Waverley
Preparatory School and Nursery

Parent Communication w/e 6th March 2026

An Enchanting World Book Day at Waverley!

Dear Parents,

What a magical week it has been at Waverley! Yesterday, the children were transported to an enchanting world for a very special World Book Day. Once again, it was a grand occasion, with the children entering school via a castle and drawbridge before discovering that the building had been transformed into an enchanted forest complete with twinkling lights, balloon rainbow and even a waterfall. You may even have spotted myself and much of the school team dressed as the Big Bad Wolf (in a rather fetching nightie) alongside a host of other well-loved fairy tale characters.

The school was also visited by some of the biggest names from the literary world, with appearances from Willy Wonka, Harry Potter, Dogman and Captain Underpants to name a few. Throughout the day, the children enjoyed a range of magical activities and special lessons organised by the WFA and our teaching team. You can read more about the whole event on ***page 4***.

Year 1 World Book Day Assembly

Earlier today, Year 1 held a very special assembly in honour of World Book Day. It was so wonderful to be able to welcome parents in to enjoy this. The class shared the story of the Little Red Hen, told us about their favourite

books and also the unusual places where they like to read them. We were also treated to a very special song about World Book Day. Watch it **here**.

I would like to say a huge well done to all of the children for speaking so clearly and remembering all of your lines. It was very impressive!

Waverley Chicks Fly The Nest

Over the past two weeks, we have been delighted to welcome some very special new visitors to Waverley - nine fluffy chicks that hatched as part of our Living Eggs experience. The children have loved watching the chicks grow, from their first moments breaking out of their eggs to developing tiny wings and growing in size. Many classes also enjoyed hands-on visits throughout the week, giving pupils the chance to learn about the chicks up close. See photos **here**.

Yesterday, our little visitors headed off to their new home at a farm and nursery run by a friend of Mrs Herridge, where I am sure they will continue to grow and thrive.

Reception 100 Day Party

On Tuesday, our Reception class celebrated their 100th day at school with a very special party. The children dressed in their finest party wear, took part in fun activities and even enjoyed cake and candles to mark the milestone. Congratulations to all of the children for settling into school life fantastically well. They should all be incredibly proud of themselves. See photos **here**.

Well Done Nandi!

I would like to say a huge well done to Year 4 pupil Nandi who took part in the ISA Cross Country Finals last weekend. After qualifying a couple of weeks ago, Nandi travelled to Dudley to compete and I had the pleasure of heading there to watch her race. Nandi did incredibly well in a very strong competition and did herself proud, representing Waverley fantastically. Well done!

Good Luck KS2 Choir

Finally, I would like to wish the best of luck to our KS2 choir who will be taking part in the Woodley Festival tomorrow. Go out there and give your very best performance. Make sure you sing with confidence and enjoy every moment. I am sure you will all do brilliantly!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

S. Shore

ISA INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION Accredited Member

Pupil Achievements

Pupils of the Week

Johnnie, Reception
'For making excellent progress in Read Write Inc. He has worked hard in both school and at home.'

Mishka, Year 1
'For her infectious enthusiasm for learning! She put so much effort into the Year 1 class assembly.'

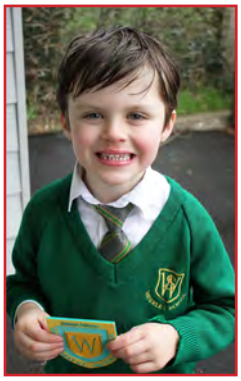
Anoushka, Year 2
'For her dedication and focus in all of her learning. She is always motivated and sets a super example to all.'

Orla, Year 3
'For her determination and resilience in Games lessons. She tries her best and has improved her skills.'

Matthew, Year 4
'For having a positive attitude this week and for being helpful and polite.'

Evie, Year 5
'For her fantastic focus in her learning and always trying her best, even when she is finding something challenging.'

Jerald, Year 6
'For for his incredible knowledge of Microorganisms. He is like a walking science textbook.'



Waverley Way Award

Kenzie
'For being so kind and generous, offering her fortune cookie to another child when they didn't receive one.'

Aahana
'For always being such a polite member of the class, offering a helping hand to whoever needs it.'

Diary Dates

Saturday 7th March:	Woodley Festival. *KS2 Choir.*.
Monday 9th - Friday 13th March:	British Science Week.
	Waverley Sustainability Week.
	PiRA & PUMA Week.
Monday 9th March:	School Assembly: British Science Week/Sustainability Week.
Tuesday 10th March:	Year 2 Tag Rugby vs St Edward's Prep. Home. *
Wednesday 11th March:	Swim 8. *Swim Survival Session.*
	Year 5 & 6 Rugby vs Sherfield. Home. *
	Year 5 & 6 Netball vs Lyndhurst. Home. *
Friday 13th March:	Year 2 Mother's Day Assembly. *08:45hrs. Year 2 parents welcome.*
	Year 3 & 4 Rugby vs Eton End. Away. *
	Year 3 & 4 Netball vs Eton End. 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.

World Book Day 2026

Once upon a time, in a land not far away, there was a school called Waverley that celebrated a very special World Book Day...

Yesterday, the school was transformed into an enchanting fairy tale with fantastic decorations and a host of fun activities running in each classroom for the children to enjoy.

In the Year 1 classroom, the children made crowns with Ms Bell, turning themselves into storybook royalty. Stepping into the Year 2 classroom, the children were transported into the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, as they planted some of their very own 'magic' beans with Miss Page.

In Year 3, the children learnt about fairy tales from around the world. Mrs Amankwah taught them a story about Anansi the Spider (a story originating from Ashanti tales in Ghana) who used his wit to outsmart other larger animals. The children also twisted some traditional fairy tales with Mrs Mitchell in Year 4. They had lots of fun swapping the Big Bad Wolf for the Big Bad Pig and made wanted posters for other good-turned-bad characters.

In the Year 5 classroom, the children decorated gingerbread men with Mrs Gibson, carefully designing their creations on paper before turning them into edible masterpieces. Mrs Eden-Higgs tested the children's engineering skills, as they were tasked with building troll bridges in the Year 6 classroom. Using spaghetti and marshmallows, the children used teamwork and imagination to construct bridges strong enough for any fairy tale journey.

Throughout the day, the children also took part in archery sessions on the school field with Dinton Activity Centre and had fantastic fun during performance sessions with West End in Schools, with each class performing a section of the story of Pinocchio. At the end of the day, everyone came together to bring the whole story to life in a single, combined performance.

Everyone also enjoyed a special villain-themed lunch courtesy of our amazing Connect catering team. The fantastic feast featured dishes including Three Little Pigs, Rumpelstiltskin's Spun Gold, Baba Yaga's Rotten Teeth and even The Evil Queen's Apple Pie (with a side of poison) for dessert.

Overall, it was a brilliant day filled with lots of fun and plenty of fairy tale memories. A huge thank you to the incredible WFA team for once again creating a wonderful event for the children.

See photos of the enchanting day **here**.

Waverley School News

Reception Forest School

After a super week exploring the adventures of SuperTato, Reception enjoyed their latest Forest School session tasting a delicious vegetable soup. The children helped prepare the soup by chopping vegetables before it was turned into a tasty feast by Miss Shore. See photos **here**.

Year 4 Build Electrical Circuits

In this week's science lesson, Year 4 enjoyed exploring electrical circuits by using bulbs, buzzers and motors. They discovered that adding more batteries made the bulb shine brighter, helping them understand how circuits work and how energy flows. It was a hands-on and exciting session. See photos **here**.

Personal Survival Swimming Lesson - Next Week

Next week's swimming lesson will include clothed personal survival training, allowing children to swim in everyday clothing and practise important water safety skills. Please send suitable clothing (not pyjamas), such as a long-sleeved top, jumper or hoody and trousers, jeans or a skirt/dress. The session is carefully structured and safe, providing a valuable opportunity to build confidence in water survival skills. Please ensure the clothing is brought to the lesson on 11th March 2026.

Year 2 to Tackle First Rugby Fixture

Next Tuesday (10th March), Year 2 will take part in a taster touch rugby fixture against St Edward's Prep, starting at 14:10hrs on the Waverley playing field. The match will run until approximately 15:00hrs, followed by a match tea and parents are very welcome to attend and support. Children should bring their Games kit and football boots to change into for the fixture.

Waverley Lock Down Drill

The school will be practising its annual lock down procedure on Monday 23rd March as part of our health and safety preparations, in the same way we practise fire drills. Lock downs are only used in rare situations to keep pupils safe if the site needs to be secured due to security risks or hazards, including incidents such as severe weather, nearby emergencies, or unauthorised access attempts. The practice will be explained to children in an age-appropriate and low-key manner and parents do not need to prepare their child or take any further action.

Waverley School News

Car Park Safety Reminder

Please can we remind parents to remain vigilant in the car park to help keep everyone safe. Children should not walk through the car park unaccompanied and drivers are asked to take extra care when manoeuvring. Always check mirrors and surroundings before reversing and be mindful of pedestrians and other vehicles.

Reading FC School & Grassroots Fixture

The latest schools and grassroots fixture for Reading FC will be taking place at 15:00hrs on Saturday 14th March 2026, as Reading take on Plymouth Argyle at the Select Car Leasing Stadium.

Tickets are available at a 50% discount using voucher code **#WaverleySchool** at the checkout (valid for seats in the Eamonn Dolan Stand and Sir John Madejski Stand blocks), with no limit on purchases. To book your tickets to the match, click **here**.

WFA News

Magical Fairy Tale for World Book Day

We hope the children enjoyed a magical fairytale day filled with enchanting activities and classroom sessions funded by the WFA. The fantastic events included archery, making gingerbread men, planting 'magic beans,' and creating crowns. A big thank you to all the WFA representatives who helped transform the school into a fairytale wonderland – it looked incredible! We hope the children had a truly magical day!

Break the Rules Day 24th April

Bookings for Break the Rules Day are now live. For £1 per rule, children can choose options such as wearing non-uniform, enjoying an extra 10 minutes of play, a sweet snack at break time, fruit juice instead of water and no homework for the day. There are five rules available to break. Click **here** to take part and join in the fun!

Colour Run 17th May

Preparations are now underway for the return of our spectacular Colour Run. We are extremely excited to bring back this wonderfully vibrant event. A colourful poster with all the details you need to know will be advertised soon.

WFA Diary Dates:

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

Mother's Day Stay & Play

We would like to invite parents to our upcoming Mother's Day Stay & Play Breakfast sessions. Join us for some refreshments, whilst spending some fun Nursery time with your child. N2, Nursery Extension & Foundation will take place on Tuesday 17th March (09:00-10:00hrs) and then N1, N3 & Pre-Foundation will be on Thursday 19th March (09:00-10:00hrs) Please indicate your attendance by completing our form **here**, by midday on 11th March.

Ballet Watching Week

Our next Ballet Watching Week will take place on Monday 23rd March, in our Community Hall. The Foundation session will be held between 08:50–09:20hrs and Nursery 3 will be held between 09:20–09:50hrs. We look forward to seeing some of you there.

- **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 transportation through activities that supported their fine motor skills. They enjoyed playing with the train track, stamping car wheels with paint and exploring a sensory activity with crushed Weetabix where they used spoons to load diggers, helping to develop their pincer grip.

The Babies also created colourful rainbow buses and sang 'The Wheels on the Bus' while driving them around the room. For World Book Day, the Babies enjoyed activities linked to 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears,' where they practised scooping oats into different sized bowls and built a bear cottage using blocks.

Nursery Extension

This week, the children continued their interest in role play and caring for babies. They washed and dried baby dolls and practised feeding them using spoons and different textured foods, helping to develop their gross motor skills and hand-eye coordination. The children also enjoyed patting the babies to sleep with relaxing music.

For World Book Day, they took part in activities linked to 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt,' including scooping porridge for the bears and going on a sensory bear hunt in the garden.

Nursery 2

This week in Nursery 2, the children continued exploring their interest in jungle habitats. A tuff tray with grass, loose parts and animal figures allowed the children to create their own jungle scenes through imaginative play. In the garden, a wooden house was turned into a jungle hideout with a camouflage sheet and the children used homemade binoculars to spot pictures hidden around the garden.

The children also created lion manes using spaghetti, developing their creativity and fine motor skills and acted out the story 'Rumble in the Jungle' using animal masks. For World Book Day, they enjoyed activities linked to 'Snow White,' including apple printing and searching for hidden gems in black rice.

Nursery 3

This week, the children in Nursery 3 continued exploring their interest in chicks through a range of fun activities. They used their pincer grip to pick up feathers and post them into a colander to create a fluffy chick, developing their fine motor skills whilst also talking about chicks. The children also searched for eggs in a nest, moving them to 'hatch' into chicks and then placing them into a five-frame tray to support their early number recognition.

Nursery 3 also used play dough, feathers, eyes and beaks to mould and decorate their own chicks this week. This activity encouraged them to demonstrate their creativity and practise hand strength. To finish, they used chalks to draw chick pictures, whilst looking closely at the different features of a chick.

Pre-Foundation

With the weather now improving, Pre-Foundation enjoyed some time outside this week. During their woodland walk, the children searched for birds' nests in the trees and collected signs of spring such as colourful leaves and sticks to add to their sensory tray. This encouraged the children to explore nature and observe seasonal changes.

The children also celebrated World Book Day by wearing special costumes alongside their educators, who dressed as characters from Little Red Riding Hood. They enjoyed taking part in a range of fun, book-themed activities throughout the day.

Foundation

This week, the children explored the theme of growing after noticing signs of spring. They planted bean seeds in soil or damp cotton wool and placed them on a sunny windowsill, watering them regularly and observing how they grow over time. The children also measured their own heights and talked about how people and plants grow.

Yesterday, the children celebrated World Book Day by dressing up in fantastic costumes and taking part in special activities. The Nursery Educators joined in the fun by dressing as characters from Jack and the Beanstalk, helping to bring the story to life.

As part of the World Book Day celebrations, the children made their own bookmarks and enjoyed taking part in a whole host of book-themed activities. They also had a picnic-style morning snack outside, making the most of the sunshine and fresh air.

WORLD BOOK DAY FUN!

To view pictures from Waverley Nursery's World Book Day celebrations, click **here**.

Menus

Next week our lunch menu will be Week 3.
You can view our Winter menu for School and Nursery **here**.

NUT AWARE
WE ARE A NUT AWARE SCHOOL

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**
  admissions@waverleyschool.co.uk
- **School Office:**
  0118 973 1121
- **Bursar: Mrs Carole Barke**
  carole.barke@waverleyschool.co.uk
- **Nursery:**
  Mobile: 07920 268735

15 IN THE UK

13 years BEST IN BERKSHIRE

Rated EXCELLENT
-ISI inspection