Term one

Wessex Weekly

END OF TERM NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been wonderful to see the school come to life again this term. From our youngest children in Reception taking their first steps into school life, to our Year 6 pupils embracing new responsibilities and leadership opportunities, the term has been filled with energy, enthusiasm and a sense of purpose.

One of the things that has stood out most since September has been how quickly children have settled into the routines and expectations of school. Visitors regularly comment on the warm, welcoming atmosphere at Wessex and the positive attitudes shown by our pupils. Classrooms have been calm and purposeful, allowing children to focus on their learning and make the most of every opportunity available to them.

A special mention should also go to our Reception children who have made an excellent start to their school journey. Starting school is a significant milestone for both children and families and we have been incredibly proud of how quickly they have embraced new routines, formed friendships and become part of the Wessex community.

Throughout the term, our assemblies and Character Curriculum have focused on many of the values that sit at the heart of what we do. We have explored themes such as resilience, kindness, responsibility and respect, whilst encouraging children to think about the impact they have on those around them. These conversations help to shape thoughtful, considerate young people who are ready to play a positive role in the school and beyond into society.

There have been many opportunities for children to demonstrate these values beyond the classroom. Whether taking part in the Mini Marathon, embracing challenges during our Year 6 PGL residential, representing the school in sporting events, supporting our Harvest collection or participating in National Fitness Day activities, pupils have shown determination, teamwork and a willingness to challenge themselves. These experiences are an important part of school life and help children develop confidence, independence and resilience.

Playtimes continue to be an important part of the school day and it has been fantastic to see children making the most of the range of opportunities available through OPAL. Watching children collaborate, create, problem-solve and build friendships across the school demonstrates just how valuable these experiences can be. The enthusiasm shown by children has been wonderful to see and we look forward to continuing to develop our play offer as the year progresses.

This term has also provided opportunities for families to engage with school life through events such as our Welcome Back BBQ, Meet the Teacher sessions and Share My Learning events. Thank you for the support you continue to give both your children and the school.

As we reach the end of the first half term, I would like to thank our staff team for the dedication they show every day and our pupils for the positivity, kindness and determination they bring to school. The term has given a great platform for the year ahead and there is already plenty to look forward to when we return for Term 2.

Whilst many of us are hoping for some autumn sunshine next week, the weather forecast suggests that half term may be a little wetter than we would like! Looking ahead to next term, please remember that children are expected to have a coat in school each day.

As outlined in recent newsletters, we will continue to make use of outdoor spaces during break and lunchtime, including in wet weather. Wellies, waterproof clothing and a change of clothes in school can also be helpful.

Half term provides an important opportunity for everyone to recharge their batteries after a busy start to the academic year. With an exciting Term 2 ahead of us, I hope that everyone can enjoy the chance to rest, relax and spend time with loved ones.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I look forward to welcoming everyone back after the break. on November 2nd.

Mr Beavan

Wessex Weekly

Dates and reminders

Diary dates coming up

Monday 26th October to Friday 29th October
HALF TERM

Monday 2nd November
Start of Term 2 - Autumn Term
8.45am to 8.55am Start

Tuesday 3rd November
School Tour for Reception Sept 2027
9.10am - 10.30am

Thursday 12th November
Y2 Lego Workshop
Stay & Play Session for prospective Reception 2027 children

Friday 13th November
Children in Need - Mufti 'spotty' Day in exchange for a donation

Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th November
Parent Consultation Meetings - 3.30pm to 6.30pm

Thursday 19th November
School Tour for Reception Sept 2027
9.10am - 10.30am

Thanks for your donations today for Break the Rules. We raised over £500!

Attendance

Lower School: Chestnut Winners with 95.6%

Upper School: Hazel Winners with 98.7%

School attendance this week

93.1%

Last week = 93.4%
Last year average = 94.9%

Aiming for 97%

Value of the week

Our value of the week is Community, linked closely to our Harvest celebrations. In assembly this week, we explored the idea that whilst one small act may not seem significant on its own, lots of people contributing together can make a real difference. Through our Harvest collection, we have been reminded that communities are strongest when people support one another and that even the smallest contribution can have a positive impact. As we often say in our school prayer, "many hands make a house and many hearts make a school." Thank you for supporting our Harvest collection and helping our children understand the importance of kindness, generosity and contributing to the wider community.

Housepoint updates

Well done to Lancaster for winning the most house points this week

The total for the term are being added up and will be sent out after half term, with the winners mufti day to be announced.

Character Curriculum

This week, our Character Curriculum focus has been on the importance of using people's names when speaking to them. Whilst it may seem like a small thing, remembering and using someone's name is a simple way to show respect, kindness and consideration. It helps people feel valued, listened to and included.

Children have discussed how using someone's name can make conversations more personal and help to build positive relationships with friends, classmates and adults. Whether saying, "Good morning, Mrs Weaver", "Thank you, Miss M" or asking a friend to join in a game, using names thoughtfully is one of the many ways we can demonstrate The Wessex Way each day.



EYFS Term 1

Wessex Weekly

Welcome to the first school newsletter for Alder Class this year!
The children have had a super start to school life. They are following routines, exploring the environment and making new friends. They have enjoyed meeting the older children in the school whilst playing in the playground at lunch times. We have introduced the Wessex values and children are earning stickers and praise for demonstrating honesty, positivity, respect and pride. We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know every child and look forward to next term.













P.E. this term, we have been learning about balancing. We have been practicing getting on and off 'bikes' and doing tricks with 1 leg. We were even pirates and had to 'hop' the plank!
By learning and improving our balance, we have been able to get quicker and steadier on the trim trail. It has even helped us to roll and balance the tyres as we race them in the garden.





Thank you for the pumpkin donations! The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring them and learning about how pumpkins grow.
The children began by decorating the pumpkins with pens and paint before using small hammers to carefully tap golf tees into them, helping to develop their fine motor skills. They then had the exciting opportunity to carve pumpkins using real carving tools, learning how to use them safely with adult support.
Once the pumpkins were opened, the children eagerly explored the inside, feeling the pulp and seeds and using lots of rich and descriptive vocabulary to share their observations. This hands-on experience sparked curiosity and encouraged meaningful conversations about textures, colours and smells.
To extend the learning even further, the children tasted pumpkin seeds, encouraging them to try new foods and discuss their likes and dislikes.







Year 1 Term 1

Wessex Weekly

The children have come back from their summer break raring to go in Year 1! They soon learned the new routines at play time and lunchtime, including having to queue up for their school dinner rather than have it served to them! They have adjusted to sharing a classroom with more children and have shown that they are able to spend more and more time at tables working on different tasks. We have managed to plan for some 'Busy Time' that they loved so much in Reception, which they have thoroughly enjoyed! We have all been very proud of their transition to Year 1.

Our first book that we used in English was Cave Baby. The text gave children the opportunity to learn about some pre-historic animals and use adjectives to describe them. They made predictions about where the mammoth was taking Cave Baby and were thrilled to find out what he was allowed to do! During the weeks that we read the story, we had a cave in the classroom with some cave drawings on the wall; children took in turns to spend time reading books in the cosy cave.



Our second book in English was Astro Girl. The book is all about a girl who loves space and wants to be an astronaut when she grows up. We found out at the end that her mum is an astronaut. This book gave us an excellent opportunity to learn about space and create our own non-fiction books about space. The children wrote about the first people on the moon, the first dog in space as well as the planets. They were 'over the moon' to visit Reception where they shared their books with the children - we had to 'count down' the days until our visit! In addition, the children spent time thinking about what they would like to be when they grow up! This work has been put together to make a wonderful display near Mr Beavan's office.



In maths we have been working on numbers to 10. We have been using vocabulary such as greater than and fewer than and using the symbols to compare the numbers (< >). We have been using part whole models and bar models to understand how numbers can be made up from different numbers; this will help the children to have a firmer understanding of addition and subtraction. The children typically sit on the carpet and show their answers on a mini whiteboard; this has helped to encourage their participation in lessons.



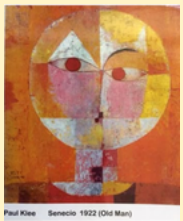


In Computing we have been learning about algorithms and how important it is to make sure we break down all the steps into small and clear instructions. We used algorithms to brush our teeth and to help get dressed correctly in the morning. We discovered that sometimes algorithms go wrong and these are called bugs! We learnt how to debug and to fix our algorithms.

In Science we have continued our learning from Reception about the 4 seasons. We are learning the 12 months of the year and matching them up to the correct season. We have been learning about temperatures and have learned that it can be measured using a thermometer. We used a liquid thermometer to measure the temperature of a bowl of iced water, cold water and warm water.



The focus for art this term has been lines and shapes. We looked at the work of Paul Klee and drew over our photographs, outlining shapes. Then, we used shapes to create our own portraits in the style of Paul Klee.





In music we have continued to learn to find the beat or pulse of a piece of music. We have done this using body percussion as well as instruments. We are now learning about rhythm and learning how it is different to the beat. We have used instn of different pieces of music.



We have been very lucky to have Mr Baker back to continue with Bikeability this term. It has been fabulous to see the progress the children have made and to watch their confidence grow! Stabilisers, what stabilisers?!

Year 2 Term 1

Wessex Weekly

It has been a fantastic start to the year in Year 2. The children have been working on demonstrating the Wessex Way and have been wearing the stickers with pride. They have settled into Year 2 well and we are proud of them all.

At the start of the term we came into class and there were three bowls of porridge! Two were full and one was empty. We realised that Goldilocks had been in our class and needed help to apologise to the Three Bears. We learnt how to write letters and also wrote a sequel to Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

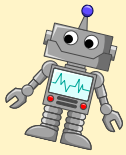


Following on with a fairytale theme we received a letter from Little Red Riding Hood stating that she needed help to understand if wolves were friendly or dangerous animals. We had a visit from a wolf in Birch class and it destroyed the class which made us realise that wolves may not be friendly after all. We made leaflets to warn other teachers about the wolf on the loose!

In Science we have been learning about different habitats. We have looked at woodland, ocean, rainforest and coastal habitats and learnt which animals live in them. The children explored different animal food chains and expanded their vocabulary learning key words such as producers, prey and predators. We have enjoyed learning about different new animals and why they're suited to live in their habitat. In addition, we visited the environmental area to experience a woodland habitat for ourselves!







In Computing this term, we learnt about inputs and outputs. We designed our own robots that had buttons which when pressed, the robot would perform an output. Some of our imaginary robots could even do housework! We then went on a technology hunt to look for other machines in the school that performed outputs. We then learnt about how technology is used in a supermarket. We found out that shops have databases that track how much stock they have in and which items have been sold. We role played being in a shop and kept a log of what sold just like a computer would.









Music this term has been based on a safari theme. We have been learning about call and response and how to use non-tuned percussion to answer calls. Children created a safari soundscape using dynamics.



In DT we made a stable chair for Baby Bear to sit on. We explored the stability of different shapes and tested different shapes to test their strength. The chair needed to be strong, stable, stiff and colourful, this was our design criteria. We made our chair out of tape and paper.

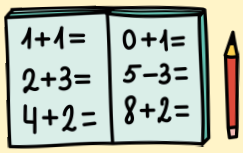




In Geography this term, we learnt about the different continents and oceans around the globe. We looked at ways we could keep habitats clean and researched which animals live in habitats near us. We spotted lots of birds and insects. We showed our data in a graph.



Our focus for RE this term was giving thanks. We learnt about why we should give thanks and how important it is to be thankful for what we have, when so many have so little. We heard prayers from the Christian and Muslim communities and focused on Harvest time and why it is important to say thanks when we receive food. We then learnt about Puja and how people from the Hindu religion show their thanks to Gods.



In maths, we have been developing our understanding of place value and using a range of manipulatives to represent numbers. We have been working with numbers up to 100 and learning how to write these in words. We have discovered number bonds to 100 and have been looking for patterns in fact families. Towards the end of the term, we have been focusing on adding and subtracting 1s.

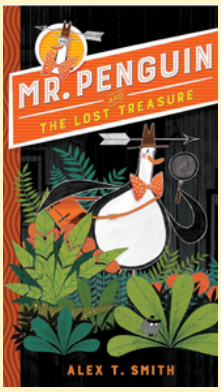


Year 3 Term 1

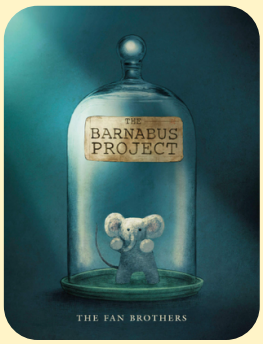
Wessex Weekly



In Year 3, we have really enjoyed our first two Reading books this term.
In Arthur and the Golden Rope, we made predictions about a small boy called Arthur who embarks on a magical adventure to try and rescue his village from a mythical wolf. It uses ideas from Norse mythology to tell the story of this unlikely hero.
Our next story was equally exciting and hilarious as we followed Mr Penguin on his adventures to find the lost treasure. We thoroughly enjoyed this - and the predicaments he got himself into - and out of with the help of his sidekick, Colin the spider.



Our writing has been incredible this term! We have learned facets of grammar such as direct speech and abstract nouns. In The First Drawing, we learned about a young Stone Age boy who had a brilliant imagination, and loved seeing animals everywhere he went - his family were more practical so he taught them what he sees and how to draw. Our second book has enabled us to learn about the present perfect tense, abstract nouns and use subheadings to create our own brochures advertising our own pet shop for the Imperfect Pets. We learned the message from Barnabus that nothing is impossible...

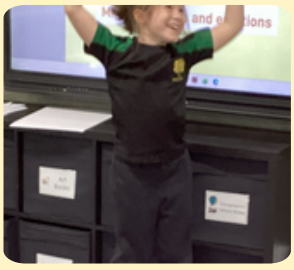




In Geography, we have been studying Antarctica. We have learned what lines of latitude and longitude are, the physical features of Antarctica, what it is used for today and the famous explorer Ernest Shackleton. We ended the unit with planning our own expeditions around the school using the 8 points of a compass.





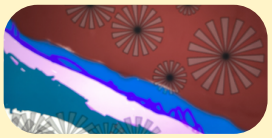




In our Real P.E. lessons we have developed our balance and our footwork skills including sidesteps, skipping and hopscotch. We have been taught Tag Rugby by Mr Baker, learning how to pass (pocket to rocket), attack and defend as a team. We enjoyed a tournament this week to put all of our skills into practice.

In our Jigsaw topic this term we have focused on Me In My World; learning how to communicate well with our peers and be kind to those we meet. We also thought of things we are proud of, and made goals of what we would like to achieve before leaving Year 3.









We have been learning all about movement and nutrition in Science. We learned about how important our skeleton and muscles are and that we need energy to move. We have learned about the 7 nutrient groups and what makes a balanced diet.





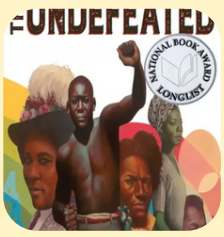
Holly and Hazel have really enjoyed Art this term - learning to shade using different techniques as well as looking at colours outside and sketching and painting flowers.

Year 4 Term 1

Wessex Weekly









Year Four have made a fantastic start to the year! We have been working hard to establish new classroom routines and immerse ourselves in all our new topics and books.

We started off the year with the story Tar Beach. This inspiring book supported our English reading lessons and amplified the importance of standing up for what you believe in, as well as the power of having dreams. It led to some fantastic discussions and creative work. The children wrote their own play scripts, learning how to structure their writing and include stage directions effectively.

In English reading, we began the term with a powerful poem called The Undefeated. This moving piece sparked thoughtful discussions around equality and the importance of standing up for what you believe in, no matter the colour of your skin. We learned about many inspirational Black Americans who paved the way for change and equal rights.

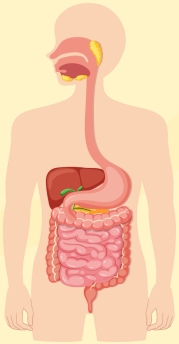
Next, in writing, we moved on to the dystopian novel Varmints. This book explores themes of nature and pollution, encouraging us to reflect on how we can protect our world. We also explored nature in real life, wrote about how to care for and grow plants, and even created our own speeches using command sentences and the present perfect tense. Lastly, our second reading book of the year was the fantastically gross and funny story Zombierella — a spooky twist on the classic fairytale, full of hilariously unexpected turns. We used our comprehension skills to deepen our understanding of the text and analysed how the author used creepy, descriptive language to bring the story to life.

In Geography this term, we have been learning all about the Amazon Rainforest. We focused on the four layers of the rainforest and explored the different plants and animals that live in each one. We also discovered the many products that come from the rainforest and discussed ways we can help protect this vital environment for the future.

We were extremely lucky to have a visit from Jonathan's Roadshow, who brought along an amazing selection of rainforest animals! The children had the chance to meet a variety of fascinating creatures, including millipedes, a tarantula, a whole family of katydids, a gecko, and Pele — the beautiful Brazilian rainbow boa.

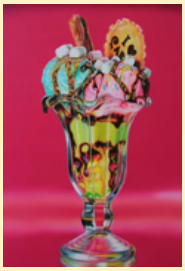






In Science, we have been learning all about the digestive system. We began the term by exploring the human digestive system, including a close look at both adult and animal teeth. We discovered how teeth can vary depending on diet, which led us to explore the differences between herbivores, omnivores, and carnivores. We also investigated food chains and how changes in these can affect animal populations. Throughout the topic, we took part in lots of fun (and messy!) experiments to help support and deepen our learning.

In Art, we have been exploring tone, texture, and proportion. We studied the work of Beatriz Milhazes, focusing on her vibrant use of collage, as well as Sarah Graham, whose artwork showcases incredible realism. We also looked at Nicola McBride and explored how she uses layers to create depth and interest in her pieces. These artists have inspired us to experiment with different techniques and develop our own creative styles.



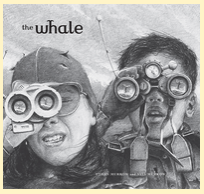
Year 5 Term 1

Wessex Weekly

What a positive start to Year 5! We have been incredibly impressed with how well the children have settled into their new classes and routines. They have approached every new challenge with enthusiasm, confidence and a fantastic attitude towards learning.



In Writing this term, the children explored the mystery of the stolen happy endings, using clues throughout the story to make links with familiar fairy tales and well-known characters. They predicted what might happen to the main character, Jub, before using figurative language to create their own poems. The children examined how the author used language to present the witch's character and took part in role-play activities to develop ideas for writing dialogue. To conclude the unit, they used their inference skills to explore the witch's motives and wrote a prequel, revealing her backstory and explaining why she chose to steal the happy endings.
The children's prequel stories are now proudly displayed in the Year 5 corridor for everyone to enjoy. It has been wonderful to see the creativity on show, with each child adding their own unique twist to explain what caused the witch to turn evil. The display celebrates the fantastic imagination, careful character development and engaging storytelling that the children demonstrated throughout the unit.



Using the wordless text The Whale, the children followed the journey of two young adventurers determined to prove that a sighting of the Great Spotted Whale, which many people believed to be a hoax, was in fact real. They explored the characters' emotions, thoughts and sensory experiences throughout the story, particularly during the dramatic storm when the two boats collided. The children used these experiences to help them understand the events from the characters' perspectives. To conclude the unit, they wrote newspaper reports recounting the remarkable discovery of the whale, focusing on accurately reporting events, including key facts and quotations, and capturing the excitement of the story for their readers.

With our first class text, Cogheart, the children developed a range of reading skills, including making predictions, exploring the author's choice of vocabulary and using evidence from the text to make inferences. They followed the thrilling story of Lily, whose life is thrown into danger when her father disappears and mysterious silver-eyed men begin following her. Alongside her friends, Robert and Malkin the mechanical fox, Lily embarks on an exciting journey filled with danger, secrets and adventure. The children thoroughly enjoyed unravelling the murder, mystery and mayhem woven throughout this gripping Victorian tale.



Our second class text, Cosmic, introduced the children to Liam, a boy who is unusually tall for his age and frequently mistaken for an adult. As the story unfolds, Liam finds himself in increasingly extraordinary situations, forcing him to take on responsibilities far beyond his years. The children quickly became immersed in the fast-paced and humorous storyline, while developing their retrieval and inference skills. They also explored how the author's language choices helped to bring characters, settings and events to life throughout the novel.



In outdoor PE this term, we have been developing our hockey skills, with a particular focus on teamwork and communication. We started by practising the key skills needed to play hockey, including dribbling with control and moving the ball effectively. As our confidence grew, we put these skills into practice through small games and matches, learning how to work together, communicate with our teammates and make decisions during a game!
In indoor PE, we have been building on our ball skills, with plenty of opportunities to practise throwing and catching. Through a range of fun activities and challenges, we have been working on our accuracy, coordination and control, while developing our confidence and supporting one another.





In Science, Year 5 have been investigating different types of mixtures and exploring how they can be separated. We tested a range of materials to discover which made the most effective filters for cleaning dirty water and even used sieves to uncover hidden "gold" mixed within soil. The children also created solutions using a variety of materials to investigate which substances are soluble and insoluble. Through practical experiments, they learned that when a substance dissolves, it mixes with the water to form a solution and can often be recovered through evaporation. These hands-on investigations helped the children develop their scientific enquiry skills and deepen their understanding of everyday materials.



In Art this term, the children explored a range of mixed media techniques to create unique self-portraits inspired by the work of artist Chila Kumari Singh Burman. They experimented with combining words, images and different materials to represent their personalities, interests and identities. Through this project, the children developed their drawing skills, creativity and confidence in using a variety of artistic techniques to produce expressive and individual pieces of artwork.

In Maths this term, we have been developing our mathematical skills and building confidence with increasingly challenging problems! We began by exploring place value and rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000 and 10,000, working with numbers within 10,000 to strengthen our understanding. We then challenged ourselves even further by rounding numbers up to 1,000,000, showing great determination and resilience as we tackled these bigger numbers.
We have also been strengthening our addition and subtraction skills, using formal column methods to solve calculations involving numbers with more than four digits. The children have worked hard to apply these methods accurately and explain their mathematical thinking.
It has been fantastic to see the children embracing these challenges and supporting one another.

Year 6 Term 1

Wessex Weekly

The children have made an excellent start to Year 6, and we are very proud of how well they have adapted to our expectations and approached their learning with such a positive attitude. It has certainly been a busy and exciting half term, with PGL as well as settling into their new roles as leaders and role models at Wessex.

The children who went to Osmington Bay had an amazing week, enjoying a fantastic range of activities including raft building, dragon boating, the giant swing, Jacob's Ladder and street surfing. They returned with wonderful memories and increased confidence in what they can achieve. Meanwhile, those who stayed at Wessex had a fantastic time getting creative, baking cookies, doing a scavenger hunt and creating medication beads plus more.





Maths has got off to a busy and productive start this term. We have focused in depth on place value and the four operations, while regular arithmetic practice has helped the children to build fluency and confidence with key number skills. The children have also begun completing practice SATs papers, helping them to become familiar with the style and format of the questions and develop effective strategies for tackling them. Times tables continue to play a crucial role in so many areas of maths, so we encourage children to keep practising at home where there are still facts that are not yet fully secure.

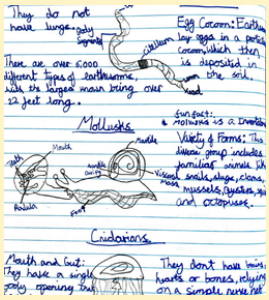


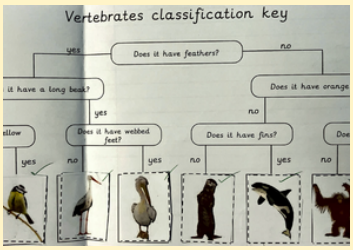


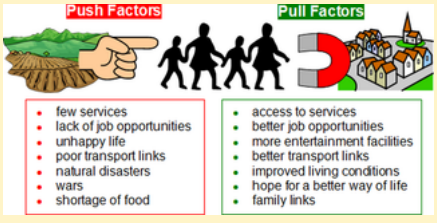


English has been another busy and enjoyable area of learning this term. In reading, the children have explored Fly Me Home and A World Full of Journeys and Migrations, using these texts to deepen their comprehension, explore key themes and develop thoughtful responses to a range of questions. Our writing has been inspired by Leila and the Blue Fox, which has provided the stimulus for a fantastic variety of pieces, including diary entries, letters and poetry. To conclude the unit, the children brought together everything they had learnt to write an extended blog exploring Leila's life lessons, producing some fantastic pieces of writing. Throughout the unit, they have worked hard to apply a range of grammatical features effectively and make choices appropriate to each genre.

This term in science, we have explored classification and the ways scientists group living things according to their characteristics. The children have investigated vertebrates, invertebrates, plants and micro-organisms, before learning about Carl Linnaeus and his influential classification system. They then applied their understanding by creating branching and numerical classification keys to sort and identify different organisms.







In Geography this term, our focus has been population and the factors that influence where people live. The children have explored why some parts of the world are more densely populated than others and developed their understanding of birth and death rates. They have also investigated the social, economic and environmental push and pull factors that influence migration and settlement. This has linked particularly well with the themes of journeys and migration explored through our class texts in English.

In Art this term, the children have been exploring the bold and expressive world of street art and murals, considering the messages artists aim to communicate and the impact their work can have. They have developed their artistic skills through techniques including one-point perspective and grid enlargement, using these to create accurate, eye-catching designs of their own.



In PE, the children have really enjoyed developing their hockey skills with our coaches, working together as a team while improving their coordination, passing, defending and shooting.

As a final reminder, homework is due on Mondays. Please can you encourage your children to complete it. Have a great half term break!

Times Tables at Wessex



Why are times tables so important?
Secure times-table knowledge helps children work more confidently across maths. When multiplication facts become automatic, children can focus their attention on solving more complex problems involving division, fractions, ratio and other areas of maths. After half term, each year group will have a particular focus. Regular, short practice at home can make a big difference to confidence and quick recall

YEAR 2 Our focus...
We will practise the 2 and 10 times tables and learn how multiplication and division are connected.
Try at home: Count forwards and backwards in 2s and 10s. Ask: 6 x 2 = ? or 20 divided by 10 = ?

YEAR 3 Our focus...
We will continue to build confidence with the 4 times table, including the trickier facts, and use these facts to help with division.
Try at home: Start with 8 x 4 = 32. Can your child tell you 32 divided by

YEAR 4 Our focus...
Our main focus will be the 7 times table. We want children to answer questions in any order without always counting up from 1 x 7.
Try at home: Mix the questions up. Ask 8 x 7, 4 x 7, then 11 x 7.

YEAR 5 Expected knowledge
By Year 5, children are expected to know their multiplication and related division facts up to 12 × 12 and use them confidently across their maths. Any facts that are not yet secure should be practised at home.
Try at home: Spot any facts that still take longer to recall and focus on those.

YEAR 6 Expected knowledge
In Year 6, children are expected to recall their times tables and related division facts quickly and confidently. This knowledge is essential as they use it throughout their maths, including when working with fractions, ratio, division and problem solving.
Try at home: If there are any remaining gaps, focus practice on those specific facts rather than working through every table

Regular practice at home can make a real difference. Times Tables Rock Stars and Hit the Button are great for quick, focused practice. Encourage your child to concentrate on the tables they find trickiest and remember that little and often is best.