

## Stars of the Week



## Superstars of the Week

All of Hawthorn class  
Orabelle, Oak

## Certificate of Merit

Jena, Sycamore class  
Amelia, Acacia class

## Excellent Presentation

Otilia, Hawthorn class  
Eve, Oak class  
Iris, Sycamore class  
Hans, Acacia class  
Nour, Mahogany class  
Xhansu, Cedar class  
Cynthia, Magnolia class

## Class Merit

Mahogany class  
Cedar class  
Magnolia class

**Well done!**

## Wessex Gardens—Photo Gallery

### Photography Update

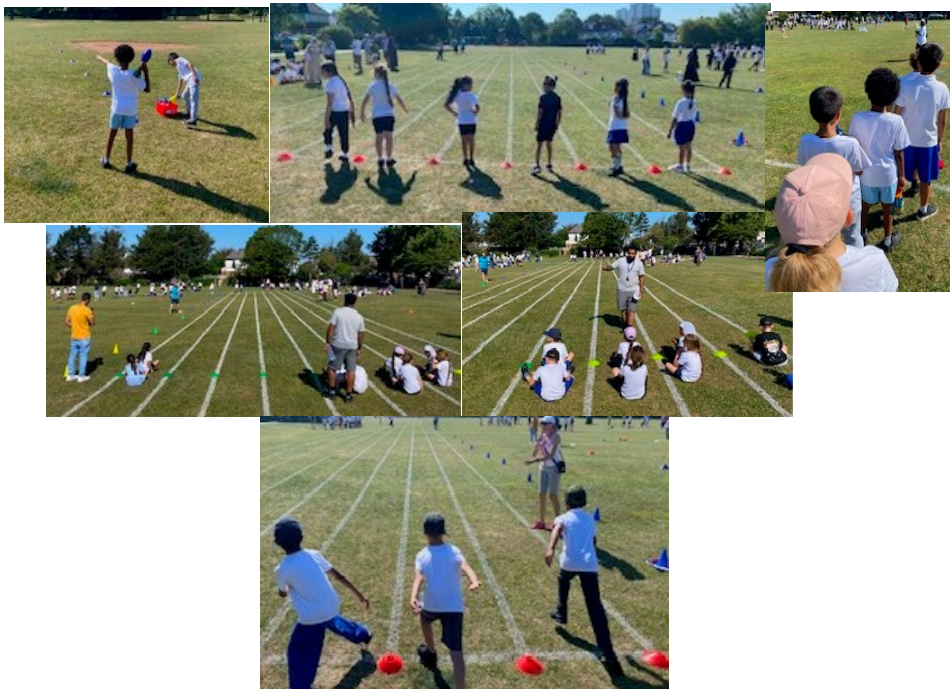
To help keep our children safe and in line with the latest safeguarding guidance, we will no longer be sharing photographs that clearly show children's faces in our newsletters and other public communications. We will still love celebrating all the wonderful things happening at Wessex Gardens by sharing photos of activities, children's work and pictures where pupils cannot be identified.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

### Nursery and Reception—Sports Day



### Year 1-6 Sports Day



### Y1 trip to London Aquarium







## 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](http://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](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/librarynewsletters)

### Contact us

For more information and resources, email [libraryevents@barnet.gov.uk](mailto: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
- ★ Trained by Olympic/GB-level coaching staff

### WHY CHOOSE BEE'S WESSEX SWIM SCHOOL?

- ✓ Build Confidence
- ✓ Improve Skills
- ✓ Water Safety
- ✓ Small Groups
- ✓ Make Fast Progress
- ✓ Safe and Secure School Environment
- ✓ Have Fun!

**BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE TODAY!**

*Spaces are limited! ★*



**07984 473196** (Call or WhatsApp)



**knightsbryony@gmail.com**

*I look forward to welcoming you!*



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





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:  
AFS\_SUM\_26

10%  
OFF

EY461026  
Ofsted

CHILDCARE  
VOUCHERS  
ACCEPTED.



[www.allforsport.co.uk](http://www.allforsport.co.uk)



# AES Kids

Week 1



Week 2



Week 3



Week 4



10% OFF

EY461026  
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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