

# WESSEX WEEKLY

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Q: What do you call a woodpecker with no beak?



Ellis and Alex discussing tactics at the Y5 Football tournament

This week:

PE Week – can you help?, LOTS of event and term dates, and more.....

**SOLAR PANEL ECO TICKER:**

4728KWh of Electricity Produced

2694Kg of Carbon Dioxide saved



## From the Head's Chair



This has been a very short, but important week for many of our children as we begin or approach our end of year assessments. We have all worked extremely hard to ensure that every individual child is as prepared as possible to do their best and show us what they have learned. If your child is in Year 6, you can help by ensuring that your children go to bed early and have a good breakfast before coming to school to ensure they are as awake and alert as possible...able to give their absolute best! I wish all our children luck with the tests they are taking and know you will do us all proud!

Beyond the SATs, the children have continued to learn through a wide variety of exciting lessons and activities. Our Foundation Stage children have been learning all about dinosaurs and many of our Reception children were excited to find dinosaur tracks throughout the classrooms and garden when they came to school on Tuesday. I'm not sure if any have been spotted but the children have promised to let me know! Our Year 2 children are learning about animals in their local environment and have enjoyed hunting for insects and spotting other creatures within the school grounds. In Y4, Mrs Elliot, Mrs Palfrey, Mrs Piper and the children will be putting together the finishing touches to our scarecrow(s). They are entering three scarecrows into a competition at Hampton Court, designed to encourage the children to get involved in gardening. The theme is 'Shakespeare comedies', and so our scarecrows have taken on the guise of characters from A Midsummer Night's Dream...following on from our Y6 project last term. I look forward to reporting how they got on when we have the results!

Since the announcement of our early closure (due to the building works planned for the Summer holidays), I have continued to work to ensure that our families and children are impacted as little as possible. I am very aware that there are significant cost implications for those of you who are unable to arrange alternative childcare arrangements with friends and family members. I have met with Angela Wellings, Head of Education and Childcare at RBWM, as well as representatives from the LA's building services department, in charge of the project. We have initiated plans at school governor level as well as liaising with local councilors. As promised last week, I plan to have a range of options for parents regarding those proposed school closure days as soon as can be arranged and hope to have that information ready in time for the next edition of the Wessex Weekly. In the meantime we continue to push hard for some answers behind the scenes and I thank you for your patience.

A huge number of your children have enjoyed taking part in a wide range of during or after school clubs already this term, including the new Athletics club and Junk Orchestra. There may be more additions to the 15 clubs already on offer so please keep an eye out for forthcoming announcements in this area. I am very proud of what we offer beyond the normal curriculum and thank the members of staff who give their time to make them happen - a full list with all the details is available on our website.

Have a good weekend.

Nick Stevens  
Headteacher

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## Sports Relief Sponsorship Money

If you have not yet brought your sponsorship money in to school, *please* bring it in by Wednesday of next week so that we can make the final (final!!!) trip to the bank – thank you!

## Book Bags

Book bags are now in stock and available to buy from the school office for £4.

## 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:

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	6R and 6D	15 <sup>th</sup> July (note change of date for 6R)		

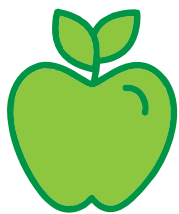
Children in these classes will still need to book a lunch on that day – they will just not have to pay for it!!! ENJOY!

## PE Enrichment Week

We are running another of our popular and exciting specialist subject weeks from 24<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> May. The focus will be on all things PE and we wondered if there are any parents that would like to come into school to talk about a sport or do a demonstration or session – perhaps yoga or sailing or aerobics or boules or line dancing or French skipping? Please contact the school office if you are able to help.



## Upper School Fruity Tuck Shop!



A reminder that we have started an Upper School Fruit Tuck Shop every morning break time. Fruit such as apples, bananas and satsumas will be available to buy at a cost of 20p per piece. Boxes of raisins will also be on sale at 15p per box. We hope that this will encourage our children to eat more fruit and help contribute to their 'five a day'.

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club booking forms are available from the letter tree outside the school office or from the ladies at Breakfast Club. Remember you can book your children in to Breakfast club just 24 hours in advance and the club is open every day in term time from 8am. Children enjoy a healthy breakfast (toast, cereal, yoghurt, juice etc) and can play games such as snooker, table football, board games or on the Breakfast Club Wii! The cost is £3 per child per session and we accept Accor and Busy Bees childcare vouchers. More information is available from the school office.

## This Week's Requests

- Flower pots of all sizes....especially small ones....for our gardening club and eco council.
- 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!
- 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.

TALKING HOMEWORK	THINKING SKILLS CHALLENGE
What would you do if you found a dinosaur in your garden?	Why do people climb Mount Everest?

### Some dates for your diary:

DATE	OCCASION	WHO?
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
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Yellow base assembly – 9.15am ( <b>note change of date</b> )	All parents and carers of children in Yellow base.
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.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term – usual time. (not 2pm)	All

### 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 children arranging their 'longest food chain' items last year. 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. The winner of last weeks picture (Daisy Moo) is Adam May (the only entry!!) with 'How do you count cows? – using a cowculator!' Come on everyone – start using those creative brains and get some captions in!



A: A headbanger!