

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023

## WHAT A CREATIVE WEEK AT WATERLOO!

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week in school we've had. The children and the staff have been getting extremely creative and their efforts have really paid off!

### Art Week

A huge thank you to everyone who has been to visit our art exhibition today. I'm sure you will agree, the work that has been produced by the children this week, is absolutely wonderful. It has been lovely to see the children learning about different artists and enjoying the freedom to be so creative. All the children visited the exhibition themselves today and it was lovely to see them so excited and proud of what they have achieved. Our thanks go to Mrs Metcalf and Miss Whitby for organising art week and to all the staff who have supported the children so brilliantly.

### Youth Games Week

Over the last few days, lots of our children have taken part in the Blackpool Youth Games Week. The children have enjoyed various sports over the course of the week, including rugby, netball, football, cricket and tennis. The children have absolutely loved taking part and they have represented Waterloo brilliantly – we are extremely proud of them all. Our thanks go to Mr Powell for co-ordinating the week's events and to all the staff who have enabled the children to go, either by driving the minibus, or by staffing the events.

### Blackpool Beating Bullying

This week, we received the wonderful news that we have been awarded our

#### **Bronze Blackpool Beating Bullying Charter Mark Award.**

Blackpool is the only town in the UK to have developed a co-produced Anti-bullying Charter Mark, with the aim of preventing and raising awareness of bullying across Blackpool schools. This is a campaign that was set up by young people, for young people, in the hope that through working with schools to implement work regarding anti-bullying, they can be made better places to learn, grow up and thrive in. As part of the report, we received some wonderful feedback...

***Waterloo Primary Academy have implemented an immense amount of hard work, dedication and resilience into the school in order to achieve this Charter Mark award and your school should be so proud.***

***It is pleasing to see that your school has prioritised the views and opinions of your young people, staff, parents/carers and governors in order to make your school the best it can be.***

***Achieving this award is an immense achievement and your school should really celebrate your success! Well done.***

Particular thanks go to The Haven team, who have worked extremely hard to help us achieve this important award.

## Strike Action

You may be aware from the recent media coverage, that The National Education Union (one of several teaching unions) have once again declared strike action. The strikes are due to take place on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July** and **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023**. The strikes are taking place due to a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay, and not because of any issues at our school. I can confirm that **school will be open as usual** on these dates and so children are expected to attend as normal.

## Friends of Waterloo Fundraising Group

As you may know, we are lucky enough to benefit from the fundraising efforts of the **Friends of Waterloo**. This very hard-working group, have been busy approaching lots of local businesses to gather some wonderful prizes for a summer raffle. Over the coming days, they will be selling raffle tickets on the yard and all the money raised, will be put towards resources for the children in school. Huge thanks to everyone involved, we are extremely grateful to you all.

## Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

This summer, Blackpool FC Community Trust are offering a free provision to children who attend Waterloo Primary Academy. The Government funded 'Holiday Activities and Food' programme (HAF), is designed to support families that find it hard to access holiday clubs. During the first five weeks of the summer holidays, school will be open between 9am - 1pm, providing four hours of provision and a healthy meal at no cost. Spaces on the programme are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If parents require additional childcare, then a 'bolt on' offer will be available for parents to book an additional 2 ½ hours of camp, at a cost of £5 per day. More information, including the link to book a place, will be sent home next week. **Bookings cannot be made through the school office. All bookings must be placed using the booking link which will be made available next week.**

## Staffing News

Today marks Mr Powell's last day at Waterloo. He has been an extremely popular member of the staff team for 8 years and he will be greatly missed by his colleagues and by the children. His final day was marked with gifts and cards and even a farewell poem written by Mr Woodcock! Mr Powell leaves us to take up his new role as a Football Development Officer for Active Blackpool and we wish him every success in his new job.

## Diary Date reminders...

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 1VW trip to the zoo

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 1SC trip to the zoo

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 1CH trip to the zoo & Y6 swimming lessons begin

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July** – Y1&2 sports day

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July** – Nursery sports day

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July** – Reception sports day and Y6 Pleasure Beach trip

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July** – Y6 Leavers' Celebration Assembly and Y6 Prom – details about both to follow

After a very busy week, everyone at Waterloo wishes all our children and their families, a relaxing weekend.

Kind regards,



Jenny Brown  
Head of School