Waverley
Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 13th February 2026

Waverley Dresses To Express!

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a great week. I can hardly believe we have already reached the February half term. The weeks seem to have flown by. It has once again been a very busy and exciting week at Waverley. We've been celebrating Children's Mental Health Week, Safer Internet Day, Expeditions Week, as well as enjoying lots of interesting lessons across the school.

Children's Mental Health Week

In our assembly this week, Mr Mitchell introduced Children's Mental Health Week to the children. Organised by the children's charity Place2Be, this year's theme is 'This Is My Place' and aims to support children and young people to help them feel that they truly belong. We explored what belonging means, how it feels to be part of a community and how we can help others feel welcomed, valued and included.

Earlier this week, in honour of Children's Mental Health Week, I was excited to introduce something new at Waverley... **Wellbeing Wednesday**. As the children came into school, they were greeted with a selection of uplifting and immunity-boosting smoothies, kindly prepared by our fantastic Connect catering team. The drinks were designed to give everyone a little lift to start the day.

I noticed that the children mostly chose the orange, pineapple, ginger and honey shots, whilst parents were more adventurous with the green apple, cucumber, mint and spinach option. I personally thought they were both delicious and I would like to say a big thank you to the Connect team for setting this up for everyone to enjoy. I hope the children felt the boost! See photos **here**.

Today, we have been celebrating 'Dress to Express Day.' The children had the opportunity to wear whatever they wanted into school and it was wonderful to see such a wide variety of choices when they arrived this morning. From princess dresses to football kits, bold colours and fun patterns, everyone did a fantastic job of expressing who they are through their outfits. See photos **here**.

Safer Internet Day Assembly

On Tuesday, Mrs Emmerson-Smith led a special whole-school assembly to mark Safer Internet Day, which this year focused on the theme of Artificial Intelligence (AI). She helped the children understand what AI is and where they might already see examples of it in everyday life (such as voice assistants, search engines, music and art applications and language tools.)

The assembly explored both the benefits and risks of AI, highlighting how it can support learning and communication, whilst reminding the children to use it responsibly and never in ways that could be unfair or hurtful to others. I would like to thank Mrs Emmerson-Smith for running this special assembly for us. I found it to be very informative and thought-provoking about an important topic that is highly relevant to all of our children.

ISA Cross Country Competition

After being cancelled previously, our Waverley cross country competitors finally headed over to Sherfield School for the ISA Cross Country earlier today. Thankfully, the weather held, but the course was still a bit muddy, making it a tricky challenge for the children. I want to congratulate every single child who took part today.

A special well done to Nandi who finished in 10th position and has therefore qualified for the National Finals in a couple of week's time! I would also like to congratulate Dominic, Hugo and Samuel D who were named as Best Team in the U9 boys event (finishing in 12th, 13th and 14th respectively). Overall, Team Waverley did a sterling job and should be incredibly proud of themselves! See photos **here**.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break and I look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 23rd February.

S. Shore

Pupil Achievements

Pupils of the Week

Alfie, Reception
'For being conscientious and working really hard.'

Alex, Year 1
'For his fantastic letter writing. He listened to feedback and presented his work carefully.'

Tehillah, Year 2
'For sharing an English-Yoruba story and reading both languages confidently. She taught the class the new words and translations.'

Arlo, Year 3
'For being such a great role model. He listens well, has a positive attitude and always tries his best.'

Dominic, Year 4
'For listening to other people's views and gaining the confidence to share own his interests and opinions.'

Eloise, Year 5
'For always working hard and having a good attitude. Even with a busy schedule, she gives everything 100%.'

Mateja, Year 6
'For producing an excellent newspaper report about the planes landing in Gander on 9/11.'

Waverley Way Award

Sara
'For being such a positive role model in the classroom. She always tries her best and is a shining example of the Waverley Way!'

Diya
'For the positivity she brings to the classroom and her unending helpfulness. She is always kind and does her best without ever being asked.'

Diary Dates

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February:	Half Term Holiday. Nursery & Holiday Club Open.
Monday 23rd February:	Second Half Term Begins. School Assembly: Lent/Pancake Day.
Tuesday 24th February:	Chinese New Year Lunch.
Wednesday 25th February:	Swim 6. Year 5 & 6 Rugby vs LVS. Away. * Year 5 & 6 Netball vs LVS. Away. *
	ISA U11 Regional Football.
Friday 27th February:	Year 3 & 4 Rugby vs LVS. Home. * Year 3 & 4 Netball vs LVS. Home. *
	ISA Regional Netball. Reception 2026 Afternoon Tea. *16:30hrs.*

**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 Expeditions Week 2026

Year 3 & 4 Viking Adventures at Ufton Court

On Monday, Year 3 and 4 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Ufton Court for a very special Viking-themed experience. The children took part in a range of hands-on activities, including community jobs that would be carried out within a Viking settlement such as building fires and walls, tending to animals and practising their skills with sling shots. They also learnt about Viking weapons and defence techniques, working together to form an impressive shield wall, practising their best 'dramatic deaths' and even tried rowing a Viking longboat together.

The day was full of fun, teamwork and lots of memorable moments, with some particularly dramatic battle re-enactments from the children! Everyone behaved impeccably and came away having learnt so much about Viking life. See photos from their fun trip **here**.

Year 5 & 6 Enjoy The Lion King

On Wednesday afternoon, Year 5 and 6 headed off on an exciting trip to London to watch The Lion King in the West End. The trip not only enabled the children to watch one of the longest running musicals in West End history, it also provided a wonderful opportunity for them to gain inspiration for their upcoming summer production of The Lion King JR. The incredible performance, stunning costumes and spectacular music made it a memorable experience for everyone.

All of the children behaved exceptionally well in the theatre and represented the school beautifully throughout the day. See photos **here**.

Year 1 & 2 Explore Winchester Science Centre

To finish off Expeditions Week, Year 1 and 2 visited Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium yesterday. The children took part in a range of exciting activities, including a hands-on rockets workshop where they built, tested and launched their own rockets. They also enjoyed an immersive planetarium show exploring different stars, planets and constellations.

The children also enjoyed interactive challenges in the exhibition zone and spent time exploring the many engaging, hands-on exhibits. It was a fun and memorable day, where the children learnt lots. They also represented Waverley brilliantly throughout the day. See the photos **here**.

Waverley School News

Reception Receive Special Police Visitor

Reception have recently been learning about different people who help us in our community. To help with their learning, Jovan's aunt, Inspector Rupinder Gill, visited the class on Monday afternoon. She is a police officer and talked to the children about the important work police do.

Rupinder also read a story about PC Ben, a friendly neighbourhood officer who helps people by supporting the vulnerable, finding lost items and engaging with the community. The children enjoyed seeing her special uniform and had fun trying on some police hats. See photos **here**.

Reception Discover Musical Instruments

On Monday afternoon, Reception enjoyed a special music lesson where they were introduced to some different instruments. Mrs Eden-Higgs and Year 6 pupil Ellen joined the class alongside Mrs Shore to demonstrate playing these instruments for the children.

Ellen played her trumpet, whilst Mrs Eden-Higgs played the flute and Mrs Shore played the violin. The children discussed the different noises each instrument made and what animals they could represent. The children thought the trumpet sounded like an elephant stomping, whilst the flute sounded like a little bird tweeting. See photos **here**.

Year 1 Share Their Achievements

Earlier today, our weekly Heads' Hot Chocolate sessions continued, with Mrs Shore and Mrs Eden-Higgs visiting Year 1 during break time to celebrate some of the children's proud achievements. The work on display was truly impressive, with wonderful examples of sports awards, Lego constructions and some fantastic artwork, including drawings and clay models.

A huge well done to all the children for the fantastic effort they put into everything they showcased. There were so many brilliant things on display! See the photos **here**.

Year 1 Create David Hockney Inspired Art

In their Art lessons recently, Year 1 have been exploring the work of British artist David Hockney. They learnt about adding foregrounds and backgrounds to create perspective and made their own versions of his famous work, 'Garrowby Hill.' The children experimented with colours, shapes and finally added some cotton wool sheep to enhance their creations. See their work **here**.

Waverley School News

Year 2 Build Castles

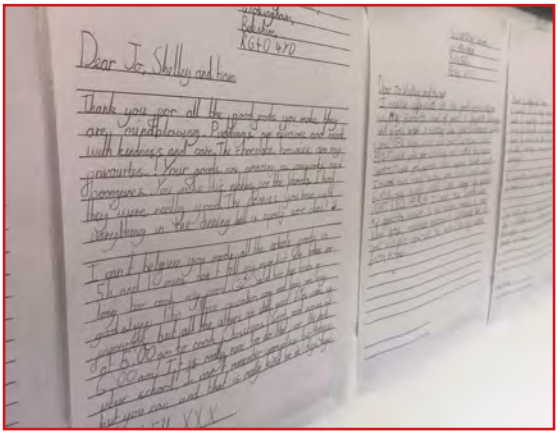
On Monday afternoon, Year 2 had a fantastic time making 3D castle models using a variety of recycled materials they had collected. After carefully designing their castles, the children worked hard to add their chosen features, making each model completely unique.

From turrets and towers to drawbridges and battlements, the children were incredibly creative with their designs, using lots of different materials to bring their castles to life. It was great to see their imaginations in action. See photos of their creations **here**.

Year 5 Write Letters To Our Catering Team

Recently, Year 5 have been learning how to write letters. To put their skills into practice, they wrote some heartfelt letters to our amazing catering team, taking the time to thank them for all of their hard work in preparing and serving delicious lunches at school every day.

The children thought carefully about what to say in their letters and how to show their appreciation. Jo and the Connect team were thrilled to receive the special letters from the class and it was a wonderful way for the children to connect what they have been learning about with some real-life writing.



Year 6 Maths Challenge

In their Maths lesson earlier this week, Year 6 took part in a special Maths challenge. The class was split into four groups and had to work through 20 questions in order, only moving on once each question was solved. Healthy competition was high, with Rebecca, Charlotte, Bea and Jerald narrowly claiming victory this time round! Well done team!

Come From Away Zoom Calls

This week, Year 5 & 6 enjoyed more Zoom calls with the 'real people' from Come From Away. They heard from Nick and Diane Marson, who shared their story of how they found love and community in Gander and Oz Fudge, who was one of only two police officers managing everything as the 38 planes and 7,000 passengers descended on Gander on 9/11.

In both calls, the children asked thoughtful questions and saw first-hand how kindness and human connection can occur even in the most challenging of times.

Waverley School News

House Dodgeball Competition

On Monday afternoon, the Year 5 and 6 tournament took place and fortunately, the weather stayed dry, allowing everyone to enjoy the activities on the school playground. Each house was split into two teams, who then battled it out against one another, giving the children a fantastic opportunity to showcase their skills and practise some friendly competition!

After the initial team challenges, everyone came together to compete for their houses, giving them a chance to win double points and adding an extra layer of excitement. Once these battles had taken place, Year 5 took on Year 6 and even saw some enthusiastic parents joined in the fun! All of the children had a brilliant time and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship throughout. At the end of the afternoon, **MERCURY** was announced as the winner.

Earlier this afternoon, our Year 3 and Year 4 children took part in their own tournament, bringing the same energy and enthusiasm as we saw from Year 5 & 6 on Monday. Each house was again split into two teams, giving everyone a chance to showcase their skills and work together. The children threw themselves into the games with great determination, enjoying every moment of friendly competition. After the team rounds, all players came together again to compete for their houses with the chance to earn double points for a win and then each class battled it out against one another with parents happily involved again. In the end, it was also **MERCURY** who came out on top in the Year 3 & 4 tournament.

We can confirm that the overall winner of House Dodgeball 2026 was **MERCURY**. Well done to all of the children (and parents) who took part. See photos **here**.

Well Done Mr Kear!

We would like to say a huge congratulations to Mr Kear, who completed the Farnborough Half Marathon last weekend (his first 'proper' half marathon in three years!) Completing this race marks an important step Mr Kear's training schedule, as he prepares for the big challenge of the Paris Marathon on April 12th. This is an incredible achievement and we are all extremely proud of him!

Mr Kear will be running in support of The Samaritans, an organisation he has personal experience with. If you would like to support him and this fantastic cause, you can make a donation **here**. Every donation is greatly appreciated and will go to such an amazing organisation.

Waverley School News

Car Park and Parking Reminder

We kindly ask all parents to be considerate when driving and parking around our school site. Please remember that we have very young children who may not always be aware of traffic, so extra care is essential! We also ask for patience with other parents at peak times, as everyone is trying to safely put children into cars. Above all, please keep your speed to a minimum to help keep everyone safe.

Holiday Club – Final Bookings Reminder!

We still have a few remaining spaces for our February Half Term Holiday Club next week! Join us for a week packed with fun activities, including baking, arts and crafts, sports, woodland walks, a bouncy castle and a very special fairytale fun day.

View the KS1 schedule **here**.
View the KS2 schedule **here**.
Book your place **here**.

WFA News

Parent Quiz Night Success

A big thank you to all of the parents and guests who put their knowledge to the test at our annual Quiz Night last weekend! We hope you all had a fun evening answering questions on everything from music to tasting chocolate biscuits.

Congratulations to our Year 6 parents team, 'Where's Dave?' who were crowned Waverley's brainiest and won a hamper of wine! With the continued support of Waverley parents, we can keep funding fantastic learning experiences for our children.

Valentines Day's Tuck Shop

Earlier today, we held our Valentine's Tuck Shop! We had a great turn out and hope everyone 'LOVED' their delicious treats.

World Book Day

After half term, we are excited to be transforming the school for a 'once-upon-a-time' World Book Day! We can't wait to see all of the children in their magical outfits.

Spring Term

Looking ahead to the rest of the year, we're excited to announce the return of the Colour Run, which was a huge hit two years ago! More details about this vibrant and fun-filled event will be released soon.

WFA Diary Dates:

5th March: World Book Day
25th March: Easter Bunny Hunt
24th April: Break the Rules Day
17th May: Colour Run
5th, 12th & 19th June: Frozen Friday's
3rd July: WFA Summer Fayre

Waverley Nursery News

Nursery Sickness Reminder

We have recently experienced an influx of sick children attending the nursery. Whilst we fully understand that many parents have work commitments, bringing children into nursery when sick causes the spread of illness amongst both the children and staff. If your child has a temperature, diarrhoea or sickness, contagious rash, infection or is genuinely lethargic and unable to participate, please keep them home to recover adequately. If your child is attending nursery and we deem them to be unwell, you will be asked to collect them.

- **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, the Babies in Nursery 1 have shown lots of interest when exploring different colours through 'The Colour Monster' story. To explore their colour curiosity further, they took part in a range of sensory activities. They created rainbows with tissue paper and glue, practised naming and matching colours to support their language and also strengthened their fine motor skills with some painting.

The Babies also explored colours through creative and sensory play. They made some butterfly paintings, took part in colour matching, explored rice trays, made chalk marks and enjoyed some Valentine's crafts. These activities supported colour recognition, communication, creativity and fine motor development.

Nursery Extension

In the Nursery Extension this week, the children continued to explore their interest in colours through a range of sensory activities. They firstly investigated coloured shaving foam, talking about the different textures and shades they could see. The children also mixed coloured water in trays, discovering new colours whilst pouring and scooping.

The children also explored coloured pasta using bowls and spoons to practise scooping and pouring and experimented with light and colour by shining torches through coloured paddles and using a light table with coloured shapes.

Nursery 2

In Nursery 2 this week, the children have continued to explore their interest in the ocean. They investigated trays filled with textured materials such as green tagliatelle, tissue paper, pipe cleaners and sea animals. They also used playdough with shells to create prints and built their own ocean habitats using loose parts, coral and shells to represent sea life.

The children continued to explore underwater themes by creating some sponge painting sea scenes, cleaning shells with soapy water and enjoying sensory play with blue shaving foam and ocean animals. All of these activities encouraged conversations about habitats, textures and sea creatures whilst supporting creativity, fine motor skills and imaginative play.

Nursery 3

This week, the children in Nursery 3 have been learning about fireworks. They explored fireworks through some creative painting activities using cardboard tubes to print colourful firework patterns onto paper. They experimented with different coloured paints to express their creativity and form some fantastic artwork.

The children also used lollipop sticks to create more firework artwork designs, once again dipping them into coloured paints. These activities helped to support the children's development of hand and finger strength and fine motor skills. They also helped with colour recognition, particularly the primary colours, whilst encouraging discussion and vocabulary around colours and fireworks.

Pre-Foundation

The children in Pre-Foundation have been learning about Valentine's Day this week. They have been talking about what it means, who they care about and also who they would like to make cards for. To continue their interest, the children created rose-pattern paintings using paint and water in zip-lock bags, adding details and glitter and practised writing their names with pencils to develop letter recognition and pencil grip.

The children also enjoyed exploring some sensory trays filled with heart shapes and Valentine's colours, encouraging discussions about love and family. Using heart stencils, the children carefully drew and painted within the lines, strengthening concentration, hand control and fine motor skills whilst creating colourful pictures to take home.

Foundation

In Foundation this week, the children have continued to explore space and star constellations by creating their own star models using marshmallows and cocktail sticks. They looked at simple constellation pictures, discussed stars and shapes in the night sky and either copied patterns or designed their own, with Educators supporting safe joining and encouraging conversations about shapes and patterns.

Foundation also worked on developing their gross motor skills, hand–eye coordination and sharing skills this week, when they took part in an 'asteroid throw' game. They using foil balls as asteroids and took it in turns to throw and aim them into a box that represented space.

The children also took part in a fun science experiment this week, when they made mini galaxies in jars, experimenting with oil, water, fizzy tablets and food colouring. They compared different containers and methods, observing how the mixtures moved and floated, whilst developing their curiosity and understanding of science through a hands-on investigation.

Reception 2026 Parent Information Session and Family Afternoon Tea

On Friday 27th February, we look forward to welcoming families for a Parent Information Session starting promptly at 16:30hrs, followed by a relaxed and friendly Family Afternoon Tea.

This event is for families in our Foundation class who will be joining Waverley's Reception class in September 2026 and is a great opportunity to learn more about the transition to Reception, meet staff and connect with other families.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Helen Jenkins at **helen.jenkins@waverleyschool.co.uk**

Menus

Next week our lunch menu will be Week 3.
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**
  clubs@waverleyschool.co.uk 07741 657313
- **Admissions: Mrs Helen Jenkins**
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  Mobile: 07920 268735