Waverley
Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 5th September 2025

Welcome Back To Waverley!

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. Can you believe how quickly the weeks have flown by? It's hard to believe we are already at the start of a new academic year! It was such a joy to welcome all of the children back to school yesterday morning. I loved hearing their stories about the summer and was pleased that we managed to avoid the worst of the rain as everyone came through the gate.

Welcome to Our New Reception Class

Yesterday, we were delighted to welcome our new Reception class to Waverley. It was a big day for the children as they began their journey into 'big school' and I am pleased to say there were very few tears (from both the children and their parents!)

The transition to school was made easier, with the children already being part of our Foundation class. This meant they all settled quickly into their new routines. They have spent the last two days exploring their new classroom, getting to know their teacher and classmates and even attending their first whole school assembly! In assembly, I shared with the children that starting a new school year is a little like putting on a brand-new pair of shoes. At first, it might feel strange or even a little uncomfortable, but before long, you settle in and they begin to feel just right. I would like to wish all of our new Reception class the very best of luck as they embark on this exciting new chapter in their education. You can see some photos from their first day **here**.

New Roles & Responsibilities for Year 6

I am delighted to welcome our new Year 6 pupils back in their new school positions. Our newly appointed Head Boy and Head Girl are **Toby S** and **Rebecca W**, supported by **William L** and **Bea D** as Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl.

For a full list of all the new roles and responsibilities, please see **here**. I have every confidence that each of our pupils will do a fantastic job in their positions and I wish them the very best of luck for the year ahead.

Meet the Teacher Evening

I am very much looking forward to welcoming you to our Meet the Teacher evening on **Tuesday 9th September** at **19:00hrs**. I will start with a short introduction before you visit your child's Form Teacher to hear about routines and plans for the term ahead.

The evening will last about an hour and a half and is for parents only, so children should not attend or wait on site. Even if you've joined us before, I encourage at least one parent from each family to come along, as the information will be valuable for the year ahead.

New Parents Coffee Morning

I would also like to invite all of our new parents to a coffee morning on **Friday 12th September** at **08:45hrs**. Please do join me for some light refreshments and the chance to meet other parents and members of staff. I look forward to welcoming you there.

Welcome Back Mrs Gibson

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Chloe Gibson this term following her maternity leave. She joins Mrs Hatton-Evans as our Year 5 Form Teacher. I know that children, parents and staff alike will be very pleased to see her back.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Diary Dates

Tuesday 9th September:	Meet the Teacher Evening. *19:00hrs - 20:30hrs. Parents only.* *
Wednesday 10th September:	Swim 1.
	Year 5 & 6 Football vs. St Edwards. Home. *
Friday 12th September:	New Parents Coffee Morning. *08:45hrs.* *
	Year 3 & 4 Football vs. St Edwards. 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

Happy 10 Years Mr Shore!

This week marked 10 years of Mr Shore as Headteacher at Waverley! He has now spent a whole decade leading our school, making him the second longest serving Headteacher in our history. We would like to thank him for everything he has done (and continues to do) for our Waverley pupils, families and staff. Here's to many more years with Mr Shore at the helm!

Recommended Snacks

We would like to remind parents that Waverley is a nut-aware school. We have children and staff with severe allergies, so it's important that snacks brought to school are safe for everyone. To assist with this, we have compiled a Recommended Snacks Guide to help you choose suitable options for your child. You can find a copy of the guide **here**. Thank you for helping us keep Waverley a safe and inclusive environment for all students.

Leave of Absence Reminder

Following new legislation, all term-time leave **must** be approved by Mr Shore and will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Routine appointments, holidays, or family trips abroad are not permitted. As a school, we must report absences over 5 days and the Local Authority may carry out spot checks. To request leave, complete the form **here** with at least 5 days' notice, except in emergencies.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Just a quick reminder that all external after-school clubs and peripatetic music lessons will begin from **Monday 8th September**. In addition, the new term of swimming lessons for Years 1–4 will start on **Wednesday 10th September**.

Our Fencing After-School Club is offering a free trial session on **Thursday 11th September**. The session will allow children to try out some basic moves and see what the club has to offer. To book a place, you need to email our fencing teacher, Andy Mudie via **Andy.Mudie@littlemusketeers.com** by **Monday 8th September**.

Please can we remind parents that the first session for ASC finishes at 16:30hrs (not 16:45hrs) and children will be brought out to the pedestrian gate. Please be prompt. Children who are not picked up on time will be charged the extra session and this will also affect our care ratios. Thank you for your cooperation.

Waverley School News

Modern Foreign Languages - Coming Soon!

Costumes at the ready! We are excited to announce that Modern Foreign Languages Day will take place on **Tuesday 23rd September**. To celebrate the diversity of languages and cultures around the world, children are invited to come to school dressed up in costume. During the day, they will enjoy a range of activities designed to inspire curiosity, broaden cultural awareness and make language learning fun.

Roadworks Reminder

There are currently a number of roadworks, road closures and diversions in and around the Wokingham area. Please allow extra time for your journey at drop-off and pick-up. You may find Wokingham Borough Council's live roadworks page useful **here**.

Pangbourne College Open Morning

The next Whole School Open Morning at Pangbourne College is on **Saturday 4th October**, 10:00 – 13:00hrs (arrivals from 09:45). Those attending will have a tour, meet staff and pupils, hear from the Head and have the chance to speak with the Admissions team. To book your place, click **here**.

The Marist School Open Evening

Is The Marist School a potential secondary school for your daughter? If so, their Senior School Open Evening will be held on **Thursday 25th September**, 17:30 – 19:30hrs. Book your place **here**.

Luckley House Events

Luckley House have a number of upcoming events. Their Year 6 Taster Day will take place on **Tuesday 14th October**, followed by an Open Morning on **Saturday 18th October**. To attend either event, click **here**.

A reminder to parents that the registration deadline for 2026 entry is **Tuesday 21st October 2025**.

Waverley Summer Holiday Club

We hope everyone had a fantastic summer at Holiday Club! If your child attended, please complete our questionnaire **here** to share your feedback with the team.

Waverley School News

Waverley Golf Umbrellas – Stay Dry in Style!

With September showers on the way, why not keep dry whilst showing your Waverley spirit? Our Waverley-branded golf umbrellas are available for just £30 each. To purchase yours, simply contact the school office.

Wake Up Wednesday

Starting school can feel overwhelming and with over 60% of young people regularly experiencing stress, supporting their well being has never been more important. This week's Wake Up Wednesday guide from the National College shares 10 top tips to help parents recognise and manage stress in their children. From spotting early signs to encouraging healthy sleep habits, there are lots of tips that can help to make a real difference. Download your copy **here**.

WFA News

Welcome back to Waverley! We hope you had a great summer break!

Dates for Diaries

We have a number of exciting events planned for the Autumn term, beginning with a 'spooktacular' Halloween Disco on **Wednesday 22nd October**. Tickets for this event will be released soon. Another highlight to look forward to is **Wednesday 10th December**, when Father Christmas will be visiting the children and we will be hosting a very special Waverley Christmas Event.

2024-25 WFA Success

We are delighted to share that the WFA raised an incredible £9,375 through various fundraising events last year. Thanks to your generosity, the children have enjoyed a wide range of exciting activities and experiences, including Silly Science sessions, World Book Day magic, a Gladiator visit and Easter Bunny chocolates, to name just a few. A huge thank you to everyone for your continued support. We look forward to another successful year ahead!

Join the WFA

We are always looking for more volunteers to join the WFA. We are a friendly group of parents who enjoy welcoming new faces and fresh ideas. If you would like to get involved and support our events, please get in touch with us at **wfa@waverleyschool.co.uk**

Waverley Nursery News

Mrs Needham Celebrates 15 Years at Waverley Nursery

Congratulations to Mrs Needham, our Deputy Nursery Manager, on 15 amazing years at Waverley Nursery! We're so grateful for her dedication and the positive impact she's had on countless children and families.

Meet the Educators Evening

Parents are invited to our Meet the Educators Evening on **Tuesday 16th September** from **18:00 – 19:00hrs**. This adults-only event is a chance to visit your child's new room, meet their Educators and connect with their Key Worker. Please indicate your attendance by completing our form **here**.

Nursery Room Emails

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to share something about your child with their Educators, please contact their Nursery room directly (not via Parenta). See details of their email addresses below:

- Nursery1@waverleyschool.co.uk
- Nursery2@waverleyschool.co.uk
- Nursery3@waverleyschool.co.uk
- Prefoundation@waverleyschool.co.uk
- Foundation@waverleyschool.co.uk

- **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, Nursery 1 welcomed some new faces to the Nursery room. The Babies spent time exploring a variety of different activities that were set up throughout the Nursery rooms. This included a play dough and mark-making station which helped the Babies to develop their fine motor skills and explore different colours.

The Babies continued to discover different areas of their new Nursery room, with paint bags, ribbons and sensory books laid out for them. They were also given the opportunity to explore some play dough that included pictures of their Educators, to help them recognise familiar faces and feel confident in their new environment.

Nursery 1 also introduced some new activities in the construction and art areas this week. The Babies explored a sand tray alongside some shaving foam, helping them to discover different textures and used balls in paint to create colourful marks. They also enjoyed finding pictures hidden amongst rice and pasta, helping them to recognise themselves and their new friends.

Nursery 2

This week, the children in Nursery 2 spent time settling into their new environment. They enjoyed exploring both the indoor and outdoor areas, discovering new play spaces, toys and activities. The children also got to know their Key Educators and began forming friendships with their peers through shared play and group activities.

The children used photos of themselves to recognise one another and enjoyed looking through family books, which helped them feel connected and secure. They started building friendships in a supportive and welcoming environment, sharing toys, taking turns and exploring activities together. These experiences encouraged social interaction, communication and a sense of belonging.

Nursery 2 were also introduced to the colour monsters this week, which offered a fun way to explore feelings and emotions. Educators spoke with the children about how they were feeling and encouraged them to express their emotions about starting Nursery 2. The session gave the children the opportunity to explore, play and feel confident in their new environment.

Nursery 3

This week, the children in Nursery 3 have spent time settling into their new Nursery room and have started building relationships with their Key Educators. They enjoyed exploring their new indoor environment and took part in a range of activities using paper, colouring resources and people figures, allowing them to express themselves and share their ideas.

Nursery 3 were also introduced to emotion blocks and the story of the ‘Colour Monster’ this week, helping the children talk about how they were feeling moving into their new Nursery room. Educators encouraged discussions about their emotions and supported the children in expressing themselves in a safe and supportive space.

The children also shared about their families, looking through family books and creating faces with loose parts. The children explored emotions such as happiness and sadness, as well as the feelings of love and being scared, using photos and discussions to understand them.

Pre-Foundation

This week in Pre-Foundation, the children have been exploring the rain, asking questions, collecting rainwater and making 'rain pictures' with food colouring and water. They also linked rain to rainbows and spent time making rainbow bubbles in the garden.

The children have also enjoyed playing in their new Nursery room, especially cooking in the home corner and building train tracks with tunnels, encouraging creativity and teamwork.

Foundation

This week, the Foundation children have been settling into their new Nursery room and enjoying exploring both the indoor and outdoor areas. They have shown a particular interest in caterpillars while playing with a Hungry Caterpillar puzzle, asking questions and engaging in imaginative play.

The children have also enjoyed pouring and measuring water in their new garden water tray, developing their fine motor skills and early understanding of volume.

Alongside these activities, they have been learning their new routines quickly and confidently, building independence and feeling more at home in their new environment.

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