

19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## A BUSY WEEK AT WATERLOO

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy week in school with lots going on. The children and staff have been working incredibly hard and it has been lovely to see how proud the children are of the work that they have been producing.

### Year 5's Visit to the World Museum in Liverpool

Yesterday, Year 5 visited the World Museum in Liverpool. They were able to take part in a variety of workshops about space and mummification. It was a brilliant day and it brought to life so much of the learning that takes place in school. The children behaved beautifully and made us very proud. Huge thanks to the Year 5 team for organising the trip, the children really had a wonderful time.

### Sensory Room

After months of research and planning, I am delighted to be able to tell you that our school now has the most wonderful sensory room! This amazing space will make such a difference to many of our children. I cannot thank Miss Gold enough for all of her hard work and dedication. She has led this project from start to finish and the end result is fantastic. If you would like to see our new sensory room, please do speak to her and she will be happy to facilitate this for you.

### Attendance and Punctuality

We have seen a sharp rise in the number of children who are absent or late for school on a regular basis. We know that every minute that your child is in school, makes a difference to their academic success. It is tempting to think that a missed 5 minutes here and there doesn't make a difference, but that simply is not true. As you may already know, the government has launched a campaign to promote excellent school attendance. I will be sending out some important information about this soon, so please do keep an eye out for it. In the meantime, please do all that you can to ensure that your child arrives on time and is in school every day. It really will make such a huge difference.



### Athletics Update

Following their success in the run-up to Christmas, the Y3&4 athletics team qualified for a place in the local finals, which was wonderful. The finals took place on Wednesday this week and I am delighted to be able to report that the Waterloo team came third! This is an amazing achievement and the children were absolutely thrilled with their success. Their success would not have been possible without the coaching that they received from Mr Reid. Our heartfelt thanks go to him for giving the children not only the skills that they needed to be successful, but also for instilling in them the belief that they could achieve. This wonderful success was thoroughly deserved by all.

## **Fun in the Snow!**

Although it was short-lived, it was lovely to see some snow this week. Many children opted to play in it and it was so nice to see them having so much fun. My son couldn't believe it when I said that the staff had joined in. He said, 'Anyone who throws a snowball at a teacher at my school gets a detention!' Huge thanks to the staff for being so willing to get involved – your children really are taught by a great team of people.

## **School Facebook**

As many of you know, we have a school Facebook page which we sometimes use, alongside Parentapps, to pass on information, or to celebrate the children's learning at the end of the week. In recent weeks, this page has caused us a little difficulty. There are a couple of things that we can do as a school family to help with this.

From time to time, when people have queries, parents and carers post questions on the page. As this page is not constantly monitored by staff, it can be frustrating for people if questions are not answered in a timely fashion. If you do have a question, I would encourage you to speak directly to a member of staff on the playground or give us a ring. This way you can be assured of a quick and accurate response.

Our school Facebook page is primarily a place to celebrate the children of Waterloo. Unlike personal pages, the school platform is not the best place to discuss issues that you might be concerned about or unhappy with. Many of our children view our Facebook page, as they like to look at the photos. Can I politely request that the comments space is only used to celebrate the children. If you do have any concerns, we are always happy to discuss them with you. If this is ever the case, please do contact school, rather than using Facebook as a platform to discuss them. This will ensure that we can quickly identify the person who is best-placed to help you and it will ensure that our Facebook page remains a child-friendly and welcoming platform to be a part of.

I really do appreciate all your help and support with this.

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

Kind regards,



Jenny Brown  
**Head of School**