

# WESSEX WEEKLY

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[www.wessexweb.org.uk](http://www.wessexweb.org.uk) - 17897 hits so far!!!



Teacher: Name four members of the cat family



Wizard Lloyd and his assistants measuring potions in Maths!

This week:

We don't do chaos at Wessex, LOTS of event and term dates, and more.....

**SOLAR PANEL ECO TICKER:**

4530KWh of Electricity Produced

2582Kg of Carbon Dioxide saved



## From the Head's Chair



Even more than usual, we have had an interesting week this week as many of our members of staff were unfortunately caught up in the travel chaos caused by the volcanic eruption in Iceland and subsequent closure of European airspace. We have had 9 members of staff stranded abroad in as far-flung places as Egypt, India and Thailand. I would like to say a huge thank you to every member of staff at Wessex who have really pulled together, determined to ensure business as usual and minimal impact on your children's learning. I am incredibly proud of the extra efforts taken to ensure that we have not had to cancel ANYTHING as a result, and the children have continued to attend school trips, classes and other extra curricular activities as planned. Well done everyone – an achievement appreciated by children and parents alike! I hope that any of our families caught up in the disruption were able to return home without too much difficulty and I wish a speedy and pain-free return to everyone still stranded abroad.

At the end of last term, our Key Stage 2 children took part in the third inter-house competition of the year, a spelling competition, and the children really rose to the occasion. Each house entered a team who took it in turns to face the challenge of correctly spelling a range of increasingly challenging words. All teams were enthusiastically supported and after a close run competition, York house emerged as the victors, winning both the trophy and bragging rights! Well done York – and a huge thank you to Miss Razeghi for organising the event.

This week, our Year 3 classes enjoyed a trip to Waltham Place, a working farm just up the road in White Waltham. They learned about where food comes from and enjoyed a variety of environmentally based activities, from making compost to milking the cows! I have had very positive reports from the trip about the behaviour of our children so well done Y3 and thank you Mr Lloyd and Miss Oldfield for organising the trips.

Last night our Y5 football team played their penultimate game of the season against All Saints School and nerves were jangling as we head the league towards the close of the season. Few nerves seemed to be on show on the pitch however as we emerged victorious with a 7-2 win! Well done team, who included Tom, Aaron, Alex, Joe, Ellis, Jack, Louis and Mollie. The goal scorers were Aaron and Tom, who scored 1 a piece and Joe, who scored a magnificent 5! (Lionel Messi eat you heart out!!) Well done team – we're nearly there – and thank you Mr Lloyd for your continued (and obviously inspirational) coaching!

We are beginning to enjoy finer weather and the children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring and playing on the school field this week. A certain group of budding archaeologists (Lucas, Connor, Jonathan, James, Jack F, Taylor D, Taylor NM, Jack C and Charlie) have already discovered a Victorian tile, a medieval arrow head and some Roman pottery! (They also insisted that I mentioned it in the newsletter!!) As the weather improves, can I please remind you about being safe in the sun – hats and cream are a must. School shoes MUST be worn to and from school, but children are encouraged to change into their (named) trainers at break and lunch times.

At the time of writing, I am looking forward to welcoming mums, dads and grandparents to our second parents in school day. This is a great opportunity to find out more about what and how your children are learning and again looks to be very well attended. Enjoy!

I would like to draw your attention to an important letter that your child has been given today regarding some exciting developments at Wessex towards the end of this term. Please make sure you have received it or get a copy from the office if it hasn't materialised. We will send it out via Parentmail to ensure you have received it.

Finally I have some congratulations to give. Firstly, I would like to congratulate Miss Oldfield who has announced her engagement to her partner Simon Frooms and is now eagerly

making plans for the perfect wedding. Secondly, I would like to congratulate Mrs McArdle who has secured a place on the Foundation Degree Course with Reading University, which will enable her to work towards becoming a qualified teacher. Well done to both of you and best wishes from everyone at Wessex.

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Headteacher

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### Tomato Plants for Sale

The Nursery have tomato plants, which they have grown themselves, for sale for a donation. The money raised will be spent on bedding plants to replace our spring flowers when they are finished. Plants can be purchased at start and end of Nursery session times.



### Grab Bags Return!

Harrisons are pleased to be able to offer the very popular 'grab bags' starting on Monday next week, in addition to the hot menu already on offer. Children will be able to choose from a choice of sandwich filling (cheese, egg or ham), together with a piece of fruit, crudites and a biscuit. The cost of the grab bags is the same as a hot lunch - £2.10.

### No More Bottle Tops – please!

As mentioned a couple of newsletters ago, we cannot collect milk bottle tops for charity anymore as the lady who co-ordinates the collections is no longer able to do so.

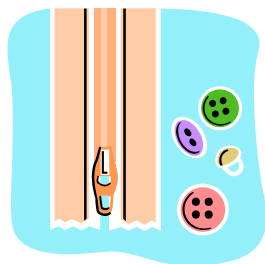
### Free Lunches on Thursdays!!!

I am very pleased to inform you that we are able to offer each child at Wessex a free school meal this term. In order to make this run as smoothly as possible, we have organised the following dates:

Purple Class	29 <sup>th</sup> April	Red class	6 <sup>th</sup> May	6R	22 <sup>nd</sup> July
Green Class	13 <sup>th</sup> May	Yellow and 30	20 <sup>th</sup> May	4E	17 <sup>th</sup> June
Orange and 3L	10 <sup>th</sup> June	4P	24 <sup>th</sup> June	5D	1 <sup>st</sup> July
5C	8 <sup>th</sup> July	6D	15 <sup>th</sup> July		

Children in these classes will still need to book a lunch on that day – they will just not have to pay for it!!! ENJOY!

### Old clothes (or bits of them) needed



Do you have any clothes which are no longer needed which have a variety of different fastenings for children who need practice with fine motor skills eg. zips, button holes, velcro, toggles, laces. We would like to get a box of 'fastenings' together for dressing practice, and to make our own version of an activity/feely mat/board. Please bring any suitable items in to the school office. Thank you.

### This Week's Requests

- Empty seed packets - lots and lots!!! (If you can donate a full packet, we can plant the seeds too!)
- Tesco, Sainsburys, Flora and Nestle Box Tops tokens! Please bring your tokens in to school and ask friends and neighbours to collect for us as well!
- Items for our new 'Junk Orchestra' – tins, buckets, pipes, saucepans, boxes.....

## Maidenhead Advertiser 'Cash for Schools' Scheme

We have now sent the tokens off to the Advertiser and are well qualified to 'cash in' on the scheme – we collected over 1100 tokens! Thank you to everyone who brought tokens in – we really appreciate it!

TALKING HOMEWORK	THINKING SKILLS CHALLENGE
What are the pro's and con's of being 'stuck' on holiday?	How would you describe an elephant to someone who has never seen one?

### Some dates for your diary:

DATE	OCCASION	WHO?
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Garden Sale, 3 Homestead Road, 12-4pm	Anyone!
26 <sup>th</sup> April – 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Assessment fortnight	Whole school
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	House Kwik Cricket Tournament	Y3 – Y6
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Bank holiday!	Everyone!
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Yellow base assembly – 9.15am	All parents and carers of children in Yellow base.
10 <sup>th</sup> May – 14 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs week	Y6
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Blue class assembly – 9.15am	All parents and carers of children in Blue class.
19 <sup>th</sup> May – 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Y5 Residential trip to Hooke Court	Y5
24 <sup>th</sup> May – 28 <sup>th</sup> May	PE enrichment week	Whole school
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	End of term 5 – 3.20pm	Everyone!
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Inset day – please don't send your children to school!	Everyone!
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Inset day – please don't send your children to school!	Everyone!
10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Class photos – remember the hairbrush!	Nursery – Y5
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	5C class assembly	All parents and carers of children in 5C.

### Caption competition

Each week we will publish a picture and would ask you to think of an apt/funny/appropriate caption. This week we are showing the Andy Goldsworthy style grass sculpture created by some of our Y6 boys. The winner (as judged by our un-bribable office ladies among others) will win either a free school meal or a free breakfast club place.

Entries should be posted in the old 'Newsletter gaffs'

box in the reception area outside the school office.



**Pupil: Daddy cat, mummy cat and two kittens!**