Waverley
Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 26th September 2025

15th IN THE UK

13 years BEST IN BERKSHIRE

Rated EXCELLENT -ISI inspection

Waverley Goes Global For MFL Day!

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a lovely week. We have certainly enjoyed a vibrant few days here at Waverley, with a wide range of exciting events and activities taking place. Highlights have included our Modern Foreign Languages and Cultural Awareness Day, the Harvest Festival assembly, the Celebration of Work morning, a special Macmillan Coffee Morning and a full schedule of KS2 co-ed Football fixtures.

Modern Foreign Languages & Cultural Awareness Day

On Tuesday, we welcomed back one of my favourite Waverley traditions – Modern Foreign Languages and Cultural Awareness Day, which is always one of the biggest highlights in our school calendar. It was such a joy to see the children arriving in their wonderful costumes, proudly representing a wide variety of countries and cultures. For me, this day really captures the spirit of our school – celebrating our vibrant and diverse community while encouraging the children to learn new languages and appreciate cultures from all around the world. More details about the day can be found on ***page 4***.

We were also treated to a fantastic change of menu at lunch, with dishes from every continent. I particularly enjoyed seeing the children (and staff!) tucking into Pollo a la Brasa from Peru, Lechón Asada from Cuba, Chakalaka from South Africa, Mujadara from Lebanon and Anzac biscuits from Australia and New Zealand. A big thank you to our wonderful Connect catering team for preparing and serving such delicious food!

Harvest Festival Assembly

This morning, we welcomed parents in for our Celebration of Work Morning and our Harvest Festival assembly. Our Year 6 pupils led the way with thoughtful reflections on the origins of the Harvest Festival, reminding us that it is not only a time to thank God for the food we enjoy, but also a chance to share what we have with others.

Parents who joined us were treated to some wonderful performances, including whole-school renditions of the 'Harvest Hymn' and 'Everywhere Around Me,' as well as beautiful contributions from our KS2 choir and KS1 children. Watch a video of the KS1 performance **here**.

I would also like to say a big thank you to everyone who donated to our Harvest Festival collection. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our Waverley families. All donations will be delivered to the Salvation Army in Wokingham, where they will make a real difference to local people in need. Your generosity and kindness is appreciated!

Year 2 Form Teacher Update

I am saddened to share that our Year 2 form teacher, Mrs Mayes will be leaving Waverley at the end of the Autumn term. I am incredibly grateful for her dedication, hard work and ever-cheerful professionalism over the years, which have made a lasting impact on both pupils and colleagues alike. Recruitment is now under way for a new Year 2 teacher. See details in my letter **here**.

Waverley's Macmillan Coffee Morning

Earlier today, we took part in Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning. Every child enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate and a selection of mini cakes, thanks to our fantastic Connect catering team, with Year 6 doing a brilliant job serving everyone. I am delighted to share that together we raised an incredible £240 for Macmillan Cancer Care. Well done Waverley! See photos **here**.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

ISA INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION Accredited Member

Pupil Achievements

Pupils of the Week

Rose, Reception
'For always being ready to learn. She listens well and joins in with Read, Write Inc. lessons and always tries her best.'

Nishree, Year 1
'For working so hard in Read, Write Inc. and Maths. She is setting a brilliant example to others.'

Sara, Year 2
'For always working so hard in all she does. In particular, her description of Mr Shore was brilliant.'

Rupert, Year 3
'For his careful listening in lessons and thoughtful contributions to class discussions.'

Hugo, Year 4
'For his excellent work in Maths this week and followng instructions well.'

Adam, Year 5
'For being so self motivated and doing things which push him out of his comfort zone.'

William, Year 6
'For some fabulous peer teaching in his Maths lesson. He was super patient and helpful to his friends.'

Waverley Way Award

Tehillah
'For her kind words and positivity towards other always. She is a cheerleader for everyone in Year 2!'

Anya
'For her honesty. In her hockey fixture, she told an umpire her shot was outside the circle and should be disallowed.'

Diary Dates

Monday 29th September:	School Assembly: Diversity & Inclusion. School Photographs. *(Individual & Siblings)*
Wednesday 1st October:	Swim 4. *(All children to swim)* Year 5 & 6 Football vs. Sherfield. Home. * Year 5 & 6 Hockey vs. Sherfield. Away. *
Friday 19th September:	Year 3 & 4 Football vs. Sherfield. Away. * Year 3 & 4 Football vs. Sherfield. 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.

Modern Foreign Languages & Cultural Awareness Day

On Tuesday, we celebrated our annual Modern Foreign Languages and Cultural Awareness Day - an immersive experience that brought languages, cultures and diversity to life for our whole school community.

Children arrived to school in a colourful array of outfits representing countries from all around the world. From traditional national dress and sports shirts, to imaginative homemade creations, the school was awash with colour.

The day was filled with hands-on activities inspired by different continents. Pupils made vibrant African masks, carefully constructed rain sticks from paper, explored the patterns of Native American art and created messy, but bold Eiffel Tower silhouette paintings. They also enjoyed Aboriginal art and designed delicate, Asian-inspired fans, bringing creativity and cultural learning together in every classroom.

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils had the added opportunity to experience a lesson in Esperanto with Mrs Eden-Higgs' friend Maurizio, alongside some German and Italian lessons with Mrs Lightstone. One standout moment for everyone was the African drumming workshop, where each class learned rhythms and beats before coming together for a lively group performance in front of the whole school.

The excitement continued in assembly with a special MFL day themed edition of 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?' with Jupiter House emerging victorious and proudly taking home the coveted Languages Trophy.

Another key highlight from the day was the Cultural Creativity Competition, which showcased the incredible imaginations of our students. Entries included Lego masterpieces, baked creations and unique pieces of artwork. Congratulations to the overall winners: Nishree from KS1, who created an Indian flag from rice, lentils and mung beans and Emily from KS2, who impressed everyone with her 3D cardboard model of Cape Town. Both received special MFL Day themed prizes for their creations.

A big thank you to everyone involved in making the day such a success, especially Mrs Lightstone and Ms Bell for organising the activities and timetable. Also, thank you to the WFA for funding the African drumming workshop. Overall, it was a day full of learning, creativity and celebration – a true reflection of the Waverley community.

Watch a highlights video **here**.
See a selection of photos **here**.

Waverley School News

School Photographs Reminder

A reminder that individual and sibling photographs will take place on Monday morning (29th September) from 09:00hrs. All children should come to school in full uniform, including blazers. Children in Years 1, 2, 4, 5 & 6 should also bring their PE or Forest School kit in a bag to change into at school.

Waverley Winner in Writing Competition

Congratulations to Year 4 pupil Rajan, who was named as a winner of the Wokingham Borough Libraries 'Protect Our Planet' writing competition. His entry highlighted ways to care for the planet, including saving water, protecting bees and reusing books to save trees.

The competition was run in partnership with Wokingham Borough Libraries, Wokingham Borough Council and the Natural History Museum, who kindly provided prizes for Rajan. Well done Rajan! We are very proud!

Reception Forest School Sessions

Our Reception class have thoroughly enjoyed their Forest School session this week. They loved exploring the woodland setting, getting in touch with nature, playing on the outdoor swing, building dens, and setting up a mud kitchen.

Forest School sessions help children develop confidence, independence, teamwork, and problem-solving skills, while encouraging a love of the natural world. See photos **here**.

Year 1 Art

In their art lesson this week, Year 1 have been experimenting with different shades of paint. They added white to primary colours to create colour gradients in the shapes of cakes and ice creams, starting with darker shades of red and blue and gradually lightening them. The children had lots of fun exploring and experimenting. See their creations in the photos **here**.

Year 2 Drama

In their drama lesson this week, Mrs Adams brought a selection of props for the children to use to create their own characters. From hats and scarves to mobile phones and magnifying glasses, the children were inspired to invent imaginative characters, giving them names and describing their jobs. They then brought their characters to life through a fun mime activity. See the photos **here**.

Waverley School News

Year 4 Pop Art Drawings

This week in Art, Year 4 have been creating blotted line art designs of different shoes. Inspired by pop artist Andy Warhol, the children each picked a picture of a shoe (from trainers, to football boots and high heels) and traced it to get an exact outline. They then went over the lines with felt-tip pens and used a damp cotton bud to blot the lines, making them look shakier and more interesting. See photos of their creations **here**.

Year 5 Radio Broadcasts

This week, as part of their World War II topic, Year 5 have been planning and delivering radio broadcasts in their English lessons. The aim of their broadcasts was to educate the people of the village where 'Goodnight Mister Tom' is set, sharing what they needed to do now that war had been declared.

Working in groups, the children carefully planned their scripts before taking to the 'airwaves' of Waverley Radio Station to deliver their messages. Each group shared important advice and gave some very rousing performances, reminding their listeners to keep calm and carry on! Recordings of their broadcasts will be shared next week.

Year 6 Maths Club

Year 6 have been missing Mr Shore's Maths Club, especially the algebra challenges, so Mrs Eden-Higgs treated them to some extra maths on Monday lunchtime. This week, the children enjoyed solving equations, including tricky ones with variables on both sides. Lots of problem-solving fun was had by all! See photos **here**.

Football Fixtures vs. Dolphin

We have enjoyed another great week of sports fixtures at Waverley! With no hockey matches this week, it was fantastic to see all of the children out on the football pitch taking part against Dolphin. On Wednesday afternoon, our Key Stage 2 children played in five separate games. Each team did a brilliant job, showing off their skills and demonstrating excellent teamwork. See some photos from the afternoon **here**.

After School Club Round Up

It has been another busy week at After School Club! The children have been practising their tennis skills, baking delicious party cookies in Cookery Club and clowning around in Circus Club, just to name a few. See photos from all of our clubs **here**.

Waverley School News

Invitation to Read Write Inc Information Evening

Pre-Foundation, Foundation, Reception and Year 1 parents are invited to join us on Monday 6th October, from 19:00 – 20:00hrs for an evening all about the Read Write Inc. Phonics programme. Mrs Shore and Ms. Sykes will explain how it works, how it helps your child learn to read confidently and share practical tips for supporting reading at home. See a letter **here**. Please note, this session is for adults only.

Important Reminder for Parents

Please can we ask that children do not swing on the front school gate, as this can cause damage. We would also like to remind everyone that playground equipment should not be used outside of school hours.

October Half Term Holiday Club – Book Now!

Bookings for our October Half Term Holiday Club are now live! Get ready for a spooktacular week of activities, including pumpkin carving, LEGO challenges, a UV glow party, and the return of our bouncy castle. Spaces are limited, so book soon to avoid missing out!

Our full schedules for KS1 and KS2 will be announced early next week. To book your place, click **here**.

WFA News

WFA AGM

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the WFA AGM this week. We look forward to another year full of exciting events for everyone!

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**.

Pumpkin Carving Competition

We will once again be holding a pumpkin carving competition! Mr Shore will judge the best entries in KS1 and KS2, with the winners announced at the disco. Please drop off your pumpkins on the morning of **Wednesday 22nd October**. Pumpkins will need to be collected and taken home after the disco.

WFA Diary Dates

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

10th December: Father Christmas Visit & Christmas Event

Waverley Nursery News

Modern Foreign Languages & Cultural Awareness Day

On Tuesday, the nursery celebrated Modern Foreign Languages Day! The children enjoyed themed activities and wore a mix of traditional dress, sports shirts, and creative homemade outfits. See their fantastic outfits **here**.

RSVP: Emergency Contact Details for All Nursery and Reception Children

In line with updated Early Years Foundation Stage regulations, Waverley must have two emergency contacts for each Nursery and Reception child. These contacts cannot be parents and must live within an hour's drive of Waverley. All parents must complete the form linked **here**, even if you've provided contacts previously. Please complete just one form per family, by 17:00hrs on **Friday 3rd October**.

Invitation to Read Write Inc Information Evening

Pre-Foundation and Foundation parents are invited to join us on **Monday 6th October**, from 19:00 – 20:00hrs for an evening all about the Read Write Inc. Phonics programme. Mrs Shore and Ms. Sykes will explain how it works, how it helps your child learn to read confidently and share practical tips for supporting reading at home. See a letter **here**. Please note, this session is for adults only.

- **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

This week, the Babies in Nursery 1 have enjoyed exploring a range of different textures and sounds. At the start of the week, they investigated natural materials including tin foil, pine cones and pasta, whilst also enjoying the different textures and crinkly sounds of scrunched foil.

On Tuesday, it was Modern Foreign Languages and Cultural Awareness Day at Waverley! The Babies explored flags, listened to music from around the world and made their own sounds using natural resources in boxes. Nursery 1 also introduced some animals into their sensory play, with the Babies exploring wooden animals and themed trays featuring sea creatures, zoo animals and dinosaurs.

The sensory fun continued towards the end of the week, with the Babies exploring a muddy pigs tray made from crushed oats and porridge. They also used textured animal mats and blocks to build enclosures and spent time rescuing sea animals from spaghetti, enjoying the unique textures while listening to sea animal sounds.

Nursery 2

This week in Nursery Two, the children have continued exploring their love of building. Using a variety of materials, they have been encouraged to use their imaginations to create their own interpretations of different buildings.

The children in Nursery 2 were also introduced to the theme of houses. They spent time looking at different homes from around the world and talked about who lives in them. The children also shared their family books, making connections between their own homes and those of others.

Nursery 2 have also had lots of fun getting creative this week. The children were tasked with making their own homes using a variety of materials and glue for their creations. This activity helped them to explore textures and colours whilst also developing fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination and their communication abilities as they shared ideas and worked together.

Nursery 3

This week in Nursery 3, the children have continued exploring their families. They used playdough to create faces of their family members, incorporating natural resources to represent different facial features. The children also made footprints in the playdough using figurines as they talked about the people closest to them.

Alongside this, the children have shown more interest in the art of building. Many have been focusing on building houses, describing what they were creating as they went along. As the week progressed, Nursery 3 continued to link these building activities to the theme of families, helping the children connect their creations to the homes and people they know.

On Tuesday, Nursery 3 celebrated Modern Foreign Languages Day. The children enjoyed seeing colourful outfits and learning about houses from around the world, broadening their understanding of different cultures while connecting it to their ongoing exploration of homes and families.

Pre-Foundation

This week in Pre-Foundation, the children have been exploring the story We're Going on a Bear Hunt. Using a tuff tray, they acted out the story, including the bear's cave and practised retelling the different events throughout.

On Tuesday, Pre-Foundation celebrated Modern Foreign Languages Day. The children made their own flags, listened to multi-cultural music and tried a special international snack, exploring different cultures in a fun and creative way.

The children also enjoyed a fun Woodland School session this week, exploring the outdoors and engaging in imaginative play.

Foundation

Foundation have been extending their interest in caterpillars this week, as they observed their life cycle. Throughout the week, the children noticed changes and shared their ideas, commenting on the caterpillars growth and the new patterns appearing on them, such as spots and lines.

The children have also been exploring patterns and size through their play and activities this week. They each created caterpillar patterns using colourful dabbers and pattern mosaics to make their designs and practised identifying bigger and smaller shapes and resources.

Foundation had lots of fun celebrating Modern Foreign Languages Day this week. The children took part in exciting activities, made their own flags, talked about their outfits and tried foods from different countries.

Menus

Next week our lunch menu will be Week 3.
You can view our Summer menu for School and Nursery **here.**

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