

Friday 27th September 2024



We've certainly needed the wellies this week with the rain!

Dear Parents and Carers

It seems like such a long time ago that we were enjoying the fine Autumn sunshine given the amount of rain we have recently had, especially yesterday. Well done to everyone for remaining calm when leaving the school despite the storms and rain!

We hope that everyone has managed to keep safe through the storms. Should anything have happened at home due to the storms that you think we should know about, don't be afraid to drop us a line so we can keep an eye on your children.

This week saw our first meeting of the **Governing Board** this year. We discussed the development plan for the school including the plans for further enhancements to the curriculum offer, continued momentum with our new behaviour policy by embedding The Wessex Way through routines which will keep our focus in classrooms fully on our learning. Governors play such an important role in the running of the school and they provide the necessary challenge and support to the school to both reflect and develop.

Interviews for our **Junior Leadership roles** for our Year 6 pupils have been taking place this week - Role include House Captains, Junior Leaders and Growth Mindset Ambassadors. Mrs Oliva has been impressed with the calibre of interviews so far and Mrs Cox has been busy putting the potential Sports Leaders through their paces. We look forward to hearing the results of their selection process very soon.

If you have been in school recently, you will have seen that we have our **school values** proudly displayed in each of our school halls. These are further changes that reinforce The Wessex Way and provide a good reminder of our expectations for pupils.

You may have noticed on **facebook** that there is a public page for the school. It is our intention to use this one for outward facing publicity and sharing of news moving forwards. The other, closed, facebook page will cease to exist from Monday therefore parents may wish to set up their own pages for the sharing of external events, news or information.



Working hard in phonics

We have been busy creating **flyers and posters** to advertise our upcoming school tours for places in Reception for September 2025. If you know anyone who might be interested in a tour, please pick up a flyer or poster from the office to give to them. We very much appreciate it.

We welcomed the author Pete Murray to school this week, who delivered an engaging assembly to Key Stage 2 pupils. Children were excited to hear about his books and how he goes about writing them. We thank those of you who shared feedback relating to the author's visit which we use to inform future decisions about future planning of visiting authors.

Have a good weekend,
Mr Beavan

Quotes of the week

Year 6 learning quotes....

"In science we have learnt about warm blooded vertebrates" - Georgia, Willow class

"I am really enjoying reading our class book 'Leyla and the Blue Fox' and writing about survival tips in Arctic conditions" - Emily PM Willow class

"I really enjoyed the mayans spirit and using it to create a picture using the personality traits and interests" - Myemi, Willow class

Diary dates coming up



Thursday 3rd October

Individual and sibling photos
NSPCC speak out stay safe sessions for Years 2, 5 & 6
Beech class at Altwood School pm - Active 60 event

Friday 4th October

Individual and sibling photos

Monday 7th October

Harvest celebration (pupils only)

Wednesday 9th October

EYFS parents Phonics meeting and stay and play

Thursday 10th October

Parent Tour for prospective parents for Sept 2025

Monday 14th October

Year 6 health screening

Tuesday 15th October

Parents' Evening - in person at school 3:40-6:30

Wednesday 16th October

Parents' Evening - in person at school 3:40-6:30

Good News Certificates



EYFS: Estella and Ellis

Year 1: George and Ekambir

Year 2: Aiarna and Hughie

Year 3: Jude and Abigail

Year 4: Malik and Abigail

Year 5: Ajwa and Ethan

Year 6: Callum and Imogen

Attendance

Lower School: Cherry winners with 98.2%

Upper School: Poplar Winners with 99%

School attendance this week

96.0%



Last week = 95.9%
Last year average = 95%

Aiming for 97%

School Values



This week's value links to the focus on thinking based on our classroom expectations. As we suffered a small leak on Monday morning from the rain, teachers delivered the assembly in classrooms and spoke about how it is good to be honest when deciding if you need support, challenge or just the need to remain focussed and keep on learning. Next week's focus - contributing.

Mobile phone safety

The mobile phone safety workshop had such important information within it that we wanted to share it with as many of you as possible so there is a recording of the slides with the key information on the [school website](#). There is a link to a short survey at the end; if you could fill that in, we'd be very grateful.

Attendance Policy

Following the changes to the law that were announced in February and came into force in August, we have rewritten our attendance policy, which you can find on the [school website](#). Remember that unauthorised absences of 10 sessions within a ten week rolling period now allow the option for Penalty Notices (fines) being issued. Please see the attached letter with more information relating to our new policy. Also, a reminder not to book holidays in term time

Harvest

Once again, we are collecting for Maidenhead Foodshare foodbank. Attached is the list of priority items. We will accept any donations **you can spare** for the week beginning 7th October which will be collected from school on Monday 14th October.

NSPCC Speak out sessions

A reminder that as part of our commitment to safeguarding children, classes will be having a session designed by the NSPCC aimed at teaching children to speak out about abuse. Years 2, 5 and 6 will have follow up workshops on Thursday 3rd October.

Character Curriculum

We spoken about our classroom expectation of thinking and how this linked us being honest about our learning. Our routine that we considered was walking around the school appropriately. We look forward to sharing these routines with parents very soon when we have completed the set. Next week's focus? How we can help each other in the dining hall.

Why is thinking important?



- You learn when you think hard
- Shows you respect yourself and others
- Teachers know how to help
- Everyone knows what is happening



Positivity



Honesty



Respect



Pride

School Tours and Stay & Plays



For pupils starting school in
September 2025

Tour dates 9:15am - 10:30am:

Thursday 10th October
Thursday 24th October
Thursday 7th November
Tuesday 19th November
Tuesday 26th November
Tuesday 3rd December

**Stay and Play dates
9:15am - 10:00am:**

Tuesday 12th November



Thursday 28th November



Tuesday 14th January



BOOK NOW



wessexprimary.org



01628 626724



office@wessexprimary.org



Positivity



Honesty



Respect



Pride

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HARVEST FESTIVAL

Foodshare Wish List



HIGH PRIORITY

Instant Mashed Potato
Tinned Meat
Spreads
Jams, marmite & peanut butter
Biscuits
Tinned Fish
Tinned fruit
Pineapple, Mandarin, Fruit cocktail
Custard/Rice pudding
Cupa Soup
Chocolate
Toilet Paper
Squash

MEDIUM PRIORITY

Washing Detergent
Tinned Ravioli
Tinned Spaghetti
Deodorant
Shower Gel
UHT milk



NOT NEEDED WE HAVE PLENTY

PASTA
TINNED TOMATOES



FOODSHARE
MAIDENHEAD

THE SEASON FOR PUMPKIN AND KINDNESS

