

# WESSEX WEEKLY

ISSUE 1 : 12.09.08



**“Lizard on a Leaf” by Katherine Wilson (6R)**

**This week:**

Meet Mr Stevens, Uniform, Golden Post Box, How You Can Help,.....



## From the Head's Chair



I'd like to begin by saying a huge thank you to all the children, parents and staff who have truly made me feel welcome as the new Headteacher at Wessex Primary School. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many of you at the beginning and end of the day, and would encourage you all to come and say hello when you get the chance. I look forward to meeting you and working with you in the near future to ensure that the education all of us at Wessex provide for your children is the best it can possibly be.

I'd also like to welcome you to the new look '**WESSEX WEEKLY**'. My aim is to publish my newsletter at the end of each week and hope you will all take the time to read all about the opportunities, achievements and celebrations going on across the school.

I will also use this newsletter as a regular way of keeping you in touch with important information regarding your children and the school. You will find dates for the calendar, reminders, requests for help and suggestions for items that you could donate to support what we do in the classroom. If any of you would like to add a short article to this newsletter, please just jot it down or e-mail it to the office and I'll see what I can do.

Finally, I hope you and your children are looking forward to the future of Wessex Primary School as much as I am. I would like to invite you to a meeting on **Thursday 18th September at 7.30pm**. This will be an informal opportunity for you to meet me over a cup of tea and for us to discuss your own experiences, opinions and ideas for Wessex. I will be giving a short presentation about my vision for the school and our future together. It will be a short presentation, so if you wish to attend with your children, you would all be very welcome.

See you next Thursday evening!

Nick Stevens  
Headteacher

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### A Wonderful Start in the Nursery

It has been a wonderful start to the new year in the Nursery, and at the time of writing there have so far been no tears at all! This is a great achievement, helped by the new start to our morning routine which enables your children to enter straight in to free play. We have lots of exciting activities planned for this term and are all looking forward to working with you and your children.



#### Have you tried our Breakfast Club yet?

The *Wessex Primary School Breakfast Club* was set up for the children in September last year and has proved to be a very popular addition to the school. Supervised by Mrs Vee and Mrs Woolford, the children start at 8.00am, allowing parents an earlier and comparatively stress free start to their working day. On arrival, the children are provided with a healthy, nutritious breakfast which they are encouraged to select, prepare and clear away for themselves. They are then provided with a stimulating variety of educational and social activities, enabling them to interact and play with other children freely. Activities include games, puzzles, books, drawing, and when the weather allows, they have the chance to go outside. Our dedicated and cheerful members of staff supervise the children until the beginning of the school day, at which time they are safely delivered to the right building. If you are interested in a place at our Breakfast Club for your child, or you just want to give it a try, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

### Wessex Primary School Lunch Club

I hope that many of our Year 1 children have enjoyed their free hot school meals this week and will continue to take up the option of a hot meal in the middle of the day. I feel that this is really important for all our children, particularly with the winter months approaching, and would encourage as many of you as possible to consider giving our school lunch club a try. Children have a choice each day and there is always a vegetarian option. My particular favourite is 'fish and chip Fridays', but I enjoy eating my school lunch with the children on most days. If you or your child are unsure, why not give us a try on the **16th September**. Our chef's will provide children with a 'Disney Theme Day Lunch' where they could eat some 'Enchanted Trees' or even go healthy with a 'Fantasia Fresh Fruit Platter'! All you need to do is send your child to school with £2.00 dinner money, and we will take care of the rest for you! Go on - Give it a try!!



### School Uniform

Please ensure that all your child's belongings are named with a permanent method of marking to ensure that any lost items can be returned to their owners. School uniform can be ordered from the school office on Mondays and, if it is in stock, will be delivered to your child's classroom by the Thursday of that week. Please ensure that payment is made at the time of ordering (cheques should be made payable to Wessex Primary School).



### Can You Help?

We have several requests for donations which you might be able to help with:

- Pastry cutters, of all shapes and sizes, to help our Year 1 children with their cooking.
- 'Angelina Ballerina Mice' dolls for the Nursery - they have the clothes but only 2 mice left!
- A box of Tissues from every family - please, please, please! The Winter is around the corner and just imagine the runny noses.....
- If your child has outgrown their wellies and size would be suitable for our Reception children (4-5yrs), don't bin them, donate them!
- If you have any old photo frames or money containers (purses, wallets, money belts etc.) please send them in - this would really help the evaluation stage of our Y5 DT project this term!
- A lawn-mower for our Wessex Primary School Garden. We are looking for a petrol mower or a push along rather than electric. Any ideas?
- Half an hour of your time. If you are able to help your child's class by popping in for a short session to help listen to our children read that would be great! Please get in touch with Mr Stevens if you are able to help in this way. You will need to complete a CRB check first - forms are available from the school office.



### Mad Science

6R had their first science lesson at Cox Green yesterday. The children loved being 'real scientists' using Bunsen burners to investigate the chemicals used in fireworks. Each Year 6 class will attend a sequence of 6 lessons during the year. The children were very well behaved and really set the standard for our forthcoming visits. Well done 6R!

### Golden Post Box

Please keep an eye out for the 'Golden Post Box' in the entrance hall of upper school. This is an opportunity for any parent or teacher to congratulate any of our children for their achievements outside school. It could be anything from passing a music exam to learning how to tie their own shoe laces for the first time. All nominations will be displayed and we will celebrate them with the children through our school assemblies.

### Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Humphries, father of Thomas in Y1 (Blue Class), for giving up a day of his time during the Summer holidays to come in to school and adjust several of our Interactive Whiteboards. They are all working brilliantly and the children are benefitting from them already.

### Parking

I know you are all aware of the difficulties regarding access to Wessex at drop off and pick up times during the day, but I would like to reiterate the important steps we take to ensure your children are safe, both in and around the school.



- Please ensure your children walk on the path
- Park or drop off children round the corner and walk them in to school, rather than using St Adrian's Close or the school car park
- Be positive and use the *dreaded* school run experience to teach your child about the importance of being safe and considerate to others, even if it does take an extra couple of minutes
- Be considerate of our school neighbours - I did not enjoy having to deal with a case of vandalism in which a neighbour's car was badly scratched at the end of the day on Wednesday (I will be investigating this incident further within school)



### Dates for you Diary

Once we have confirmed arrangements for the forthcoming term and beyond, we will provide you with details of all the events which may involve either you or your children. It is really important to me that you are provided with this information early so that you can plan around them and get involved with all we do at Wessex from the start of the year. So, calendars and pens at the ready...we can't do it without your continued support!

### And Finally....

- Hopefully you will have noticed that we have temporarily closed down our school website. We are in the process of re-designing and improving it to ensure that it effectively meets the needs of our school community. It will return - bigger and brighter than ever - watch this space!
- Accompanying this newsletter is a timetable for our after school clubs. I am extremely proud of my staff, who give up their time to organize and provide such a wide range of fantastic activities both in and beyond the normal school day. Take a look, and get your children involved by returning the slip - I personally look forward to accompanying our football and netball teams to some of their matches with other schools during the term!

### Don't Forget

Please make sure you have returned your OA4 off-site medical and consent form to the office!

**SEE YOU ON THE 18th!**

