Waverley

Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 19th September 2025

15 IN THE UK

13 years BEST IN BERKSHIRE

Rated EXCELLENT

SHARING PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Dear Parents,

It now feels as if we are all very much settled into the routine of the school week. Our corridors are busy with chatter as our new pupils settle in and build friendships and I am sure that I have also heard singing practise for our Harvest Festival! (More details on the next page). I am also looking forward to our Macmillan Coffee Morning next week where our school children will enjoy a selection of cakes and hot chocolate in exchange for a £2 donation.

The start of a new school year, and for some starting school at Waverley this term, can be an apprehensive time. In our assembly on Monday, Mr Mitchell was therefore encouraging the children to take risks. He explained that when trying something new it is completely normal to feel nervous, anxious or excited... or maybe even all of these feelings at once. When faced with a challenge or an opportunity we have never tried before we can often be tempted to stay within our comfort zone but taking risks and 'having a go' could mean we discover new hobbies or skills that we never knew we had. Mr Mitchell then asked if any of the school felt like taking a risk by completing an unknown challenge. George M was put on the spot and had to tell the school a joke, Toby S had to attempt to recite the alphabet backwards and Diya B had to make up a dance for 5 seconds. All three children were extremely brave to have a go and proved that they were risk-takers!

On Tuesday, we held our first Pupil Mentoring Sessions. These sessions enable children of different ages to meet and build a stronger sense of our Waverley community. Our regular meetings enable our older pupils to build their confidence by providing relatable support and be a positive role model for our younger pupils. This week, our older pupils listened to our younger pupils reading. For more photos click here.

I am thoroughly enjoying our new format of 'Friday Hot Chocolate with Mr and Mrs Shore' sessions at breaktime on Fridays. We will be alternating across each of our year groups and giving children the opportunity to show myself and Mrs Shore something that they are proud of. This could be artwork, a model, a piece of work, a certificate or medal... in fact, anything that helps children show us their talents! Today, Year 5 showed us some of their wonderful art, creations and work.

I also enjoyed popping into Year 1 this week. It was their first Science lesson learning about the 5 senses of sight, sound, taste, touch and smell. This week it was 'taste' with the children sampling different foods including salt, yoghurt, lemon juice, toothpaste, soya sauce , honey and marmalade. The children had to use adjectives to describe the taste such as bitter, sweet, sour, savoury or umami (a savoury but quite bland taste eg. mushrooms). It was extremely amusing watching the children's expressions as they sampled each food! For more photos of Year 1's Science lesson, please click here.

Modern Foreign Languages Day - Tuesday 23rd September

As one of our big events of the academic year, don't forget that all children in both school and Nursery are invited to wear costumes representing different countries. We are also looking forward to lunchtime with international treats from across the continents! Personally, I am keen to sample the Anzac biscuits from Oceania (Australia and New Zealand). To view our special Modern Languages menu created by Chef, Shelley, please click here.

Harvest Festival and Celebration of Work

This coming Friday 26th Sept will be a busy morning! We look forward to welcoming our Prep School parents (Reception to Year 6) to join us from 08:30hrs to visit their child's classroom and view their work. At 09:00hrs, both school and Nursery parents are invited to celebrate Harvest Festival with us in Melton Hall. Please can I ask parents to park respectfully and, if at all possible, walk or cycle as the area will be very busy with very limited parking. We are also accepting donations of non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army in our school reception foyer. Thank you for any donations as I know that they are always very much appreciated.

S. Shore

ISA INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION Accredited Member

Pupil Achievements

Pupils of the Week

Scarlett, Reception
'For making a fantastic start to Reception. She has shown she has a 'can do' attitude, listens and tries her very best.'

Kayah, Year 1
'For giving every lesson her best in Year 1 and listening to instructions so well.'

Harry, Year 2
'For giving 100% to all he does and producing some excellent handwriting. It is beautiful!'

Benji, Year 3
'For being polite and kind and participating well in all lessons.'

Jack, Year 4
'For being a wonderful friend. He is kind and caring and goes the extra mile to help those who are new to the school.'

Kate, Year 5
'For a brilliant start in Year 5, working hard in all lessons.'

Harvey, Year 6
'For a super positive and hard working attitude - a great start to Year 6.'

Waverley Way Award

Leopold
'For always being so polite and friendly. He always looks after others.'

Rebecca
'For showing kindness and being super thoughtful in the classroom, both to adults and her friends. A true example of the Waverley Way.'

Diary Dates

Monday 22nd September:	WFA AGM, 19:00hrs. All parents are very welcome. *
Tuesday 23rd September:	Modern Foreign Languages Day. Costumes at the ready!
Wednesday 24th September:	Swim 3 (Year 1 to Year 4).
Wednesday 24th Septemer:	Year 5 & 6 Co-Ed Football vs Dolphin. HOME. *
Friday 26th September:	Celebration of Work (school) from 08:30hrs. *
Friday 26th September:	Harvest Festival, 09:00hrs in Melton Hall. All parents welcome *.
Friday 26th September:	Macmillan Coffee Morning (school only). Internal event. £2 donation.
Friday 26th September:	Year 3 & 4 Co-Ed Football vs Dolphin. 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

Key Fobs

We now have more key fobs in stock. If you require one, please email our school office via **info@waverleyschool.co.uk** to request one. There is a £10 deposit per key fob which is refunded when fobs are returned.

Drama Workshop - 'Castles, Knights and Princesses'

This week, our younger school pupils have been developing their self-confidence and acting skills at a drama workshop. Children from Reception to Year 2 had plenty of fun in our 'Castles, Knights and Princesses Workshop' where they were given plenty of opportunity to express themselves in a variety of role play scenarios encouraged by a very lively wicked stepmother!

Year 3 ICT: Directing Spaceships!

Children had plenty of fun this week in ICT (Information and Communications Technology) with Mrs Emmerson-Smith. Our pupils have been enjoying our new touchscreen laptops in our ICT room. They made good use of them by practising their coding skills using directions and sequencing to steer a spaceship to land on its destination planet. To view more photos of Year's ICT lesson, please click here.

Year 6 - Blitz Art

Year 5 and 6 have started their WW2 Art topic. The children were asked to start their scenes of the Blitz using a mix of chalks and pastels, blending them to create a background of explosions and plumes of smoke. They looked at examples of cities affected by the Blitz, such as London and Liverpool. The children started to sketch a template of a city skyline, which they will use next week to transfer to black sugar paper. Once this has been cut out, they will stick the skyline to the pastel and chalk backgrounds. As an extra, they will add German planes, searchlights etc. Click here to watch the video that the children used as inspiration for their artwork. To view more photos of Year 6 in Art, please click here.

Waverley School News

Year 4 English - Learning About Newspapers

On Wednesday, our Year 4 had a lively interactive lesson looking at the features of a newpaper. They cut out snappy headings, quotes and facts, opinions, pictures with captions and 5 'W's' ('what', 'who', 'when', 'where' and 'why'). The children showed great enthusiasm and worked well in their teams. They are then using these examples to help them write their own newspaper reports at the end of this week and into next.

Year 4 Science - A Fruit Salad Solar System!

Yesterday, Year 5 worked in groups to research about the order and size of each planet in the solar system. Once they felt confident, the children were faced with the fruit ordering challenge. Each group needed to successfully order the planets and label the piece of fruit with the name of a planet based on its size (fruit equivalent measurements!).

The children showed great recall of knowledge and worked together as a team until they were happy with their choices. Great work Year 5!

WFA News

WFA AGM - Monday 22nd September at 19:00hrs.

The WFA's AGM will be held at school on Monday 22nd September. All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Halloween Disco Tickets Now LIVE!

Our spooktacular disco will be held on Wednesday 22nd October 16:30-18:30hrs. Come in your best Halloween costume for a fun-filled evening! NO MASKS please. Book your tickets by clicking ***HERE***. Not recommended for Nursery children. Tickets are £2.50 per person for entry only, or £4 including a sausage hotdog and drink. We can't wait to see you for some FAB-BOO-LOUS fun!

Waverley Nursery News

'Meet the Educators' Evening

Thank you to all our parents who joined us for our 'Meet the Educators' evening. We hope that you found the event useful and feel more part of our Waverley Nursery family.

Key Fobs

We now have more key fobs in stock. If you require one, please email our school office via **info@waverleyschool.co.uk** to request one. There is a £10 deposit per key fob which is refunded when fobs are returned.

- **Events.** Please refer to Mr Shore's introduction on page 1 and
- **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 children have really been enjoying going out on their woodland walks where we have been collecting a variety of items including sticks and leaves. The Babies have taken a lot of interest in textures over the past couple of weeks and so their Educators developed the children's learning on this theme by exploring the textures of items collected on our walks. The children then had the opporunity of expressing themselves by creating 'nature music ' using pots and pans and the sticks that they had collected.

The children have also been developing their fine motor skills whereby they participate in activities for strengthening their fingers. As the children grow up, this will help them with everyday tasks such as doing up buttons and zips, getting dressed, opening containers and writing. Following an autumnal theme, the children practised picking up a fork with an apple on it and dipping it into paint to create a picture. The Educators discussed with children about the colour of the apple and then cut it open to explore the apple's insides.

Finally, the children have been enjoying making colourful pasta shakers using their enhanced fine motor skills by picking up the pasta and placing this into the bottles provided. The Babies were fascinated by the sound!

Nursery 2

At the end of last week we noticed that Nursery 2 children were showing a keen interest in building towers from various resources, such as the colour and wooden blocks. They had particularly enjoyed building the towers as high as they could before knocking them accompanied by speech such as “uh oh!” and “oh no!”

To start our week, the Educators set up some activities which required the children to build in different ways which included sensory play. The children were provided with sand mixed with shaving foam to represent cement to spread across the blocks to make their own building structure. This encouraged them to both enjoy sensory play and also use their imagination, concentration skills and show their confidence to explore the messy play.

The children were also encouraged to explore the coloured blocks on the light table to build towers. They were introduced to light from torches as well as looking at coloured light through the coloured shapes onto the light table. The children will be exploring colours, light, shadows and numbers as we build more really tall towers next week. This will encourage their hand eye co-ordination, turn taking and colour recognition.

Nursery 3

Nursery 3 have been very busy speaking about their families this week and therefore the Educators have been including this into the children’s play.

Throughout this week, we have taken a deeper look at families. The children have been busy looking at pictures of their families and trying to draw a portrait of a family member. To do this, the children have been using different tools such as pens, pencils, chalks and crayons. The children have also created their own family trees. They drew branches and tree trunks before sticking on the photos of their family members.

The children have been continuing to enjoy their extra curriculum activities as well as having plenty of time in the garden and some walks.

Pre-Foundation

This week we have been enjoying the sunny autumnal weather by making our own telescopes using cardboard tubes to look up at the clouds. We then practised our 'pencil grip' using pencils to draw the shapes of the clouds and anything else we could see up in the sky. We've also been reading 'We're Going On a Bear Hunt' so we then took our telescopes to Woodland School to search for any bear caves or bear footprints in the mud! We have also been learning how to work as a team by building bear caves in our garden.

Foundation

Foundation children have been introduced to our real caterpillars after reading the story of 'The Hungry Caterpillar'. We have 10 caterpillars in total and the children have been busy watching them wriggle around and counting to check they are all present! We have been reading a range of stories and factual books about caterpillars and their life cycle. We can't wait for them to develop into beautiful butterflies.

The children have also been mark-making using different materials and tools to create their own caterpillar artworks. The children have also been developing their fine motor skills by threading discs, cheerios and pasta pieces onto strings and pipe cleaners, counting pieces on and off, exploring colour and texture as they make their caterpillars. We used pens to add features on their caterpillars' faces.

Menus

Next week our lunch menu will be Week 2.
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
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  Mobile: 07920 268735