

17th July 2023

AS WE HEAD INTO OUR FINAL WEEK...

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe how quickly this year seems to have flown by! Ahead of the end of term, there are a few things to mention.

Sports Day

I would like to thank all the children in Nursery and Reception, who took part in their sports days last week. The rain just about held off and it was lovely to see the children having so much fun and joining in so enthusiastically. Huge thanks to all the staff who were involved, particularly Mr Bradley and Mrs Metcalf who organised the events, and the wider staff team, who encouraged the children and led them through the activities so brilliantly. For many of the children, it was their first sports day and they were fantastic! Thank you to everyone who came along to watch and support; both the Nursery and Reception events were really well attended. Having your support always means a great deal to the children and we are very grateful to you all.

Careers Afternoon

On Thursday last week, we held a careers afternoon for the children in Year 6. We were lucky enough to be joined by 12 volunteers, who gave up their time to talk to the children and share what their job entails. The children discovered what it is like to be an adult social worker, a graphic designer, a property manager, an actor, a film maker, a police officer, a nurse, a paramedic, a business owner, a sports coach, a radio presenter and more! The afternoon was a great success and it was lovely to hear how much the children had enjoyed it. Our hope is that children who leave Waterloo, leave with high aspirations and a desire to go on and achieve amazing things. The afternoon certainly encouraged the children to chase their own dreams and ambitions – the sky's the limit Y6!

Wacky Hair Day for Little Princess Trust

A reminder that tomorrow, **Tuesday 18th July**, we are going to be holding a 'wacky hair day' in school, in support of the Little Princess Trust. The Little Princess Trust provides free, real hair wigs to children and young people, up to 24 years, who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions. In return for a £1 donation (£2 maximum where there are more than 2 children in a family), the children can choose to come to school in non-uniform (wearing something blue), they can sport a wacky hairstyle, or they can do both. The only thing we politely ask, is that children **do not dye their hair**. Very often, these dyes do not wash out and then the colour remains in the hair, beyond the designated day. We will have collection buckets stationed at the school gates in the morning and at the end of the day, should anyone wish to make a further donation. We'd like to thank you in advance for your support. We know that your generosity will make a huge difference to the lives of some incredibly brave young people and their families.

Friends of Waterloo Fundraising Group

As you know, the **Friends of Waterloo** helped to organise a wonderful summer raffle. Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket. I'm delighted to be able to tell you that the raffle raised over £600 for school, which is amazing! We are very grateful to the team for all their time and effort; all the money raised, will be put towards resources for the children in school.

Year 6 Leavers' Celebration and Prom

A reminder to all parents and carers of Year 6 children, that we are holding a special celebration in school on **Thursday 20th July, at 10am**. We will open the Harris Avenue gates at **9.45am** but please do not park on Harris Avenue, as we do not wish to upset our neighbours.

We are looking forward to seeing the children at the Y6 Prom on Thursday evening. Children can arrive from **6pm** (there is no early finish to the school day on Thursday). Please use the staff car park when dropping off your child. The evening finishes at **8pm**, please ensure that your child is collected promptly. Thanks to the Year 6 staff team, for organising such special celebrations to mark this important time.

Swimming

Next academic year sees a change to how we run swimming. As of September, children in Year 5 will attend weekly swimming lessons all year. This is an exciting chance for our Year 5s to build on the wonderful progress they have made during their time in Year 4. More details will follow in the autumn term, but this is an advanced warning, just in case your child has outgrown their swimming costume.

Summer HAF Programme

Lots of children are very excited about the summer HAF programme, which is being run over the summer holidays in school, by Blackpool Football Club. If you have already booked a space for your child, please ensure that they attend on the days you have signed up for. This avoids any spaces being 'wasted' and saves the team from having to chase people on the day. Please remember that this wonderful provision is not being run by school. If you have any questions over the summer, please contact Blackpool Football Club and not the school office.

Staffing News

The end of term marks the departure of a number of staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all that they have contributed to Waterloo life, during their time with us. Miss Gray leaves us on Friday to embark on an exciting career in recruitment, Mr James leaves us to begin his teacher training, Miss Walker leaves us to take on a new role at Mereside Primary Academy and Mrs Kola (who has been with us on long-term supply) leaves us to take up a permanent teaching post closer to her home. They will all be missed, but we thank them for all their hard work and dedication, and we wish them well as they all begin exciting new chapters in their lives.

End of Term Arrangements

A reminder that school finishes this **Friday (21st July), at 1pm**. This change to our normal hours means that **there is no Nursery afternoon session and no After School Club on that day**. When we have an early finish, we often have children who are left behind. We politely ask that all children are picked up promptly on Friday.

Our last day will be a non-uniform day in school. Y6 children may bring an old shirt to school, for their friends to sign, should they wish to do so.

If you have any outstanding payments, we politely ask that these are settled before the end of term.

School re-opens on Monday 4th September at the normal time. Whilst I completely understand the reluctance to buy new uniform so close to the end of the year, we have seen a sharp rise in the number of children wearing trainers. Unless it is a PE day, **trainers are not school uniform**. Please ensure that all children return in smart school uniform (including black school shoes), ready for the start of the new academic year.

Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole Waterloo family for a wonderful year. The children have worked incredibly hard and have achieved such a lot over the last 11 months. Every member of staff has given their all, day in, day out to help the children flourish in such a wonderful environment and for that, I'm extremely grateful. I would also like to thank every parent or carer - your support makes all the difference!

Everyone at Waterloo, wishes all our children and their families, a fantastic summer holiday when it arrives. We look forward to seeing you all again in a few weeks, ready for the start of a brand new year and all the exciting opportunities that will bring.

Kind regards,



Jenny Brown
Head of School