Waverley
Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 2nd October 2026

15th IN THE UK

14 years BEST IN BERKSHIRE

Rated EXCELLENT –ISI inspection

A Grand Opening for Our New Reception Classroom

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a wonderful week. We are now almost halfway through the term and it is lovely to see everyone well and truly settled into school life. It has been another busy and exciting week, with plenty of great lessons taking place, some brilliant sports fixtures, lots of fun in our after school clubs and even a special visit from our local MP, who officially opened our new Reception classroom.

Reception Classroom Official Opening

Yesterday morning, we were delighted to welcome our local MP, Clive Jones, to Waverley to officially open our brand-new Reception classroom. After being greeted by our Head Boy and Head Girl, Joseph and Effy, Mr Jones made his way to the back playground, where he received a fantastic whole-school welcome.

He spoke to the children about how school days are some of the best days of your life and encouraged them to make the most of every opportunity. He also faced some important questions from Year 6 pupil George, who took the opportunity to give him a grilling about the state of the roads and the large amount of roadworks currently taking place across Wokingham!

Mr Jones then cut a giant ribbon and unveiled a commemorative plaque before spending time with our Reception classes. He enjoyed chatting with the children, exploring their new outdoor garden and even joined Keira and Millie for some colouring! Afterwards, I gave Mr Jones a short tour of the school, showing him our wellbeing room and new library, sharing some of the exciting recent developments that have taken place at Waverley.

The opening of our new Reception unit is a very special milestone for our school community and we look forward to seeing many happy memories and learning experiences created here in the years to come. See photos of his visit **here** and watch a short video **here**.

Year 5 Share Their Achievements

Earlier today, I visited Year 5 for our latest Heads' Hot Chocolate session. Each week, the children are asked to bring along something they are proud of or would like to share, whether it is something they have achieved in or outside of school. Year 5 had some fantastic things to share this week, including beautiful artwork, brilliant textile creations and even an amazing model of Earth orbiting the sun. It was a great session and I hope every child feels incredibly proud of their achievements. See photos **here**.

Cultural Creativity Competition Winners

During Modern Foreign Languages Day last week, I had the tricky task of judging our Cultural Creativity competition. I must say, I was blown away by all of the incredible entries. From edible creations and beautiful artwork to impressive 3D models, the children truly went above and beyond, making my job very difficult! A huge congratulations to our overall winners: Lancelot (KS1) for his fantastic Hong Kong display and Gabriel (KS2) for his wonderful Mauritius coconut drink cake. There were also winners and runners-up in each class. For the full list of winners, click **here**. Well done everyone!

Amazing Athletics Achievement for Anya

A huge well done to Year 6 pupil Anya, who had a fantastic weekend competing for Reading Athletics Club in their U12 Quad Kids competition. Taking part in the 75m sprint, 600m, long jump and vortex throw, Anya finished third overall, taking home a bronze medal. She was also the highest-placed Year 6 athlete!

As one of our Sports Captains, it is wonderful to see Anya show such dedication and enthusiasm for sport inside and outside of school and I am incredibly proud of her achievement. Well done!

Have a wonderful weekend!

ISA INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION Accredited Member

Pupil Achievements

Pupils of the Week

Elspeth, Reception (Hedgehogs)
'For always listening and trying her best in all tasks.'

Manraj, Reception (Squirrels)
'For learning her sounds and for being super kind and considerate to her friends.'

Rose, Year 1
'For giving every lesson her all and for using some fantastic scientific vocabulary.'

Lancelot, Year 2
'For showcasing his extensive Geography knowledge during MFL Day.'

Anoushka, Year 3
'For her wonderful focus and determination in lessons and for contributing her ideas in class discussions.'

Max, Year 4
'For his higher level thinking shown in class discussions, especially in Science about states of matter.'

Arjan, Year 5
'For making a great start in Year 5 and showing determination in all his lessons.'

George, Year 6
'For an excellent week of focused learning across all areas.'

Waverley Way Awards

For Being Kind

Otto, Year 6
'For demonstrating kindness and being super helpful to Miss Billen during Breakfast Club.'

For Being Honest

Alfie, Reception
'For being kind and conscientious and always taking responsibility for his actions.'

For Doing Her Best

Mila, Year 2
'For her resilience and self belief in her learning this week, proving to herself that she CAN do it!'

Diary Dates

Monday 5th October:	School Assembly: Mental Health & Wellbeing.
Tuesday 6th October:	Swim 5.
Wednesday 7th October:	Year 5 & 6 Football vs Lyndhurst. Away. *
	Year 5 & 6 Football vs Dolphin. Home. *
	Year 5 & 6 Hockey vs St George's. Away. *
Friday 9th October:	World Mental Health Day. Non Uniform Day. *Wear something yellow.*
	Building Resilience in Young Minds Workshops.
	Building Resilience in Young Minds Parent session. *15:45hrs Melton Hall.*
	Year 3 & 4 Football vs Lyndhurst. Home. *
	Year 3 Hockey vs St George's. Home. *
	Year 4 Hockey vs St George's. 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

Friday 9th October - Non-Uniform Day

Next Friday (9th October), we will be marking World Mental Health Day with a non-uniform day across the School and Nursery. Children are invited to wear something yellow (can be an accessory, t-shirt, or even socks) to show support and raise awareness of the importance of looking after our mental health and wellbeing.

We are not asking for donations; this day is about reminding young people that they are not alone and that things can get better. Let's make this World Mental Health Day a little brighter together.

Year 3 & 4 House Football Competition

Last Friday, our Year 3 and 4 pupils took part in our House Football Competition, with some fantastic football on show. The matches were incredibly close and evenly matched, with some goals even coming with the last kick of the game! There were plenty of impressive skills and teamwork on display and it was great to see everyone getting involved, including those who aren't usually keen on football. See photos **here**.

In the end, **Jupiter** were crowned Year 3 & 4 winners! However, the competition isn't over yet, as our Year 5 and 6 tournament will take place in a couple of weeks. Only then will we know which house will be crowned our overall House Football Champions 2026!

Salvation Army Collects Food

Earlier today, representatives from The Salvation Army Wokingham popped into school to collect all of your Harvest Festival donations. They were truly overwhelmed by the generosity of our Waverley families and thanks to your kindness, these donations will now reach those in need. We would like to thank you all once again for your incredible support!

Reception Make Bread

This week, our Reception classes enjoyed bringing the story of 'The Little Red Hen' to life by making their own bread with Miss Shore. They learned about the ingredients of bread, mixed and kneaded the dough, let it prove and then shaped their own rolls.

The story of 'The Little Red Hen' follows a hard-working hen who makes bread while the other farm animals refuse to help, only to find they miss out when it's ready to eat! See photos of the children making bread **here**.

Waverley School News

Reception Peel Carrots at Woodland School

This week in Woodland School, our Reception children have been learning how to use a peeler to peel carrots! Not only is this a useful culinary skill (they will soon be able to help with vegetable preparation at home), but it is also a great practical life activity, helping to develop fine motor control, hand-eye coordination and independence. Sitting in their Woodland School stance to help with balance and control, the children did a fantastic job mastering their new skill. See the photos **here**.

Year 1 Create Picture-Perfect Sunsets

In their Art lesson this week, Year 1 have been exploring how to blend warm and cool colours to create beautiful sunset pictures. They experimented with different shades and techniques to create colourful skies, with some lovely results! See photos **here**.

Year 2 Explore Fossils

This week, Year 2 have been learning about different types of fossils and how they are formed. They discovered what fossils are, how fossils are formed, why they are important and also learnt what palaeontologists do. Each child then chose a fossil they found particularly interesting and completed a worksheet describing it and explaining why they liked it. See photos **here**.

Year 4's Great Chocolate Melting Experiment

In Science this week, Year 4 have been learning about the different states of matter. To help with their learning, they took part in a fun experiment where they investigated which type of chocolate (white, milk or dark) would melt fastest. The class made predictions and then ensured they kept the experiment fair by using the same amount of chocolate and same water temperature for each.

The children discovered that white chocolate melted fastest, followed by milk and then dark chocolate. This is because white chocolate contains no cocoa solids, giving it a lower melting point. See photos **here**.

After School Club Fun

It has been another fun-filled week at After School Club! From making delicious cinnamon rolls to heading outside on nature scavenger hunts and mastering fencing skills, the children have enjoyed lots of exciting activities. See photos **here**.

Waverley School News

Year 6 Lung Capacity Experiment

This week, Year 6 investigated lung capacity by carrying out an experiment to measure how much air their lungs can hold. There was plenty of amusement as they inflated balloons, whilst discussing why finding a balloon difficult to blow up doesn't necessarily mean you have a smaller lung capacity. They also explored how activities such as sport and playing musical instruments can give our lungs a regular workout! See photos **here**.

October Half Term Holiday Club - Bookings Now Open!

Bookings are now open for our October Half-Term Holiday Club! Join us for a spook-tacular week packed with frightfully fun activities, including arts and crafts, sports, cooking, inflatables, laser tag and much more. With plenty on offer, there is something for everyone to enjoy! View both the KS1 and KS2 schedules **here** and book your place **here**.

Thinking Ahead: Next Steps After Waverley

Thinking about your child's next steps after Waverley? A number of local senior schools will soon be holding open mornings, giving you the opportunity to see what they have to offer.

Luckley House School is holding its Autumn Open Morning on **Saturday 10th October** at 09:15hrs. For more information, click **here**.

Leighton Park is also holding its next Open Morning on **Friday 16th October** from 09:00-11:00hrs. For further details, click **here**.

WFA News

Halloween Disco - Friday 16th October

Our first WFA event of the new school year is nearly here! Join us for our Halloween Glow Party on **Friday 16th October**, 16:30 - 18:30hrs in Melton Hall. Expect music, dancing, games, entertainment and plenty of spooky fun! Fancy dress is encouraged. Tickets are £10 per person. This includes a glow stick, glow-in-the-dark tattoo, hot dog, drink and crisps. Buy your tickets **here**.

Halloween Design Competition

Get creative this October and enter our Halloween Design Competition! Pupils can create a spooky, silly or imaginative Halloween design using drawings, paintings, LEGO, decorated bottles, jars and more. There are no limits. Just keep it Halloween-themed! The competition runs from Friday 2nd October to Friday 9th October, with prizes awarded by form teachers on Monday 12 October. We can't wait to see your spooky creations!

Waverley Nursery News

Welcome Miss Rayment

We are delighted to welcome Miss Rayment to Waverley! Miss Rayment will be joining us as our lunch cover and will be working across all of our Nursery rooms. We are very pleased to have her join the team!

Friday 9th October - Wear Something Yellow

Next Friday, (9th October) we are celebrating World Mental Health Day at Waverley Nursery with a non-uniform day. Children are invited to wear something yellow (such as a t-shirt, accessory, or even socks) to show support and raise awareness of mental health and well being. No donations are needed.

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.

- **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 have continued to explore different habitats through lots of sensory and hands-on activities. They particularly enjoyed exploring a sea animal sensory water tray, where they had great fun splashing the animals into the water and watching them move throughout it. The activity also encouraged the Babies to listen to and experiment with different animal sounds as they played.

Alongside their interest in habitats, the Babies have also been investigating the changing season and learning all about Autumn. During their morning walks, they collected a selection of fallen leaves to explore. They loved using the leaves in their painting, noticing their different shapes, sizes and textures and creating some lovely autumn-inspired artwork.

Nursery Extension

This week, the children in the Nursery Extension have continued exploring their interest in colours and sounds. They made their own musical guitars and shakers using boxes, rubber bands and rice. They also matched coloured rice to bowls using spoons, developing their fine motor skills and building their confidence using cutlery.

The children have also enjoyed getting creative with paint this week, using scrunched-up paper to explore different textures and experiment with colour mixing. Outdoors, they made the most of the lovely Autumn weather, enjoying lots of time in the sandpit and having fun throwing and kicking balls around.

Nursery 2

The children in Nursery 2 have continued exploring all about themselves and their five senses this week. They enjoyed making music with different instruments using their hearing skills to listen to the sounds they could create. They also used their sense of smell to explore rosemary and mint from the garden and practised their fine motor skills and independence by cutting play dough with scissors.

The children have been exploring emotions using different coloured shaving foam to represent the Colour Monsters and talking about different feelings. They have also started looking at vehicles, enjoying spotting planes in the sky and watching different cars and coaches arrive in the car park.

Nursery 3 (Younger)

This week, the younger children in Nursery 3 have been busy exploring shapes, colours and patterns through lots of creative activities. They enjoyed shape printing using different shapes and coloured paints, talking about the colours and shapes as they played and noticing the different patterns and marks they could create. This provided lots of opportunities to develop their early mathematical skills, as well as their fine motor skills.

The children also enjoyed getting creative with play dough, making their own mosaics by adding a variety of loose parts. They experimented with different textures, shapes and arrangements to create some lovely artwork, enjoying the freedom to explore and express their own ideas.

Nursery 3 (Older)

This week, the older children in Nursery 3 have continued to enjoy exploring their bodies and facial features through lots of fun, hands-on activities. They used chalk to draw around their hands and bodies adding facial features and different body parts to their drawings. The children also enjoyed creating their own faces out of play dough, talking about the different features they had included in their creations.

During their woodland walks, the children collected natural materials such as leaves and sticks to add to their play dough creations, helping them bring their ideas to life. They have also enjoyed caring for babies in their role play area, washing them and practising naming different body parts as they played.

Foundation

This week, the children in Foundation have been enjoying the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears.' They made their own porridge, practising scooping, measuring, pouring and mixing before adding fruit and enjoying it together. They also practised their cutting skills while 'styling Goldilocks' hair' and used dolls to retell the story through play.

The children have also been exploring their sense of touch by feeling different materials and talking about how they felt. They learnt new words including soft, hard, big, small, heavy and light as they investigated and described what they could feel.

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 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
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