



Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

...and just like that, the first seven weeks of school are over! Children have worked incredibly hard and thrown themselves brilliantly into all aspects of school life, transitioning well to their new year groups and classes.

Thank you to the parents who have taken the time to complete our parent survey. Your feedback is really important to us and helps effect change. Results and actions taken following analysis will be shared after half-term.

## School Highlights

### • Trips and Visits:

A huge thank you to everyone who joined our Parent Workshop on 'Supporting Your Child with Transitions' this term. It was brilliant to see parents sharing ideas and experiences — your contributions make a significant difference in how we can work together to support our children. Our next workshop will take place next half term and will focus on Sensory Processing — helping you understand your child's sensory needs. Details to follow soon!

It's also been fantastic to have such wonderful turnouts at our lesson shares, stay-and-plays, and reading breakfasts. Reception, Y6, Y5 & Y4 greatly enjoyed sharing their learning with family members, and showing how capable they are. Children in the remaining year groups look forward to sharing their lessons with you next half term.

Year 6 pupils have had a fun-filled 4 days at Borwick Hall on their residential, enjoying a range of outdoor and adventurous activities and making memories that will last a lifetime. Having watched the videos and looked at the photos in the Class Dojo, I can see that they've shown resilience, team spirit and determination. Our thanks go to the staff team who gave up their precious evenings with family and loved ones to ensure that the children were able to enjoy this amazing opportunity.

Those children who chose not to attend have also had an action-packed week visiting the beach, crafting, visiting the cinema and the museum and showing their care for others by walking to the Foodbank laden with bags to deliver all of the harvest gifts donated by our generous families. Thank you!

Next Half term, representatives from our School and Eco Councils will be visiting a forest school to look into how we could develop part of our play space and children in all year groups will be developing their 'Social Signature' through our weekly enrichment hour. Each year group has planned a community activity linked to the different strands of 'Social Signature', demonstrating 'The Power of You' and how one kind act can positively impact and have a ripple effect.



- **Charity & Community:**

Children supported 'Hello Yellow' mental health awareness day and raised £150, and showed real generosity with harvest donations that were taken to our local Trussell Group Foodbank.

After half-term, our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors will plan further fundraising activities to support anti-bullying charities during National Anti-Bullying Week. This year's theme is 'Power for Good'.

- **Sports:**

It has been a very positive start to the football season, with plenty to celebrate across our teams.

Our girls' football team made school history this term, competing in their first-ever league fixture. The team showed great determination and teamwork, earning a well-deserved 1-1 draw against St Luke's Halsall - A wonderful beginning to what promises to be an exciting season ahead.

The mixed football team have continued their excellent form, recording three wins from three matches so far — a 4-2 victory over St William of York, another 4-2 win against Litherland Moss, and a convincing 5-0 success against Star of the Sea School. The players have demonstrated great skill, teamwork, and commitment in every game.

In addition, a team of eight pupils represented our school in a football tournament organised by Everton in the Community. Although the team made a slow start, they grew in confidence as the competition progressed and produced some strong performances. Despite narrowly missing out on the next stage, all involved represented the school with pride and exemplary sportsmanship.

Congratulations to all our players on their effort, attitude, and achievements — you have made the school very proud.

Lunch and after-school gymnastics clubs are being well-received and enjoyed by many of the pupils. If you haven't had the opportunity to attend, don't worry, as they will be offered to different year groups throughout the year.

- **Engagement beyond the classroom:**

Our wide range of enrichment clubs has been really well received this half term, and it's been great to see so many children enthusiastically participating and trying new things.

Watch out for new lunch clubs starting for all age groups next half term!

## Curriculum

To see what your child/ren are learning in their curriculum each half term, please follow this link to our knowledge organisers <https://www.waterlooprimaryschool.co.uk/knowledge-organisers>

## MVLT Trust Updates

This half term, we have welcomed several visits from Rachel Goodwin (CEO) and other Trust team members, who are eager to get to know the staff, pupils and families of the school.

Significant developments this half term include the appointment of Sofia Palios as Chief Finance Officer and the recruitment of three part-time Directors of Education: Paul Lindley (Chesterfield), Helen Tantouri (Valewood) and Karen Lynskey (The Rowan schools), all of whom have visited the school and who are sharing their skills and expertise to support development across Trust schools.

## Celebrating Our Pupils

Many trophies, medals and certificates have been shared in Praise assemblies over the past few weeks for a range of sports and competitive events, including football, boxing, swimming, morris dancing, gymnastics, drama and music. What a talented family of children we have! Please continue to let us know about your children's achievements outside of school so that we can celebrate with them and recognise their efforts.

## In the Spotlight



Younes is showing brilliance in boxing, and Ben has been recognised for his fabulous football.

Huge congratulations also go to the following pupils who have been appointed to significant roles in school.

Head Girl - Lydia Smith

Head Boy - Will Holtam

School Council Reps

- Lydia Smith
- Max Seiffert
- Keegan Perry
- Evelyn Condron
- Nylah Bell

- Esme Hall
- Olivia Prendergast
- Lottie Grady
- Jessica Campbell
- Jaxon Jacobs
- Jack Foy Kenny
- Devansh Bhandari
- Isabelle O'hare
- Harvey Dewsbury
- Layla Hall

## Eco Reps

- Caleb Houle
- Alaska Maguire
- Abena Obenewa
- Rosie Blackwood
- Harlan Douglas-Pickering
- Lucas Russell-Fitzgerald
- Kaitlyn Geeson
- Henry King-Unsworth
- Thea Disley
- Caleah Gillis
- Rousso Gibson
- Maia Bartley
- Izaak Fulara
- Jenna Hawari
- Lukeman Miah

New Anti-Bullying Ambassadors to be appointed after half-term, and our Head boy and girl and council chairs and vice chairs will make up this year's pupil leadership team 'Shine Squad'.

## Waterloo Place

In our Unit classes, we have been working on the topic 'The Circus' throughout this half term. We have enjoyed lots of circus-themed activities linked to both Maths and English and our Wider Curriculum. There's been juggling, acrobatics (climbing and balancing), engaging art activities and lots more besides!



## EYFS

### Nursery

Our Nursery children have been busy learning all about themselves, their bodies, and the amazing things they can do! They have been exploring their environment and growing in confidence every day. The children are also beginning to enjoy sitting for short carpet sessions, listening to stories, and developing a real love of reading.

### Reception

In Reception, the children have been learning 'All About Me' — talking about what makes them unique, as well as what they

have in common with their friends. They have settled well into their new routines and classroom environment, learning the school's code of conduct and forming lovely new friendships along the way.

We would also like to say a big thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for our lesson shares, stay and play sessions, and the reading breakfast — your support and involvement mean so much to the children and staff. We are so proud of how much the children have achieved this half term and wish all our families a happy, safe, and restful break!

## **Staffing Updates**

This half term, we said goodbye to Mrs Chesworth, who retired from her welfare role after over 30 years at Waterloo; to Miss Robertshaw, who has decided on a change of career and to Miss Seabra, who is leaving due to personal reasons. We wish them all the very best in their future endeavours.

Mrs Causey and Miss Carroll also started their maternity leaves, and Miss Carroll welcomed beautiful Margot into the world a couple of weeks ago.

We have welcomed Miss Grant and Mrs Campbell to cover their leave, who have settled in quickly into Waterloo Place and the school team.

Our cleaning team has also welcomed Jane Robertshaw and Nicky Carroll.

## **Attendance - 'We Can't Teach an Empty Chair!'**

The school's average attendance is 94.3% (94.5% excluding Nursery).

Please support the school in giving your child their best life chances by ensuring that they attend school regularly and avoid unnecessary absences.

Every minute truly does count, and it's both stressful and challenging for our children to catch up on lost learning with the pace of the curriculum.

A reminder that it is the legal responsibility of parents to notify the school if their children are absent. Please ring the school office on 0151 9284274 and leave a message, or via the school website.

<https://waterloo-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/attendance-we-cant-teach-an-empty-chair/>

## **Safeguarding**

**Online safety:** Please keep an eye on your child's app and game use over the half-term break. Encourage them to talk to you about what they're doing online and remind them to tell an adult if something doesn't feel right.

**Safe adults:** Revisit with your child who their "trusted adults" are — at home, in school, and in the community. A short chat can make a huge difference to their confidence in asking for help.

**Support for families:** If you are finding things tough or are worried about wellbeing, please reach out early — support is available.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility — thank you for continuing to work with us to keep our school community safe and strong.

## Bucket Filling Success!

Children have done so well with our bucket-filling challenge this half term, and their good words and deeds have paid off as they've met the target set of 70 litres, so they will all be enjoying 15 minutes of extra play time on the first day back. Well done!



## Dates for the Diary

3rd November - INSET  
4th November - INSET  
5th November - School Starts  
6th November - Y3 Lesson Share @14:15  
w/b 10th November - Anti-Bullying Week 'Power For Good'  
12th November - Y2 Lesson Share @ 14:15  
13th November - Y1 Lesson Share @ 14:15  
14th November - TAS coffee morning  
w/b 17th November - Assessment Week  
24th November - Wonderdome Planetarium Visit  
28th November - TAS coffee morning  
w/b 2nd December - Bikeability - Y5 & 6  
3rd December - Reception Winter Performance @ 14:15  
4th December - Reception Winter Performance @ 9:30  
10th December - KS1 Nativity - 9:30 and 14:15  
12th December - TAS Coffee Morning  
17th December - Nursery Stay & Play - 10:20 & 14:20  
19th December - KS2 Pupil Christmas Service  
  
5th January - School Starts

Have a fantastic break, and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Wednesday 5th November**, looking smart and in full and correct school uniform.

Gates and doors will open at 8:45 am and close at 8:55 am.

Kind regards,

Mrs Maciver and the Waterloo Team

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