

**6<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

## **WE HAVE HAD A WONDERFUL FIRST WEEK BACK!**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back this week. Our first few days have absolutely flown by, there has been a lovely atmosphere in school and your children have been incredible.

### **Thank You**

We have a lovely school uniform at Waterloo, and we really encourage the children to take pride in their appearance. It has been fantastic to see so many of the children returning to school dressed so smartly this week. A huge thank you to everyone at home for supporting us with this. It has been wonderful to see so many children dressed in smart, black school shoes. I know that it sounds like a small thing, but it really does make a difference.

Over the weekend, please take a moment to check that your child's jumper/cardigan is named. In the warm weather, the children often take them off and we have already had a few difficulties, reuniting items of unnamed clothes with their owners!

### **Contact Details**

Over the course of a summer holiday, it is not unusual for families to move house, or for individual circumstances to change. It is absolutely vital that we hold up-to-date contact details for all parents and carers, in case we need to get hold of you. Please do take a moment to pop into the school office and update your details if anything has changed.

### **Swimming**

Just a reminder that swimming starts next week for all Year 5 children (**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September**).

Swimming is a statutory part of the National Curriculum and there is an expectation that all children should be able to swim confidently and proficiently, over a distance of at least 25 metres, by the end of Key Stage 2.

Please do ensure that your child brings their swimming kit to school, every Wednesday.

### **School Photographs**

On **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October**, Tempest will be taking individual and sibling group photographs in school. Nursery children, who do not normally attend Nursery on Mondays, are invited to come into school after lunch, to have their photographs taken. More details to follow nearer the time.

### **Staffing Update**

It has been lovely to be able to welcome some new members of staff this September. Miss Williams has joined the Year 6 team and is working alongside Mrs Harrop, Miss Bond has joined the Year 5 teaching team and Mr Ball and Mrs Fairnie have joined the Senior Leadership Team. They are our two new Assistant Headteachers and alongside Miss Huson, they will be helping me to lead Waterloo. We would like to congratulate Mrs Fairnie (previously known to you all as Miss Bradley) on her wedding this summer.

We wish Miss Williams, Miss Bond, Mr Ball and Mrs Fairnie all the very best as they begin their new roles – I know that they are all going to be wonderful additions to an already very talented and special school team.

### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

A vacancy has arisen for a parent governor on Waterloo's Local Academy Council (LAC). The LAC is asking you to nominate someone with parental responsibility for a child at the school. If it receives more than one nomination, then a ballot will be held. If this is something that interests you, I will be sending home a letter next week, to outline what being a parent governor would mean.

### Class Names

This September sees the launch of our new class names. Our Reception classes have been named after trees for some time now, and we have taken the decision to continue this theme across school. Please see the tables below for your child's new class name:

Old name	New name
Nursery	<b>Acorn Class</b>
YRSK	<b>Cherry Class</b>
YRMB/SH	<b>Willow Class</b>
YROG	<b>Oak Class</b>
Y1SC	<b>Holly Class</b>
Y1CH	<b>Beech Class</b>
Y1VW	<b>Pine Class</b>
Y2MBr	<b>Birch Class</b>
Y2AH	<b>Rowan Class</b>
Y2CK	<b>Sycamore Class</b>

Old name	New name
Y3BC	<b>Lime Class</b>
Y3DB	<b>Olive Class</b>
Y3TP	<b>Spruce Class</b>
Y4ST	<b>Chestnut Class</b>
Y4MBR	<b>Elm Class</b>
Y4JW	<b>Larch Class</b>

Old name	New name
Y5RJ	<b>Elder Class</b>
Y5EB	<b>Juniper Class</b>
Y5NC	<b>Hazel Class</b>
Y6JR	<b>Maple Class</b>
Y6TD	<b>Cedar Class</b>
Y6CHa	<b>Aspen Class</b>

### Nursery and Reception New Starters - September 2025

It seems strange to already be talking about next year's new starters, but the window for school place applications has already opened! If you, or someone you know, has a child who is due to start Nursery or Reception in September 2025, we would like to extend an invitation to join us for one of our open events. These events provide a great opportunity to come and visit school, meet some of the staff team and find out what makes being part of the Waterloo family so special.

#### Please do join us on:

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September from 1.30pm - 2.30pm**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September from 4.30pm - 6.30pm**

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October from 3.30pm - 5.30pm**

#### Some Dates for the Diary...

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September** - Reception Reading and Phonics Talk (details to follow on a separate letter)

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September** - Open Event for September 2025 new starters

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September** - Open Event for September 2025 new starters

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October** - Open Event for September 2025 new starters

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October** - Individual/sibling photographs being taken

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October** - Consultation Evenings (more details to follow)

### You Have Been Amazing!

I cannot write to you this week, without mentioning the most important people – the children. All I can say is that your children have absolutely done you proud! Returning to school, after such a long time away, is not easy but they have all done brilliantly. It has been lovely to see friendships rekindled and new relationships between teachers and their classes being formed. The atmosphere in school has been so calm and focused and the hard work has already begun.

A huge well done to all the children and the staff team, who have once again worked incredibly hard. Thank you to you all for your continued support. Everyone at Waterloo, wishes all our children and their families, a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,



Jenny Brown  
**Head of School**