Waverley
Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 12th September 2025

Fantastic First Football Fixtures!

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a wonderful week. It has certainly been a busy first full week back at Waverley and the summer holidays already feel like a distant memory. This week, we welcomed parents into school to meet teachers, enjoyed our first sports fixtures of the year and saw the return of weekly swimming lessons.

School Assembly: Behaviour & School Rules

This week's assembly was all about behaviour and following the school rules. In the assembly, Mr Mitchell shared a funny story from his own school days about a trick he played that backfired. This reminded the children that mistakes can happen, but honesty helps put things right.

Mr Mitchell also revisited the Waverley Way, ***'We are kind, we are honest, we do our best'*** and introduced the school rules and behaviour expectations to our new Reception class. They also learnt about the Pupil of the Week and Waverley Way Awards and were reminded that the first of these awards for this academic year, will be presented next week. Finally, the Waverley safeguarding team was introduced, with a reminder that the children can always speak to them or any adult in school if something is worrying them.

Super Student Achievement

I am so incredibly proud to share that William, one of our Year 6 pupils, achieved a gold medal at the British Adaptive & Visually Impaired Open Judo Championships 2025. Organised by the British Judo Association, the competition took place during the summer holidays at the Sport Wales National Centre in Cardiff. What makes this achievement even more special is that William first took up judo right here at Waverley in our After School Club – and look at how far he has come! This is a truly outstanding accomplishment and we are all so proud of William's dedication, determination and success!

New Parents Coffee Morning

It was wonderful to welcome all of our new parents into school this morning for a special coffee morning in the sunshine. I hope you all enjoyed meeting one another and getting to know members of staff. It was a real pleasure to welcome you in person to the Waverley family. A big thank you to Jo and the Connect team for providing all of the delicious pastries.

Meet the Teacher Evening

Thank you also to everyone who attended our Meet the Teacher evening on Tuesday. It was wonderful to see so many parents join us and I hope you found the event both enjoyable and useful. For any parents who were unable to attend, please email Mrs Jenkins at **helen.jenkins@waverleyschool.co.uk** to request a copy of our updated Parent Handbook for this academic year.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Diary Dates

Monday 15th September:	School Assembly: Waverley Way - We Are Kind.
	Castles, Knights & Princesses Drama Workshop. *(Reception - Year 2)*
Tuesday 16th September:	Nursery Meet the Educator Evening. *18:00hrs - 19:00hrs. Parents only.* *
Wednesday 17th September:	Swim 2.
	Year 5 & 6 Football vs LVS. Home. *
	Year 5 & 6 Hockey vs LVS. Away. *
Friday 19th September:	Jupiter House Poetry Auditions. 13:00hrs.
	Year 3 & 4 Football vs. LVS. Home. *
	Year 3 & 4 Football vs. LVS. Away. *

**Parents welcome to attend.*

Our Academic dates can be viewed here.
All calendar dates are available on our parent portal here and on our website here.

Waverley School News

Reception's First PE Lesson

On a very wet Wednesday morning, our Reception class enjoyed their first school PE lesson with Mr Mitchell. They started by warming up and moving in different ways to fun music, before trying out a variety of activities and equipment. The children had a great time throwing bean bags into hoops, climbing and jumping off soft blocks, balancing on beams and even practising forward rolls with Mr Mitchell. It was an exciting start to their PE adventures. See photos **here**.

Year 1 Identify Body Parts

This week, Year 1 explored the human body. The class began by identifying and labelling different body parts on a large outline drawn on the floor. They then went outside in pairs to trace around each other with chalk on the playground and label the body parts again. It was a fun, hands-on way for the children to learn about their bodies. See photos **here**.

Year 2 & 3 Design Happy Houses

This week, Year 2 and 3 began their Art lessons by exploring the work of American pop artist James Rizzi. The children had lots of fun creating their own colourful 'Happy Houses,' using bright colours and imaginative designs. You can see their amazing work in the photos **here**.

Year 5 History

In their History lesson this week, Year 5 focused on putting historical events in chronological order. Working in small groups, the children demonstrated brilliant teamwork and impressed with their knowledge of different periods in history, including events like the Great Fire of London and the Coronavirus pandemic. It was a fantastic way to bring the past to life. See photos **here**.

Year 6 English

This term in English, Year 6 are reading 'Goodnight Mr Tom' as part of their World War 2 topic. The children began by reading Chapters 1 and 2, summarising the key events that took place in each. Half of the class focused on each chapter working together to highlight all of the key details before sharing their ideas with the other half of the class. Later in the term, they will also be watching the film to see the story come to life on screen.

Waverley School News

First Football Fixtures

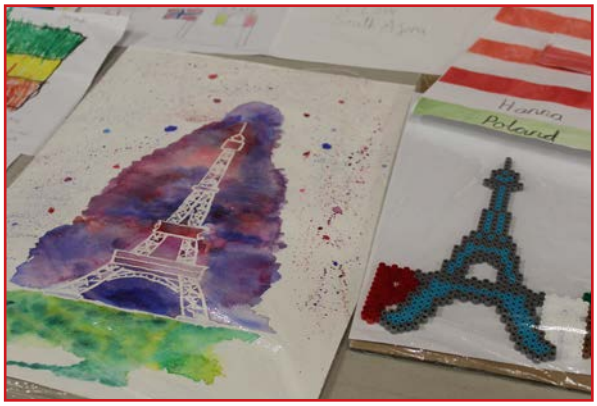
Our football fixtures returned on Wednesday, as Year 5 & 6 took on St Edward's. One team battled hard but were unlucky to lose, despite excellent examples of teamwork. The other match finished 2-2, with Toby grabbing a slightly scrambled goal on the line and Mateja making an immediate impact off the bench to score. Both teams showed real resilience and with a few more weeks of practice, we will soon be flying! See photos **here**.

School Choir Practise

Choir sessions resumed this week with a warm welcome from Charlotte, our new Head of Music and Head of Choir, who started by taking the register. The Key Stage 2 pupils are excited to be singing at the upcoming Harvest Assembly and will soon begin preparations for the Woodley Festival next March. If your child would like to join the choir, please email Mrs Eden-Higgs at **pippa.eden@waverleyschool.co.uk**

10 Years at Waverley

Last week we celebrated Mr Shore's 10-year milestone at Waverley and we are delighted to share that Mrs Shore and Mrs Eden-Higgs, have also now reached this fantastic milestone. Both have been part of the Waverley family for 10 years! Huge congratulations to them and here's to many more years ahead!



MFL Day Cultural Creativity Competition

Modern Foreign Languages Day is taking place on **Tuesday 23 September.** Children are invited to wear costumes representing different countries and take part in our Cultural Creativity Competition. For this they can get creative with arts, crafts, baking or even Lego, to celebrate the special day. The deadline for entries is **Friday 19 September**. See full details **here**.

Harvest Festival

Parents are invited to join us for our Harvest Festival Assembly on **Friday 26 September** at **09:00hrs** in Melton Hall. The assembly, led by Year Six, will include songs from Reception and Year 1 and a Key Stage 2 Choir performance. Pupils are asked to bring in donations of dried, tinned, or packet food for a collection for the Salvation Army to support local families. Parents are also invited to visit their child's classroom from **08:30hrs** for our Celebration of Work morning.

Waverley School News

Spare Trainers for Years 3-6

We ask that all children in Years 3–6 keep a spare pair of trainers at school for playtimes. While building works continue, Key Stage 2 will use the field for breaks and with unpredictable weather, spare trainers will help them enjoy playtime comfortably and avoid muddy shoes throughout the school.

Parking and Driving Safely at Waverley

A reminder to parents to please drive slowly and carefully on Waverley Way and in our car park. With playground parking closed due to building works, please use nearby roads considerately and be mindful of our neighbours. By keeping speeds down and driving safely, we can help keep our community safe and welcoming.

Secondary School Visits

Several local secondary schools are holding open events soon for families considering next steps. See details below:

Leighton Park – Whole School Open Day, Saturday 27th September. Book your space **here**.
Pangbourne College – Autumn Open Morning, Saturday 4th October 2025. Book your space **here**.
Farnborough Hill – Open Afternoon, Friday 3rd October 2025, 1.30–3.30pm. Book in advance via their website **here**.

We will contact Year 5 parents in January to discuss initial thoughts about your child's secondary school options.

WFA News

WFA AGM - Monday 22nd September 19:00hrs

The WFA Annual AGM will be held at school on **Monday 22nd September**. All parents and carers are warmly invited to attend.

Halloween Disco Tickets Now LIVE!

Get ready for a spooktacular disco on **Wednesday 22 October**, 16:30hrs - 18:30hrs! Come dressed in your best spooky costume and enjoy a fun-filled evening. Tickets are £2.50 per person for entry only, or £4 including a sausage hotdog and a drink. Please note that every attendee (adult and child) needs a ticket and we kindly ask that children do not wear masks. We can't wait to see you there! Book your tickets **here**.

WFA Diary Dates

22nd September: WFA AGM

22nd October: Halloween Disco *(16:30 - 18:30hrs)*

10th December: Father Christmas Visit & Christmas Event

Waverley Nursery News

Reminder: Meet the Educators Evening

We would like to remind parents about our Meet the Educators Evening, taking place next **Tuesday 16th September**, from 18:00 to 19:00. This adults-only event is a wonderful opportunity to visit your child's new room, meet their Educators and connect with their Key Worker. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

Start of Term Success

We would like to say a huge well done to all the children who have started at Nursery over the past few weeks, as well as those who have recently moved into their new rooms. They have all adapted wonderfully, and we are so proud of each and every one of them!

- **Holiday Booked?** Please complete our short form to advise us of your holiday plans. You can either scan the QR code on the outside noticeboard or click **here**. It helps us with planning and also ensures no food wastage.
- **Poorly?** If your child is poorly and will not be attending Nursery, please message our Nursery Team on **07920 268735** or email **fiona.harding@waverleyschool.co.uk** by 09:00hrs.
- **To book ad hoc sessions** please email our Nursery Manager: **fiona.harding@waverleyschool.co.uk**
- **To make permanent changes to care** such as reducing or changing days, giving notice or wanting additional days of care, please email our Head of Admissions, Mrs Helen Jenkins: **helen.jenkins@waverleyschool.co.uk**

Nursery 1

Last week, the Babies in Nursery 1 showed great interest in exploring different textures, after reading some 'That's Not My…' books. They went on a 'sensory walk' with trays of flour, shaving foam and Weetabix, exploring textures under their feet and developing their fine motor skills.

The Babies also took part in some water play this week. They explored water trays featuring boats and cups, that they used to transfer the water and were excited to see it splash around. They also experimented with construction vehicles in Rice Krispies and flour, enjoying the sensory crunch.

Nursery One also spent time exploring different coloured paint dots under cling film. The Babies used their fine motor skills to mix colours, create marks and used stamps to spread the paint around. They also experimented with construction vehicles in Rice Krispies and flour, enjoying the sensory crunch, while in the end room, the babies explored oats to find pictures, supporting recognition and bonding, and investigated the different coloured leaves collected during their woodland walk.

Nursery 2

This week, Nursery 2 have had lots of fun hiding, playing peek-a-boo and searching for pictures of their Educators. The children hid behind scarves for peek-a-boo, crawled through the garden tunnel and searched for hidden pictures in their garden sandpit. These activities have supported language development, emotional awareness, problem-solving and have given the children plenty of opportunities to explore and play together.

The children have been getting musical this week, experimenting with a variety of instruments, singing songs, using puppets and playing with outdoor pots and pans. These activities have encouraged them to discover different sounds, practise turn-taking and express themselves through sound, movement and actions.

Nursery 3 have also been focusing on ‘up’ and ‘down’ movements this week. The children have explored car ramps, wooden planks and tubes, promoting imagination, hand-eye coordination and understanding of cause and effect.

Nursery 3

This week, the children in Nursery 3 have been exploring different emotions through the book, ‘The Colour Monster.’ They each practiced their pincer grip, using tweezers to pick up colourful feathers and pipe cleaners, matching them to the correct colour monster tub. During the activity, the children spoke about the different monster emotions and their own feelings.

The children also enjoyed some messy play this week, using paints to mix the different colours of the colour monsters. As they painted, the children linked the different colours to emotions, (such as yellow for happiness) which encouraged both their creativity and language development.

Nursery 3 also used playdough, pipe cleaners and googly eyes to create their own colour monster emotions. This activity supported their fine motor skills, imaginative play and helped the children to recognise and express how they feel in a fun and hands-on way.

Pre-Foundation

This week, the children in Pre-Foundation spent time exploring rain and rainbows. They used colourful pipe cleaners and lollipop sticks to create their very own rainbow designs.

The weather continued to be very rainy this week, so the children spent time investigating rain clouds. They used play dough, pom-poms and pipe cleaners to make clouds and then created some rainy pictures using cotton wool and pipettes.

The children also experienced their first Woodland School session this week. They spent time outside learning the rules, exploring the camp and sharing their favourite parts.

Foundation

This week, Foundation have been exploring caterpillars. The children used loose natural materials, pipe cleaners and play dough to create their own caterpillars, practising their fine motor skills and using their imagination.

The children also made caterpillar impressions using brushes and stamps. They explored textures, patterns and colours whilst also developing their creativity and communication skills.

Foundation have also spent time this week learning about where caterpillars live and what they eat. They explored a tuff tray filled with green rice, leaves and twigs and recreated 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' story, discussing real caterpillar diets. The children also practised their hand-eye coordination by making 'munch holes' in real leaves, just like hungry caterpillars.

Menus

Next week our lunch menu will be Week 1.
You can view our Summer menu for School and Nursery **here.**

NUT AWARE · WE ARE A NUT AWARE SCHOOL

We're here to help!... How to contact us...

- **General Office Enquiries**
  info@waverleyschool.co.uk
- **Breakfast, After School and Holiday Clubs: Mr Alex Kear-Hill**
  clubs@waverleyschool.co.uk 07741 657313
- **Admissions: Mrs Helen Jenkins**
  admissions@waverleyschool.co.uk
- **School Office:**
  0118 973 1121
- **Bursar: Mrs Carole Barke**
  carole.barke@waverleyschool.co.uk
- **Nursery:**
  Mobile: 07920 268735

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