Waverley
Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 7th November 2025

Waverley Remembers...

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a wonderful half-term break!
It was lovely to hear from the children about all the fun things they got up to over the week. We have now entered one of the busiest times of the year: the countdown to Christmas! Over the next few weeks, we have a whole host of exciting events taking place. From Christmas productions and House Competitions to World War Days and even dinosaur visits. It is set to be a truly fun and festive time for everyone.

Year 5 Remembrance Day Assembly

Earlier today, our Year 5 class led a very special Remembrance Day assembly, held ahead of November 11th next Tuesday. The children shared a thoughtful poem and stories of their family members who served and lived through wars in the past. The whole school also sang a special performance of 'We Will Remember Them' to help us all remember and honour those who have served for our country. A two minute silence then followed with a rendition of 'The Last Post' played throughout the hall.

I am so incredibly proud of the entire Year 5 class for their moving and respectful performances. This is one of our most important assemblies in school and they all did such an incredible job. Well done! Watch a video of the children's rendition of 'We Will Remember Them' **here**.

Poppy Appeal Sales

You may have noticed our Year 6 representatives standing at the main gate each morning this week, collecting donations in exchange for Poppy Appeal items. I would like to thank them all for braving the elements each day and showing such dedication to the fundraising efforts. Thank you also to everyone that purchased a Poppy Appeal item this week. The money raised will go to directly to the Royal British Legion to fund its support of the Armed Forces community.

I would also like to say a huge well done to Adam in Year 5, who spent part of his half-term helping the Royal British Legion by selling poppy items on their stall. He even had an opportunity to meet Chelsea Pensioner, Paul Sinclair. Well done Adam!

Bonfire Night

Our school assembly this week was all about Bonfire Night. After watching some clips of fireworks, Mr Mitchell explained the fascinating story of the Gunpowder Plot and Guy Fawkes, helping the children understand why we celebrate Bonfire Night with fireworks, sparklers and bonfires each year. The children were captivated by the tale and really enjoyed linking this piece of history to the traditions we still enjoy today.

On Wednesday, we were treated to a special Bonfire Night lunch - a feast fit for fireworks! The serving hatch was beautifully decorated with themed bunting and pictures and everyone tucked into a winter-warming chilli, fluffy jacket potatoes, tasty nachos and a delicious toffee cake for pudding. A huge thank you to Jo and her amazing team for the all of the fantastic food. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it and it was the perfect way to celebrate Bonfire Night! See photos **here**.

Wokingham Fireworks Art Competition

I would like to wish huge congratulations to Ellen (Year 6) for winning this year's Wokingham Fireworks Drawing Competition. Waverley has an amazing track record with this competition, with a student winning for the past three years running.

As part of her prize, Ellen and her family attended the firework display event last weekend. She had the incredible opportunity to lead the procession alongside both the Wokingham Borough Council and the Wokingham Town Mayors and even led the countdown to the fireworks display in front of over 10,000 people!

Well done Ellen, for representing Waverley so brilliantly. I hope you and your family had a wonderful time celebrating your achievement!

Odd Socks Day

Next week, it is Anti-Bullying Week, an important time for us to come together as a school community to celebrate kindness, respect and inclusivity. To show support, all Waverley children are invited to wear Odd Socks into school on **Friday 14th November**!

Year 2 Football Fixture

On Monday afternoon, our Year 2 class will be taking part in their first Sports Fixture at Waverley. The children will be taking on Upton House in a home fixture at 14:00hrs and parents are very welcome to come and support on the sidelines. I hope to see you there!

Uniform Reminder

I would like to remind parents that all children should now be wearing their full winter uniform to school. This includes the Waverley waterproof school coat *(Stevensons, item ref: 007956)*, a felt hat for girls or a green cap for boys and appropriate cold weather clothing. Children are welcome to wear their blazers as an additional layer under their school coat during very cold weather if they wish.

During colder periods, children may also wear a plain grey fleece hat and plain grey gloves. These can be purchased from any good uniform supplier, but please remember that no coloured or multi-coloured items should be worn.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Diary Dates

Monday 10th November:	School Assembly: Anti-Bullying Week.
	Year 2 Football vs. Upton House. Home. *
Tuesday 11th November:	Parent/Teacher Consultations (AM & PM).
Wednesday 12th November:	Swim 8.
	Year 5 & 6 Football vs. Upton House. Home. *
	Year 5 & 6 Hockey vs. Upton House. Home. *
	Parent Teacher Consultations (AM)
Thursday 13th November:	Dinosaur Day.
	Parent/Teacher Consultations (AM & PM).
Friday 14th November:	Odd Socks Day.
	Year 4 Assembly: Being Modest. *Year 4 parents welcome to attend.*
	Year 3 & 4 Football vs. Upton House. Home. *
	Year 3 & 4 Hockey vs. Upton House. Home. *

**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

Waverley Pupil Dance Success

A huge well done to Nishree (Year 1) and her sister Turvi (Pre-Foundation), who both performed a very special Bollywood dance at a Diwali party during the October half-term break. Nishree was absolutely fantastic and even received a trophy from the Bracknell Mayor for not forgetting her steps and showing such great presence of mind on stage. Well done to both girls, you should be very proud!

Remembrance Day Art

To commemorate Remembrance Day next week, Year 4 have been busy creating some very special poppies in their Art lessons this week. The children carefully cut paper plates to form the shape of a poppy and then weaved red wool throughout to make bright and bold designs.

It was wonderful to see the children putting so much thought and care into their creations, reflecting on the meaning of Remembrance Day as they worked. Their poppies are now proudly displayed in Melton Hall. See photos **here**.

Reception Autumn Activities

This week, Reception have been fully embracing the Autumn spirit with a variety of fun, seasonal activities. The children were given a selection of natural items, including leaves and acorns and used them to create some beautiful Autumnal art by placing them into frames. They also enjoyed making leaf rubbing pictures and removing the seeds from ash keys, which helped to develop their fine motor skills.

With Bonfire Night on Wednesday, the children got creative with some very special firework paintings. They added colourful paint to black paper using tools like lolly sticks and finished their artwork with glitter to give their fireworks an extra sparkle. You can see photos of all their fantastic activities **here**.

Bonfire Themed Drama Lessons

In their drama lessons this week, the children have been channelling their inner fires and acting out bonfires. From sparks and crackles to flames and fire and eventually to ashes, the children had lots of fun exploring movement, sound and storytelling. It was wonderful to see their creativity and energy in action. You can watch a video of our Year 1 and Year 4 class performances **here**.

Waverley School News

Year 1 Abstract Art Display

Over the past few weeks, Year 1 have been learning about abstract artists like Jackson Pollock and Piet Mondrian, famous for their bright, eye-catching designs. Inspired by their work, the class created their own abstract pieces, now on display in the corridor for the whole school to enjoy.

Year 2 French Interviews

This week in French, Year 2 became junior journalists! Working in pairs, they practised interview techniques, with one child acting as the interviewer and the other as a celebrity. They asked questions like “Comment t’appelles-tu?” and “C’est quand ton anniversaire?” answering in character as their chosen celebrity.

Year 4 Learn About Area

In their Maths lesson this week, Year 4 have been learning about area and how it differs across various shapes. The class worked in groups and were each given four post-it notes to create as many shapes with different areas as possible. The children had lots of fun experimenting with different configurations and there was some fierce competition to see who could make the most!

Year 6 Internet Safety Talk

Year 6 were delighted to welcome PCSO’s Victoria Lendrum and Lisa Wiggins earlier this week to talk about Internet Safety. They discussed the importance of staying safe online and what to do if the children encounter anything that doesn’t feel right. As always, we are very grateful to Thames Valley Police for their continued support with these valuable visits.

Sports Fixtures

We only had fixtures for our Year 5 & 6 pupils this week! On Wednesday, our Hockey team headed to Reddam for their latest match, whilst the Waverley footballers took on Reddam at home.

Our Hockey players have definitely improved over the past few weeks and gave a terrific performance, with excellent passing from Aahana, strong defence from Eloise and great goals from Ellen, Darcey and Verity.

In Football, the children showed real grit and determination across three tough games, with brilliant saves from Rebecca, Joseph and Toby, plus fantastic goals from Otto and Mikey.

Waverley School News

School Photographs Reminder

The Waverley whole-school group photo is now available to view and order via the Tempest Photography website, by clicking **here**.
There is a 'free delivery to school' option open for the next two weeks, otherwise home delivery is available for £5. **Don't forget to also order your individual and sibling photos too!**

Reading FC Tickets for £1!

Reading FC are offering discounted tickets to Waverley students for their first School and Grassroots fixture of 2025/26. The Waverley family is invited to the home match against Rotherham on Saturday 22nd November at 3pm at the Select Car Leasing Stadium. Tickets are: 13 & Under: £1, 17 and Under: £5, 18 to 24: £10, 65 & over: £10, Adult: £15.

To get your hands on tickets, visit **ticketing.readingfc.co.uk** and enter the coupon code: **#WaverleySchool** in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets. There is no limit on ticket purchases, but availability is limited. Only applicable on tickets in the Eamonn Dolan Stand and the Y19/Y20 blocks of the Sir John Madejski Stand.

WFA News

Who's Behind the Christmas Mask?

This Christmas, get ready for Waverley's first-ever Masked Singer competition! Four teachers (dressed as Santa, Snowman, Elf and Christmas Tree) will put their voices to the test in a festive battle to see who will be crowned the ultimate Christmas Masked Singer Winner. Children got a sneak peek earlier today and the excitement is building!

Join our judging panel and help decide which masked teacher can croon the best Christmas tunes. The event takes place on **Wednesday 10 December 2025**, with a KS1 show from 15:45 – 16:40hrs and KS2 show from 17:00 – 18:00hrs. Tickets are **£4 for children** (which includes a snack box of a sweetie cone, popcorn and a drink) and **£1 for adults**. If your child attends After School club, they can still take part under staff supervision *(ticket is required)*. Buy your tickets **here**.

Dino Day - 13th November

Next Thursday, the WFA is bringing some prehistoric visitors to Waverley! Teach Rex will run workshops for Foundation and KS1, with both baby and big dinosaurs. We can't wait to see the children's faces when they meet these life-like dinosaurs! Don't forget, the children can dress up as explorers or dinosaur hunters on the day.

WFA Diary Dates

13th November: Dinosaur Day

10th December: Father Christmas Visit & Christmas Event

Waverley Nursery News

Now allocating Nursery places for babies due/born from 1st September 2025

We are now allocating Nursery places for children born from 1st September 2025. If you are expecting or have a new baby and will require a place, please contact Mrs Helen Jenkins, Head of Admissions, as soon as possible at helen.jenkins@waverleyschool.co.uk. Alternatively, please complete our Nursery Application Form here. At Waverley, we prioritise younger siblings of current Nursery and Prep pupils where possible, subject to availability.

Ballet Watching Week – Monday 17th November 2025

Our next Ballet Watching Week will take place on Monday, 17th November, in our Community Hall. Parents are warmly invited to attend and watch the children demonstrate the Ballet skills they have been learning this term. The Foundation session will take place between 08:50 - 09:20 hrs and the Nursery 3 & Pre-Foundation session will take place between 09:20 - 09:50 hrs. We look forward to seeing you there!

Nursery Festive Photos – Tuesday 25th November 2025

Smiles at School Photography will be visiting the Nursery on **Tuesday 25 November 2025** to take individual and sibling festive photos. For children who do not normally attend on Tuesdays, parents are welcome to bring them in for their photo. If you wish to do so, please contact Mrs Harding, our Nursery Manager, to arrange this.

- **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
- **To view upcoming events** please check the Nursery website calendar here.

Nursery 1

To celebrate Bonfire Night, Nursery 1 have been exploring fireworks this week. The Babies talked about fireworks and looked at colourful pictures before using cotton buds to make bright marks on paper. They also created a big, colourful firework by dipping string into paint and dabbing it onto black card.

The Babies continued learning about Autumn this week, with a sensory tray full of crunchy leaves and conkers. Tape was placed across the tray to make it more challenging, encouraging the children to think about how to reach the items underneath.

Nursery 1 also explored transporting this week, using crushed Weetabix, wooden diggers and plastic spoons to scoop and pour. This helped develop their fine motor skills and understanding of how materials can be moved around.

Nursery 2

This week in Nursery 2, the children explored the theme of transporting. They investigated different ways to make things move and practised filling shapes using a variety of materials. During the activity, they used different media to fill squares, circles and triangles, developing their hand–eye coordination and fine and gross motor skills, as they worked out how to transport each material.

The children also took part in an exciting animal rescue activity, transferring water from one side of a tray to the other to make sure the animals had enough to drink. They used a range of tools in different shapes and sizes, carefully transporting the water while practising turn-taking and using their coordination and motor skills.

Nursery 2 were also introduced to shapes this week. The children explored a variety of 2D and 3D shapes and enjoyed matching 3D objects to their drawn outlines, supporting their understanding of shape and spatial awareness.

Nursery 3

This week, the children enjoyed continuing to learn their letters through a variety of firework and Bonfire Night activities. They began the week with cupcake fireworks, matching each firework to the correct letter on the paper. They also created letter fireworks using paint and dabbers, making marks over the letters to reinforce their learning.

Continuing the fireworks theme, night sky sensory tray was set up for the children, allowing them to use their fingers or other mark-making tools to trace letters in the 'sky.' This provided a fun, hands-on way to practise letter formation and explore textures and patterns.

Nursery 3 also learnt about bonfires this week. A small 'bonfire' was set up using different materials, with the children's names hidden underneath. They then became firefighters, 'putting out the fire' to rescue each of their names. This encouraged problem-solving, imaginative play and reinforced their recognition of their own names.

Pre-Foundation

This week, Pre-Foundation have been enjoying a range of activities all about fireworks. They made firework paintings using forks, bright colours, glitter and sequins. The children also explored firework patterns in coloured sand and made firework play dough creations with pipe cleaners and coloured lolly sticks.

Later in the week, the children created a bonfire picture using tissue paper and pens. During the activity, they talked about fire safety, recalling what they had learned during their Woodland School session earlier in the week.

Foundation

To celebrate Bonfire Night, the children in Foundation created their own firework pictures. Using toilet roll inners, they dipped them into different coloured paints and pressed them onto paper to bring their fireworks to life.

The children also made fireworks using a variety of materials, including coloured rice, cereal and pasta. They explored different textures and practised their fine motor skills while creating their designs.

During the activities, the Educators discussed fireworks and Bonfire Night with the children, encouraging them to share their thoughts and experiences while learning about the celebrations.

Menus

Next week our lunch menu will be Week 2.
You can view our Winter 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
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