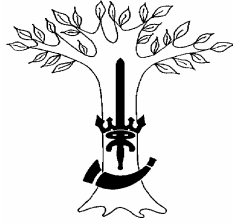


# WESSEX WEEKLY

ISSUE 4: 3.10.08



## **Cross Section of an Earth Worm**

(as seen through a microscope in a Science lesson at Cox Green School)

**By Connor Willett**

**This week:**

Harvest reminder, Eid celebrations, Head lice  
and more...



## From the Head's Chair



We've had another busy week this week and I have enjoyed the opportunity to show several prospective parents around Wessex to demonstrate just what your children have been up to! It is always a pleasure to show new visitors to Wessex just what your children experience on a daily basis, and I am very proud to receive a cheery 'Good Morning' as I enter each classroom.

We are gearing up for our Harvest Festival celebrations and hope many of you will be able to join us on this occasion next week. On Thursday we had an impromptu celebration of Eid Mubarak, a Muslim festival which celebrates the end of the month of Ramadan. All of your children have learned a little about this festival during assemblies and several members of staff (including myself) enjoyed welcoming children and parents alike to school wearing traditional dress. Plans are afoot for a special Christmas this year, so watch this space!!

I would like to thank you personally for the support I have received and the overall welcome I have enjoyed since becoming the Headteacher at Wessex. I hope to continue to work closely with you to ensure that every child receives the very best start in life and provide them with a firm platform for future success.

You will have received a letter this week re: parents evening. Please ensure that you have sent back the reply slip for an appointment with your child's teacher as this is a great chance to find out how they have settled in. If the letter didn't arrive, spare copies are available in the upper school office. Both the school governors and I will be available for any one who wishes to discuss specific issues or comment on the strategic development of the school.

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Don't forget that our Harvest Festivals are next week: Nursery on Friday 10th October at 11am and 2.45pm, Lower School on 7th October at 9.30am and Upper School on 8th October at 2.45pm.

The Nursery are asking for tinned and fresh produce to be brought in on the day which will be distributed between Family Friends and the elderly residents at Brill House.

Lower School are also asking for produce which will be distributed between Family Friends and the Get Together Club based at the Community Centre. Tinned produce can be brought in at any time, but please bring fresh produce in on the day of the assembly. Our Y2 children will be going to sing to the Get Together Club at the Community Centre on Tuesday afternoon, taking their harvest gifts with them.



Upper School have decided to support two causes. Firstly, we are collecting dried pasta, rice, dried fruit and pulses, such as lentils, for the Feed the Children charity. This charity helps feed homeless and orphaned children in countries like Uganda, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Liberia.



Secondly, for a small donation, *all the children in school and Nursery may come to school dressed up as a fruit, vegetable or a crop (or wear a hat on the same theme) on the 8th October.* The office staff have some examples of hats etc. if you need some ideas. Any monetary donations collected from this will be used to buy some fruit trees for the school. Your children will then have the opportunity to help plant the trees and hopefully in the near future taste our own school grown fruit.

### Eid Mubarak (Happy Eid)

To those of you that may have been celebrating Eid this week, we hope you had an enjoyable day. The staff at Wessex joined in the celebration on Thursday by dressing up in traditional clothes for the day. We would like to extend a huge **thank you** to Mr Ali of Papaya Restaurant and Mrs Sharif who brought in some lovely food for the staff to make the day even more enjoyable.

### Christmas cards

We hope you have been impressed with your child's Christmas card design. If you would like to order packs of cards please send your order to your child's class teacher by **Friday 10th October.**

## Thinking Skills

Well done to everyone that thought of unusual uses for newspapers. We had some very imaginative ideas! The task for this week: What natural things can you think of that are red?

Please can I remind parents to call the school office in good time if they will be late collecting their child/ren. Where possible we will get a message to the child but children should come and wait in the school reception area for parents if they are not picked up at the usual time. Children are reminded regularly in school about this but we would appreciate it if parents could reiterate this at home.

**OOPS!**

I am very sorry that an error was made regarding the School Council Reps for 4E. The list should have read Megan Lean and Matthew Banham and my apologies to them for listing the wrong names. My apologies also to the Reception Class Reps whose names were missed off completely! They are Aqsa Sharif and Owen Farrer.

**Headlice** are rife in school at the moment. Please could I ask all parents and carers to check their children for head lice at least twice a week, and treat as necessary. If head lice are found on your child, the whole family should be treated and we would appreciate it if you could let the school office know so that we can send a letter home to the whole class. Hedrin seems to work very well at the moment as does combing the little blighters out with lots of tea tree conditioner and a fine comb. This takes time but does work. If you would like more information about how to treat head lice, you can speak in confidence to the school nurse, Liz Torres, on 01753 638441



## Talking Homework

As you know, we are trialling a new form of 'Talk Homework'. Each week in the newsletter we will send home a simple discussion task. It will be the same for all children in school so families can do it together. The aim is to encourage children to share ideas with their family and develop their vocabulary and imagination. This week, we would like you to talk about your favourite dinner and how it's made!

## This Week's Requests

Thanks again if you were able to help by donating any items from last week's list. This week, we are looking for:

- Winter pansies for our gardening club to put in hanging baskets .
- Kitchen roll tubes, shoe boxes and cereal boxes for our 'Building Bridges' day (watch this space!)

Have a good weekend!