Waverley
Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 22nd May 2026

Years 5 & 6 Make Memories at PGL

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a wonderful week. I can hardly believe we have reached the end of another half term. Time really does fly when you are having fun! It has been another busy and exciting week at Waverley, with fantastic lessons taking place across the school and our Year 5 and 6 children enjoying a very special PGL trip.

A Fantastic PGL Adventure for Year 5 & 6

I had the pleasure of joining Year 5 and 6 in Liddington this week for their exciting PGL adventure. This year, we were very lucky to have such wonderful weather, whilst taking part in a whole host of fun outdoor activities. I have been incredibly impressed with every child over the past three days as they all fully embraced every challenge. They showed lots of bravery when faced with activities outside of their comfort zones and demonstrated great teamwork whilst working in their groups.

All of the children represented Waverley absolutely brilliantly and they should all be extremely proud of themselves. For more details about the trip, please see ***page 4***.

School Assembly: Showing Empathy

This week, our school assembly focused on empathy. Mr Mitchell started off by sharing a range of pictures with the children, featuring optical illusions that could be seen in different ways (for example, as either a rabbit/duck and a baby/trees.) The children were amazed to discover that different people saw different things first! This helped everyone understand that people can have different perspectives on the same thing and that sometimes there can be more than one 'right' answer.

The assembly reminded the children of the importance of showing empathy, understanding other people's feelings and respecting different ways of thinking.

Celebrating Year 3 Achievements

Mr Mitchell had the honour this week, as I was away at PGL with Year 5 and 6, of holding our latest Heads' Hot Chocolate session. Year 3 had plenty to celebrate this week, including sports medals, crochet creations, dog training triumphs and even homemade robots. It is always wonderful to see the children sharing their achievements and successes and they should be incredibly proud of themselves. See photos **here**.

Year 4 Football Tournament

Earlier today, a team of Year 4 footballers travelled to Leighton Park School to take part in a special mixed football tournament. The children competed brilliantly throughout the day, winning their group, but sadly missing out in the Cup semi final. Overall, Team Waverley came in 4th place overall.

The children showed fantastic determination, teamwork and sportsmanship and represented Waverley so well. I would like to congratulate all of the children in our team (Sophie, Nandi, Diya, Samuel, Matthew and Jack) for their incredible efforts today. You all did Waverley proud!

School Inset Day Reminder

I would like to remind parents that school will be closed on Monday 1st June for a staff INSET training day. Nursery and Holiday Club will remain open as usual. School will therefore reopen for all pupils on Tuesday 2nd June. In need of childcare on the Monday? Book your space in Holiday Club **here**.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break!

S. Shore

ISA INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION Accredited Member

Pupil Achievements

Pupils of the Week

Meha, Reception
'For always listening and trying her best. She comes up with her own ideas and listens to advice on how to make her writing even better!'

Sydney, Year 1
'For having such enthusiasm for all learning. She shows curiosity and presents her work beautifully.'

Ibby, Year 2
'For his excellent creative writing. He used brilliant descriptions and entertained his reader!'

Evelyn, Year 3
'For her consistent effort, hard work and positive attitude in all she does.'

Tilly, Year 4
'For her excellent work in Maths when converting pence to pounds. She worked independently and showed good understanding.'

Emily, Year 5
'For excellent research and contributions to her Science work on Jane Goodall.'

Aurelia, Year 6
'For her hard work, determination and resilience across all areas of her work. Also for the patience and kindness she shows to her classmates.'

Waverley Way Award

Amara M
'For being really supportive in Read, Write Inc to a friend. She was encouraging her friend to use the techniques and try her best.'

Diary Dates

Monday 25th May:	Spring Bank Holiday.
Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May:	Half Term Holiday. Nursery & Holiday Club Open.
Monday 1st June:	Inset Day. School Closed. Nursery & Holiday Club Open.
Tuesday 2nd June:	Second Half Term Begins.
Wednesday 3rd June:	Swim 6. ISA London West Athletics Regional Qualifier. Year 5 & 6 Cricket vs LVS. HOME. *
Thursday 4th June:	Year 5 & 6 Visit to Reading Blue Coat.
Friday 5th June:	Reception & Year 1 School Trip. Year 3 Assembly. 08:45hrs. Year 3 Parents Welcome. Year 5 Fire Brigade Visit. WFA Frozen Friday Ice Cream Sale. 15:30hrs. *

**Parents welcome.*

Our Academic dates can be viewed here.
All calendar dates are available on our parent portal here and on our website here.

Year 5 & 6 PGL Trip

This week, our Year 5 and 6 children headed off on their much-anticipated PGL trip to Liddington. The trip is always one of the highlights of the school year and this year was no different. The children enjoyed a fun-packed few days filled with adventure and plenty of challenges. They had the opportunity to try new things, build their confidence and make lots of brilliant memories together.

From the minute they arrived, the children got stuck into every activity. They climbed their way around a vertical challenge, tackling ropes, tyres and obstacles high above the ground, showing lots of determination and enthusiasm.

The children also tried their hand at some archery, with everyone enjoying the chance to test their aim. There were some very impressive attempts with a number of the children not only hitting the target, but also reaching the inner circle.

The large zip line was definitely one of the biggest highlights of the trip! At the top of a very tall tower, the children took a huge leap of faith and zoomed through the air. Not ones to miss out, Mr Shore, Miss Shore, Mrs Eden-Higgs Mr Barlow and Mrs Gibson even had a go, with lots of screams, laughter and very proud smiles afterwards.

Teamwork was a huge part of the trip too. During buggy building, the children had to work together, communicate and trust each other to complete the challenge. Raft building on the lake was another favourite, especially in the warm weather and there were plenty of laughs as teams tried to stay afloat!

The children also showed lots of bravery during abseiling and then put their orienteering skills to the test, working together to follow maps, spot clues and navigate their way around the course.

We are so incredibly proud of all of the children for the excellent behaviour, teamwork and resilience they showed throughout the trip. They all represented Waverley brilliantly. A huge well done to all of Year 5 and 6 for making the trip so special. It is safe to say they have made lots of memories that will last for a very long time!

You can view some of the many highlights from the trip by clicking **here**.

Waverley School News

Rishi Teaches Reception About Stick Insects

This week, Reception began their exciting new topic all about insects and minibeasts. On Monday, Rishi kindly brought in his pet stick insects to share with the class.

He confidently explained lots of fascinating facts about stick insects, including what they eat, how he cares for them and how they camouflage themselves in their surroundings. The children loved learning about these amazing creatures. Well done Rishi!

Year 1 Create Picasso Portraits

Year 1 have been exploring the work of Pablo Picasso in their Art lessons this week. Inspired by his bold and imaginative style, the children created fantastic colourful self-portraits.

They explored elements of surrealism by experimenting with unusual shapes, abstract features and different perspectives to create unique pieces of artwork. The results are vibrant and very eye-catching! See photos **here**.

Year 1 Hunt For Wild Plants

On Monday afternoon, Year 1 headed out into the Waverley woods and onto the field in search of wild plants. As they explored, the children discovered a variety of plants including daisies, dandelions, nettles and clovers.

Each time they spotted a particular plant, they carefully checked it off their list and discussed which plants were the most common around the Waverley grounds. The class really enjoyed their outdoor adventure, which helped with their observation and identification skills. See photos from their search **here**.

Year 3 Assembly Practise

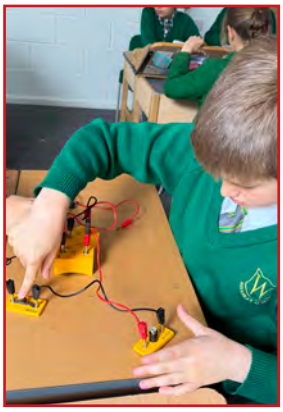
This week, Year 3 have been practising for their upcoming class assembly. The children have worked brilliantly together, supporting and encouraging each another as they learn their lines, songs and actions.

We are all very excited to see their hard work come together in the final performance which is taking place at 08:45hrs on Friday 5th June. Year 3 parents are welcome to join us for this assembly.

Waverley School News

Sacha's Christmas Card Success

Christmas may feel like a long way away, but Sacha in Year 4 has already been getting into the festive spirit! This week, Sacha was informed that he had achieved joint second place for a fantastic Christmas card design in the Winkfield St Mary Festive Design Challenge. His winning design will now be used as a card this Christmas. Well done Sacha, this is such a great achievement!



Year 6 Carry Out Science Experiments

Before heading off to PGL, Year 6 spent some time at the beginning of the week designing and carrying out Science experiments using electrical equipment. The children explored how to conduct a fair test by carefully changing only one variable at a time and ensuring all other factors remained the same. They worked together to make predictions, record their results and evaluate whether their investigations were reliable.

Orbeez In School

Children in Years 3–6 have recently been bringing Orbeez into school and we are finding that they are often being left around the playground at break and lunchtime. As these small balls absorb liquid and expand, they can pose a serious health risk if swallowed. Please can we ask that you ensure children do not bring them into school. Any found in school will be confiscated and returned directly to parents.

Waverley Photo Reminder

At Waverley, we are proud to share lots of photos with you all each week. The photos taken at school are meant to capture students' learning, activities and special memories in a safe and positive environment. We kindly ask that parents use these photos responsibly and only for personal viewing. To protect the privacy and safety of all children, we ask that parents do not share photos on social media, WhatsApp groups, emails or any other digital platform. Thank you for your understanding.

Meningococcal Disease Cluster in Reading

You will all be aware of the recent cases of meningococcal disease in the Reading area. We have received a Public Health Letter from Wokingham Borough Council regarding the current situation. and the advice being provided to schools and families. Please read the letter **here**.

Waverley School News

Prep School Fees Payment Frequency

Waverley offers three payment options for your child's core school fees: monthly, termly or annually. We are now asking all Prep School parents to select their preferred payment method for the 2026–27 academic year.

Please click **here** for more information and to submit your choice. Responses must be submitted by **midday on Friday 26 June 2026**. After this date, changes cannot be made. If no response is received, fees will automatically be invoiced termly. To view our fees from September 2026, click **here**.

May Half Term Holiday Club Bookings - Now Open!

We still have some availability for our May Half Term Holiday Club. next week. Join us for a week packed with fun activities, including Baking, Arts & Crafts, Sports, a Golf trip, Bouncy Castle, a Birds of Prey visit and so much more!

To view a full schedule of both KS1 and KS2 activities and to book your space, click **here**.

WFA News

Colour Run - 17th May

Thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a wonderful success! A special shout-out goes to the WFA reps and their brilliant children for keeping the energy high and throwing the paint! We hope both adults and children had an absolute blast and made some lasting colourful memories. We can't wait to see you all at our next event! See photos **here**.

Waverley Summer Festival - 3rd July

The countdown to our Annual Summer Fayre is on! Planning has begun and we welcome parents who would like to support the WFA in organising the event to contact us.

Frozen Fridays - 5th, 12th & 19th June

As the days get warmer and sunnier, we are excited to bring back our ever-popular Frozen Fridays! Children will be able to purchase ice lollies for £1 to help them cool down after school. Our first Frozen Friday event will take place on Friday 5th June. Children in After School Club will also have opportunity to buy ice lollies, so please ensure you provide them with cash on the day.

WFA Diary Dates:

5th, 12th & 19th June: Frozen Fridays

3rd July: WFA Summer Fayre

Waverley Nursery News

Save The Date: Nursery Photo Day

Nursery photo day is coming up on Tuesday 30th June. The photographers will be ready to take both individual and sibling portraits starting just after 08:30hrs that day. If your child doesn't usually attend Nursery on Tuesdays but you would like them to have their photo taken, please get in touch with Mrs Harding via email here.

Congratulations Miss Green

We are delighted to share that Miss Green is now a qualified Nursery Educator. This is a fantastic achievement and a reflection of her hard work, dedication and passion for supporting young children in their early learning journey. Well done Miss Green!

Miss Pullen Steps Into SENCO Role

We are pleased to announce that Miss Pullen will be stepping into the role of EYFS Coordinator and SENDCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) whilst Miss Moore is on maternity leave. Miss Pullen already knows the children and families well and brings a wealth of experience. We are confident that she will provide excellent support and continuity for our pupils and families during this time.

- **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 in Nursery 1, the Babies continued exploring habitats through lots of fun sensory activities. They enjoyed exploring some 'Fluffy Chick' and 'Dear Zoo' story baskets, where they discovered different textures including feathers, pom poms, rice and cotton wool. The Babies loved rescuing animals from the cages, whilst listening to the stories with their Educators. These activities helped to support their sensory play, fine motor skills and also hand-eye coordination.

The Babies also had lots of fun exploring a duck pond sensory tray, splashing in the water and moving rubber ducks around whilst singing along to the song 'Five Little Ducks.' They also enjoyed making their own ducks and doing duck printing with paint. Nursery 1 also celebrated World Bee Day, with the Babies exploring a yellow and black rice tray filled with pictures of bees.

Nursery Extension

This week in the Nursery Extension, the children have started a new interest in recycling materials, after enjoying playing with cardboard boxes last week. They practised tipping and pouring using recycled containers filled with rice, pasta and oats. The children also enjoyed a 'save the beach' activity where they dug in their sandpit to find hidden recycled materials. This activity helped to support their fine motor skills.

Continuing their interest, the children created artwork using recycled materials, made shaker bottles and posted different shapes into a post box. For Outdoor Classroom Day, they spent time in the garden exploring water play, rescuing sea animals and investigating how water moved through bottles.

Nursery 2

This week in Nursery 2, the children continued to explore their interest in planes and travelling by 'visiting France.' They explored the French flag by sorting coloured rice into the correct sections and created their own flags using tissue paper. The children also enjoyed building the Eiffel Tower with blocks, talking about different shapes and sizes whilst they developed their fine motor skills and teamwork.

The children also had lots of fun making French baguettes this week. They carefully measured and mixed the ingredients before kneading the dough with their hands. They also became artists for the day, painting pictures inspired by the colours of the French flag and enjoyed listening and dancing to French music.

Nursery 3

This week, the children in Nursery 3 continued their interest in bugs by learning all about ladybirds. They talked about the different colours of a ladybird and enjoyed counting the spots on ladybird pictures. This activity helped encourage the children to recognise numbers and shapes, whilst also developing their early maths skills.

The children also used whiteboard pens to draw spots onto a ladybird, counting carefully as they created their pictures. They showed great concentration and enjoyed being creative whilst practising their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination. Throughout the activity, the children showed lots of curiosity and excitement to learn more about bugs.

Pre-Foundation

In Pre-Foundation this week, the children have spent time exploring insects with some fun hands-on activities. They looked at pictures of insects trapped in amber before creating their own amber insects using PVA glue. Throughout this activity, the children spoke about changes in nature over time.

Pre-foundation also enjoyed a bug rescue activity this week, where they used tweezers and their hands to free insects trapped in a spider's web. This activity helped support both their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination.

Foundation

Foundation have been exploring the story of 'The Gingerbread Man' this week. The children enjoyed matching numbers to objects, tracing numbers in salt trays and decorating gingerbread shapes using loose parts and natural materials. They also practised their scissor skills by creating their own gingerbread designs. Continuing their interest in the story, the children explored sensory bags filled with colourful liquids, gems and buttons, using their hand-eye coordination to move the pieces around the gingerbread shapes.

In their PE lesson this week, the children enjoyed balloon and parachute games whilst exploring different movements and speeds. They also continued to enjoy watching the birds feed their babies in the garden bird box.

Menus

Next week our lunch menu will be Week 1.
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**
  clubs@waverleyschool.co.uk 07741 657313
- **Admissions: Mrs Helen Jenkins**
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- **School Office:**
  0118 973 1121
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  carole.barke@waverleyschool.co.uk
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  Mobile: 07920 268735