# Waverley
## Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 11th September 2026

# Sports Fixtures Return to Waverley

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a great week. It is hard to believe we have already reached the end of our first full week back at school! The summer holidays already feel like a distant memory, but it has been wonderful to see everyone settling back into school so well. The children have quickly found their routines again and we are now fully back into the swing of things with our classrooms and corridors full of energy.

### First Sports Fixtures of the Year

It has been wonderful to see the return of school fixtures this week. Our Year 5 and 6 children enjoyed their first home football and hockey fixtures against St Edward's Prep on Wednesday, where they showcased some excellent teamwork alongside great passing, tackling and goalkeeping.

This afternoon, our Year 3 and 4 children took part in their first fixtures, with the footballers travelling to St Edward's and our hockey players playing at home. I must commend our Year 3 children, who did a fantastic job in their first fixture and am looking forward to plenty more great performances throughout the term! See photos from the fixtures **here**.

## School Assembly

This week, our school assembly focused on our Waverley Way values: **We Are Kind**, **We Are Honest** and **We Do Our Best**. Mr Mitchell challenged the children to think about what it means to 'try their best' and recruited willing volunteers, Teddy and Alice to put this to the test. They were challenged with turning a tub of cream into butter, by shaking it vigorously. Whilst the two were hard at work, Mr Mitchell shared a story about perseverance and the importance of not giving up. Teddy and Alice gave the challenge their all and after just a few minutes, had very nearly made butter!

The message of the assembly was simple but important. The children should endeavour to do the right thing, persevere and always try their best. You never know what you might be able to achieve if you keep trying. As we begin a new year, the children were encouraged to remember the Waverley Way and always give their best to everything they do.

## Meet the Teacher & New Parent Coffee Morning

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Meet the Teacher evening earlier this week. It was fantastic to see such a great turnout, and I hope you found the evening informative and useful. If you were unable to attend, please contact Mrs Helen Jenkins via email at **helen.jenkins@waverleyschool.co.uk** to receive a copy of the 2026 Parent Handbook.

It was also wonderful to welcome our new parents into school earlier today for a special coffee morning. I hope you enjoyed meeting one another and getting to know some of our staff. It was a real pleasure to welcome you in person to the Waverley family. A big thank you to Jo and the Connect team for providing all of the great refreshments!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

## Diary Dates

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|---|---|
| Monday 14th September: | WFA AGM. *19:00hrs. Melton Hall.* * |
| Tuesday 15th September: | Swim 2. |
| Wednesday 16th September: | Year 5 & 6 Football vs LVS. Home. * |
| | Year 5 & 6 Hockey vs LVS. Away. * |
| | U11 Football Tournament at Dolphin. Away. |
| Friday 18th September: | Year 3 & 4 Football vs LVS. Home. * |
| | Year 3 & 4 Hockey vs LVS. Away. * |

**Parents welcome.*

**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

## Return of Waverley Woodland School

This week, the Reception and Key Stage 1 children headed out to the Waverley woods for their first Woodland School session of the year. The children enjoyed getting settled back in, learning about camp boundaries and reminding themselves of the rules.

It was lovely to see the children enjoying the fresh air, exploring and having fun together. They are certainly looking forward to lots more outdoor adventures this term! See photos **here**.

## Reception Settle Into Their New Surroundings

Our new Reception classes have had a fantastic first week at Waverley! They have been getting to know their new routines, making friends and exploring their surroundings.

Both our Squirrels and Hedgehogs have settled in really well and we are so pleased to see them already feeling at home. See photos **here**.

## Year 1 Identify Body Parts

This week, Year 1 explored the human body. The class began by identifying and labelling different body parts on a large outline drawn on the floor. They then went outside in pairs to trace around each other with chalk on the playground and label the body parts again. It was a fun, hands-on way for the children to learn about their bodies. See photos **here**.

## Year 2 Practise Their Football Skills

Year 2 have been using their PE lessons this week to prepare for their first ever school football fixture which will be taking place in November. Working with Mr Mitchell and Miss Page, the children have been developing their dribbling, ball control and tackling skills, putting their new skills to the test. We are looking forward to seeing their progress as they get ready for their first fixture. See photos from their session **here**.

## Year 3 & 4 Fixture Practise

Year 3 and 4 have been busy preparing for their first sports fixtures this week. For our Year 3 children, this is their first venture into school fixtures, with both hockey and football on the calendar this term. Their first sessions focused on learning the rules and developing the basics, including passing, tackling and shooting on target. See photos **here**.

# Waverley School News

## Hugo & Dominic Race to Victory

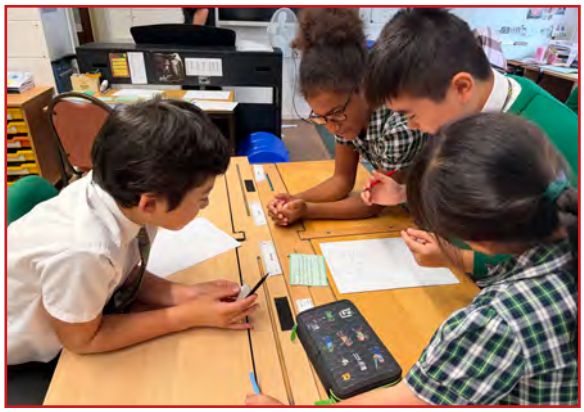
Over the summer, Year 5 pupils Dominic and Hugo (two of our National ISA Champion Relay Squad) took part in the Dinton Summer Series, running a 5km race each month. Both boys did an excellent job and were delighted to announce in assembly on Monday that Hugo finished 1st in his age group, while Dom came 2nd. They also finished 3rd (Hugo) and 4th (Dom) in the Under 15 race, which is an incredible achievement! Well done boys!

## Year 5 Music

Year 5 kicked off their Music lessons this week, with a recap quiz covering the orchestra, musical terms and composers. Everyone really enjoyed finding out the answers and it was fantastic to see how many pupils were able to answer lots of questions without any help. See photos **here**.

## Year 6 Maths

At the start of the week, Year 6 took part in a maths challenge, working in groups to put their problem-solving skills to the test. The competition was fierce (but friendly) but in the end, the winners were announced as Joshua L, Effy, Kate and George, whose maths brains were clearly working brilliantly after the long holiday! Well done to everyone who took part.



## After School Club Update

It has been a busy first week of our external after-school clubs! Cooking Club made pizzas from scratch, Construction Club built spaghetti and marshmallow towers, while children developed their sporting skills in Gymnastics, Badminton and Tennis. Board Games Club tried new games, Craft Club created Picasso-inspired portraits and children learnt new skills in fencing! See photos **here**.

We are excited to be launching Little Dragons Chinese Club next week! If your child is interested in joining on a Monday or Tuesday, please contact Mr Cosser via **clubs@waverleyschool.co.uk**.

## Modern Foreign Languages & Cultural Awareness Day

Costumes at the ready! Modern Foreign Languages Day is on Thursday 24th September, celebrating languages and cultures from around the world. Children can dress up as a country of their choice and enter our Cultural Creativity Competition. Entries close Monday 21st September. See full details **here**.

# Waverley School News

### School Arrival & Collection Reminder

Please can parents ensure children arrive at school promptly at 08:30hrs, giving them time to unpack, settle and be ready for lessons at 08:45hrs. We appreciate the current road closures may be affecting journey times, so please allow extra time and plan accordingly. Thank you for your continued support.

### Maintaining School Site Safety

We would like to remind all Nursery and School parents that the playground equipment is **strictly out of bounds at all times**, including before and after school. For health and safety and insurance purposes, it may only be used by children during break and lunchtime, under the supervision of a member of Waverley staff. If your child would like to play after pick-up, please take them to the park rather than allowing them to use the equipment on the school site. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Upcoming Senior School Open Mornings

Looking ahead to life beyond Waverley? There are a number of Senior School open events coming up that may be of interest to our Year 5 and 6 families.

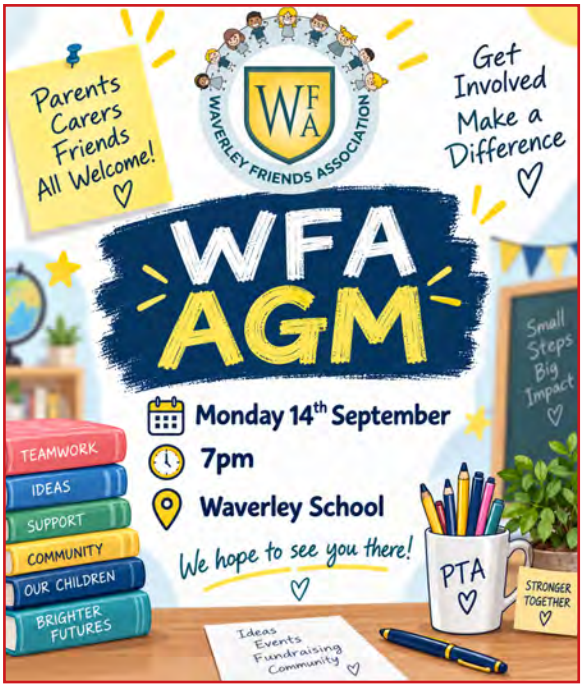
**Salesian College** is hosting a Sports Open Evening on **Friday 18 September** and a College Open Evening on **Wednesday 21 October**, for more details about each visit their website **here**.

**Pangbourne College** has its Autumn Open Morning on **Saturday 26 September** and a Year 6 Taster Day on **Thursday 1 October**. See **here** for full details and booking information.

# WFA News

### WFA AGM - Monday 14th September

The WFA AGM will take place on Monday 14th September at 19:00hrs in Melton Hall. This is a great opportunity for our Nursery and School parents to come together, hear an overview of last year's finances and events and find out more about plans and activities for the term ahead. There will also be an opportunity to share ideas, ask questions and get involved with the WFA. All Waverley parents are very welcome to attend.



# Waverley Nursery News

## Nursery Sickness Reminder

As the colder months approach, please remember our Nursery sickness procedures. If your child is unwell and will not be attending, please notify the Nursery Team by 09:00hrs each day via **07920 268735** or via email on **fiona.harding@waverleyschool.co.uk**.

Children must be 48 hours clear of vomiting or diarrhoea before returning and must have had a normal temperature for 24 hours following a high temperature. Children with Hand, Foot and Mouth must remain at home for five days and may only return once blisters are hardening over. Please do not medicate your child before bringing them to Nursery, as this can mask symptoms.

If your child becomes unwell at Nursery, we will contact you and ask that they are collected within one hour. Please refer to our Nursery Policies **here** for further guidance.

## Playground Equipment Reminder

Please can we remind parents that the playground equipment is strictly out of bounds to children before and after school, due to health and safety and insurance purposes. If your child would like to play after pick-up, please take them to the park rather than using the school equipment. Thank you for your cooperation.

- **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

This week, Nursery 1 spent time exploring a number of different textures through a fun sensory tuff tray. The tray was divided into four sections featuring smooth, rough, soft and crinkly textures, with a variety of objects for the Babies to explore. They enjoyed using their senses to feel and compare the different materials, whilst also developing their fine motor skills and sensory awareness.

The Babies also enjoyed a fun mark-making activity using sealed food bags filled with colourful paint and paper. They used their fingers, mark-making tools and some stamps to press and move the paint around inside the bags. This activity helped the Babies explore cause and effect, whilst also developing their fine motor skills and sensory exploration.

## Nursery Extension

The children in the Nursery Extension explored their growing interest in colours and sounds this week. They investigated different coloured sensory trays, using simple language to help them develop their colour recognition and vocabulary, whilst exploring a variety of textures and materials.

They also enjoyed discovering different sounds through sensory trays, musical instruments and bubble wrap painting. The children listened carefully to the sounds they could make, identifying whether they were loud or quiet. These activities helped the children to develop their communication, fine motor skills and sensory awareness.

## Nursery 2

The Nursery 2 children have settled beautifully into their new room this week and have really enjoyed getting to know some new faces. They had lots of fun looking at photographs of themselves and the Nursery staff, helping them to become more familiar with their new Nursery 2 Educators. The children also spent time recognising their individual icons, which will be present on their trays and pegs.

Continuing their interest in themselves and their bodies, the children explored different facial features. They used mirrors to look at their reflections and discussed their eye and hair colours, before making their own faces using natural materials. The children also created pictures using loose parts, talked about their families and measured how tall they were using blocks.

## Nursery 3 (Younger)

This week, the younger children in Nursery 3 continued to develop their interest in sounds. During a group walk to the field, they collected sticks of different shapes and sizes and experimented with the sounds they could make by rubbing and banging the sticks together. They also listened carefully to the sounds around them, including the birds tweeting and the crunch of leaves beneath their feet.

The children also enjoyed painting with bubble wrap, pressing it onto paper to create prints before using wooden hammers to pop the bubbles. These activities encouraged them to explore different movements and sounds and develop their vocabulary as they discussed loud, quiet, high and low sounds.

## Nursery 3 (Older)

The older children in Nursery 3 continued to explore their interest in movement through animal-themed activities. They enjoyed pretending to be different animals, experimenting with movements such as stomping, crawling, slithering and flying, whilst also counting animals and identifying features such as a giraffe's long neck.

The children also enjoyed a large indoor assault course, practising balancing, hopping, crawling and dancing. During a woodland walk, they continued their animal adventures, pretending to be different creatures and flying like butterflies when they spotted one. They also created artwork using painted magnets and their hands and fingers.

## Foundation

This week, the children in Foundation enjoyed exploring the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt.' They focused on the bear's face, using loose parts to create their own versions, whilst reciting the familiar description from the story. This encouraged the children to express their creativity, practise their counting and explore different textures.

Foundation also enjoyed making their own bears from paper plates. They practised their cutting skills by creating ears, before attaching them to their plates using glue. The children then and added facial features such as eyes and noses with colouring pens. This activity encouraged creativity, imagination and helped the children to develop their fine motor skills.

### Menus

Next week our lunch menu will be Week 2.
You can view our Summer menu for School and Nursery **here.**

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## We're here to help!... How to contact us...

- **General Office Enquiries**
  info@waverleyschool.co.uk
- **Breakfast, After School and Holiday Clubs: Mr Adam Cosser**
  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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