Waverley
Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 3rd October 2025

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13 years BEST IN BERKSHIRE

Rated EXCELLENT -ISI inspection

Celebrating Waverley Teachers & LSA's

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a wonderful week. Can you believe we are already in October and there are just under three weeks to go until Half Term. It has been another fantastic week at Waverley, filled with exciting lessons, busy fixtures and a wide range of clubs for our pupils.

Celebrating Our Teachers and Learning Support Assistants

Our assembly was short and sweet this week due to school photographs, but Mr Mitchell took the opportunity to share with the children that last Friday was National Teaching Assistants' Day. This special day recognises the vital role teaching assistants play in supporting teachers, helping pupils and ensuring smooth classroom routines. We are so grateful for everything our wonderful Learning Support Assistants do here at Waverley. Alongside celebrating them, this Sunday is also World Teachers' Day! A day to acknowledge the dedication, care and expertise of teachers everywhere. I am sure you will all agree that we are fortunate to have some of the very best here at Waverley. Click **here** to view a gallery of our wonderful teachers and LSA's.

Harvest Festival Donations

On Monday, we were delighted to welcome representatives from The Salvation Army Wokingham, who came to collect all of our Harvest Festival donations. They were truly overwhelmed by the generosity of our Waverley families and I could not be prouder. Thanks to your kindness, these donations will now reach those in need, reflecting the wonderful community spirit we share here at Waverley. Thank you all once again for your support!

Heads Hot Chocolate With Year 4

At break time today, Mrs Shore and I enjoyed hot chocolate with our Year 4 class as they took the opportunity to showcase something they are proud of. From fabulous artwork, to incredibly clever self driving Lego cars and amazingly large crocheted blankets, the children had lots of wonderful things to share.

Wear Yellow for World Mental Health Day

Next Friday (10th October), we will be marking World Mental Health Day with a non-uniform day across the School and Nursery. Children are invited to wear something yellow (can be an accessory, t-shirt, or even socks) to show support and raise awareness of the importance of looking after our mental health and well being.

We are not asking for donations, this day is about reminding young people that they are not alone and that things can get better. Let's make this World Mental Health Day a little brighter together.

Term Dates For 2026-27 Now Available

Our Academic Dates for the 2026–2027 academic year have now been published. These can be found in the Parent Hub section of both our Nursery and School websites, or by clicking **here**.

Leave of Absence Form

A gentle reminder that the Leave of Absence Request Form should only be used for holiday requests during school hours. You do not need to complete this form if your child is attending a school open day, has a medical appointment, or similar. For these situations, please email **info@waverleyschool.co.uk** and copy in your child's form teacher.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

S. Shore

Pupil Achievements

Pupils of the Week

Lyla, Reception
'For listening and following instructions. She is always ready to learn, with a big smile on her face.'

Zoravar, Year 1
'For his amazing effort with his handwriting.'

Marko, Year 2
'For his fabulous determination and effort in all that he does. In particular some brilliant work in Maths, where he used the correct mathematical symbols for greater than and less than.'

Evelyn, Year 3
'For her enthusiasm, focus and determination in all lessons.'

Ahana, Year 4
'For the fabulous descriptive language she used to describe a book character. Her word choices were impressive and she used a variety of punctuation.'

Joshua M, Year 5
'For working hard in each lesson and in particular some fantastic work in SPaG this week.'

Molly, Year 6
'For having an impeccable work ethic and for giving her all in every lesson. She sets a brilliant example!'

Waverley Way Award

Alfie
'For following the Waverley Way every day. He is polite, helps others and tries his best in every lesson.'

Hamish
'For the kindness he shows to everyone he meets. He is always quick to lend a hand or offer encouraging words.'

Diary Dates

Monday 6th October:	School Assembly: Well Being & Mental Health.
	Read, Write Inc Information Evening. *(19:00 - 20:00hrs) Parents Only.*
Wednesday 8th October:	Swim 5. *(Year 3 & 4 Swim only)*
	U11 Football Tournament at Dolphin. *
	Year 5 & 6 Football vs. Lyndhurst. Away. *
	Year 5 & 6 Hockey vs. St George's. Away. *
Friday 10th October:	World Mental Health Day. Non-Uniform Day. *Wear Something Yellow.*
	U9 Football Tournament at Dolphin. *
	Year 3 & 4 Football vs. Lyndhurst. Home. *
	Year 3 & 4 Football vs. St George's. 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

Read Write Inc Information Evening Reminder

We would like to remind parents of Pre-Foundation, Foundation, Reception and Year 1 that our Read Write Inc Information Evening will take place on Monday(6th October) from 19:00 - 20:00hrs. Mrs Shore and Ms. Sykes will explain how the phonics system works, how it helps your child read confidently and will share practical tips for supporting reading at home. Please note, this session is for adults only.

Reception Learn About Little Red Hen

This week, our Reception class enjoyed bringing the story of The Little Red Hen to life by making their own bread with Miss Shore. They learned about the ingredients, mixed and kneaded the dough, let it prove and shaped their own rolls. The story follows a hard-working hen who makes bread while the other farm animals refuse to help, only to find they miss out when it's ready to eat! See photos **here**.

Year 1 Music

This week in their music lesson, Year 1 learned the musical terms for loud (forte) and quiet (piano) and practiced saying them in both soft and loud ways.

The children also took part in a fun activity where the class were split into groups (soldiers, creepers, birds and elephants) each with its own musical beat played by Mrs Shore. When the children heard their group's sound, they moved to the beat, marching like soldiers, creeping like creepers, stomping like elephants and fluttering like birds. Everyone did an excellent job following the rhythms and having fun with the music.

Year 2 Learn About Mary Anning

In their History lesson this week, Year 2 have been learning about Mary Anning, a pioneering palaeontologist and fossil collector who discovered the first complete ichthyosaur skeleton at just 12 years old, in the town of Lyme Regis.

Mary's discoveries, were crucial for understanding prehistoric marine life, with her legacy living on today, however the class were shocked to hear about Mary's struggles for recognition. Due to being a young, poor woman, Mary could not officially join the scientific societies that benefited from her findings, however is remembered as one of the greatest fossil hunters to have ever lived.

Waverley School News

Year 3 Diwali Art

This week, the children celebrated the Festival of Light by creating some fantastic artwork using colourful chalk and glitter. Their designs showed vibrant fireworks, an important tradition of the festival and really highlighted their creativity and enthusiasm. The children enjoyed experimenting with colours and textures to make their artwork sparkle and come to life. See photos of their wonderful creations **here**.

Year 4 Geography

In their Geography lesson this week, Year 4 explored the weather in the tropics and compared it to conditions in the UK. Working in groups, they became weather forecasters and created their own weather reports, including key geographical features such as average temperature, wind speed and direction. The children all did a fantastic job and perhaps we have some future TV weather presenters in the making? See photos **here**.

Year 5 Badminton

In their PE lesson this week, Year 5 have been honing their badminton skills, focusing on coordination—a key part of the game. They took part in a variety of circuits, challenging Mr Mitchell at the badminton net and then practising their aim by trying to get the shuttlecock into the basketball net. The class showed great focus, skill and enthusiasm throughout.

Year 5 & 6 Radio Broadcasts

Last week, we shared that our Year 5 class had 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, explaining what they needed to do now that war had been declared. You can watch the Year 5 and Year 6 broadcasts **here**.

Year 6 Make Blood

In their Science lesson this week, Year 6 have been learning about the circulatory system with a hands-on activity exploring the different parts of blood. Using coloured water, lentils, marshmallows and glitter, the children created their own 'blood' model to represent plasma, red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets. This helped them understand how blood is made up of many components, each with an important job, from carrying oxygen, to fighting infection, to helping cuts heal. See photos **here**.

Waverley School News

Sickness Procedures

Several children were sent home this week, with sickness and/or diarrhoea. Please remember that children must stay home for 48 hours after their last episode, to prevent the spread of infection. They cannot return to school until this period has passed.

Maths Challenge Returns

We are pleased to share that the Waverley Maths Challenge is back this year! There are three challenges: one for Years 1 and 2, one for Years 3 and 4 and one for Years 5 and 6. The challenges encourage children to solve mathematical problems using reasoning, critical thinking and systematic approaches.

Participation is completely voluntary, but all children who enter will earn three house points for their house. All correct entries will also go into a prize draw, with one prize per age group (three prizes in total) to be awarded at the end of half term. The challenges have now been shared with the children and entries should be returned by **Friday 17th October**.

After School Club Update

It has been another busy week at After School Club. The children have enjoyed a fantastic range of activities. In Cookery Club, they have been practising their knife skills, chopping up vegetables for a colourful rainbow couscous. Over in Lego Club, the children put their engineering hats on, building bridges and exploring their creative sides.

There has also been plenty of fun with games, including Dobble, Twister and long spelling challenges in Bananagrams, not to mention energetic moments in dodgeball! See photos **here**.

Wokingham Fireworks Drawing Competition

The Wokingham Charity Fireworks Spectacular 2025 is running their children's drawing competition again! Children are invited to create a picture showing what Fireworks Night means to them. The winner will lead the procession from Market Place with the Wokingham Mayors to Cantley Park, count down to the fireworks and enjoy free entry for themselves and their family.

The closing date is Monday 20th October, with the winner announced shortly after. Waverley has a great track record, having won twice before. Some children may complete their entries in school, or you can download a form for home **here**.

Waverley School News

October Half Term Holiday Club

Bookings for our October Half Term Holiday Club are 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!

To view the KS1 schedule, click **here**.
To view the KS2 schedule, click **here**.
To book your place, click **here**.

WFA News

Halloween Disco Tickets Selling Quickly!

Join us on Wednesday 22nd October, 16:30hrs – 18:30hrs for a 'spooktacular' evening at the Waverley Halloween Disco. Come dressed in your best spooky costume and dance the night away! Tickets are £2.50 per person for entry only, or £4 per person including a sausage hotdog and a drink. Every attendee, adult and child, will need a ticket.

Please note that children should not wear masks and Nursery children are welcome if supervised. Half of the tickets have already been sold, so make sure you book soon! Food ticket sales end at midday on 14 October to pre-order meals. 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.

Second-Hand Uniform Website

Our WFA second-hand uniform website can be found **here**. Orders placed by Wednesday at 12pm will be ready for collection from the school office on Friday. Orders placed after this time will be available the following Friday to allow for processing. You will receive an email notification when your order is ready for collection.

If you need to return any purchased second-hand uniform, please email **uniform@waverleyschool.co.uk**

WFA Diary Dates

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

10th December: Father Christmas Visit & Christmas Event

Waverley Nursery News

Invitation to Read Write Inc Information Evening

We would like to remind you that our Read Write Inc. Information Evening is taking place on Monday (6th October) from 19:00 - 20:00hrs. During this session, Mrs Shore and Ms Sykes will explain how our phonics program works, how it supports your child in learning to read confidently and will share practical tips for supporting reading at home. Please note that this session is for adults only. We look forward to seeing you there!

World Mental Health Day

Next Friday, (10th October) we are celebrating World Mental Health Day at Waverley Nursery with a non-uniform day. Children are invited to wear something yellow (such as a t-shirt, accessory, or even socks) to show support and raise awareness of mental health and well being. No donations are needed.

Nursery Sickness

We've recently had several cases of sickness and diarrhoea in the Nursery. Children should only return 48 hours after their last symptoms and be well enough to join all activities, including meals. Children not fully participating will be sent home. If your child develops symptoms, please call the Nursery on 0118 973 1121.

- **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 in Nursery 1, the Babies have been exploring different animals. They made animal footprints with paint, which encouraged their imagination and fine motor skills. The Babies also spent time rescuing small-world characters by removing tape that they were trapped in, promoting problem-solving and discussions about different animals.

The Babies also enjoyed some sensory activities this week. They searched for hidden sea animals in shaving foam and explored a sensory bag with animals, pom-poms and blue coloured water. The Babies also looked at an animal book and played with wooden logs topped with animals, supporting their imaginative play.

The Babies also showed great interest in learning about animals and their sounds this week. They identified new animals and used them to print footprints into play dough, observing the different sizes of the prints. During the activity, the Babies shared the animals and worked together in small groups.

Nursery 2

At the end of last week, the children in Nursery 2 showed an interest in singing 'The Wheels on the Bus' whilst outside in their garden. They enjoyed copying actions on the steering wheels and talking about where they travel. The children also explored a tray of props from the song, including pictures of buses, tickets and money, as well as discussing their own bus experiences.

Continuing their interest in buses, the children used a large cardboard box and paints to create their own. They practiced hand-eye coordination and gross motor skills while painting and discussed the colours they were using to support colour recognition. A sensory tray with tickets and money allowed them to explore destinations and they also sat on a wooden bus in the garden, singing the song and sharing their experiences with their Educators.

Nursery 2 also spent time making their own bus tickets this week, using pencils and crayons. The children were given different examples of tickets to help with their designs and practised their fine motor skills, grip development, colour recognition and imaginative play throughout the activity.

Nursery 3

This week, the children in Nursery 3 continued exploring their interest in houses. They built family houses using lollipop sticks and added photos whilst talking about who they live with. They also explored different house features, discussing doors, windows and the variety of shapes and sizes they come in.

Nursery 3 also used a selection of recycled materials to create their own houses. They listened to the song, 'We Are Going to Build a House' before starting and discussed what might be found inside. Whilst building their houses, they spoke about dimensions, such as tall, short, big and small. Some children worked independently, while others showed excellent teamwork, working together in small groups.

The children also spent some time looking at house numbers this week. A matching puzzle helped the children pair door numbers to the correct house and the Nursery 3 Educators encouraged them to talk about their own house numbers, supporting the children's number recognition and communication skills.

Pre-Foundation

This week in Pre-Foundation, the children focused on the bear from 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and explored his features. They used brown Cheerios on a light pad to create his face, discussing the shapes they could see and counting his features. They also threaded the Cheerios onto pipe cleaners to make bear face shapes, developing their fine motor skills and creativity.

The children also enjoyed an outdoor adventure along the woodland trail, pretending it was the 'stumble trip through the deep dark forest' from the story. They climbed hills and stepped over branches, discussing whether to go under, over, or through the different obstacles.

Foundation

This week, the Foundation children observed their chrysalis and carefully transferred them into a netted enclosure. They watched a short video of butterflies emerging, which sparked curiosity and lots of questions about the life cycle. The children have been fascinated imagining the colourful butterflies that may appear in the coming weeks.

The children explored symmetry and patterns through a variety of creative activities. They painted, crafted and used chalk to make butterfly shapes, discussing colour, size and symmetry. They also experimented with water and food colouring on paper towels to see how the colours mixed. These activities supported both their artistic skills and understanding of the butterfly life cycle.

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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