

13th September 2024

WE HAVE HAD ANOTHER BRILLIANT WEEK!

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy week in school and we couldn't be more proud of how well the children have settled into their new year groups and how hard they are working.

Our Brand New Curriculum

I am excited to be able to share with you some fantastic news...

This September, we have launched our brand new curriculum. We are delighted to be working with Unity Schools Partnership and have adopted their curriculum known as CUSP (Curriculum with Unity Schools Partnership), which is underpinned by the very latest research evidence from education and the field of cognitive science. It is an unapologetically ambitious curriculum and we are so excited to see how learning and teaching will be utterly transformed. As part of the new curriculum, amongst other exciting things, your children will be cooking, sewing and learning how to speak French. Children right across school have begun CUSP lessons this week, so please do take the time to ask your child what they have been learning – you might like to ask them about some of the new vocabulary that they have encountered! We are looking forward to sharing some curriculum highlights with you very soon.

Waterloo Way

You may or may not have heard your child talk about the **Waterloo Way**. This is our very own behaviour curriculum. Alongside teaching our children subjects such as English, maths and science, we focus a great deal on behaviour. This curriculum supports the important work we do in developing each child's character during their time with us. The Waterloo Way curriculum is underpinned by **3 Expectations for Excellence – Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Ready to Learn**. When children leave Waterloo, we want them to be academically ready to face the next stage in their lives, but we also want to ensure that they leave us having developed a great character. We want Waterloo pupils to live lives of purpose and to live as a force for good in today's ever-changing world. Please do ask your child about our Waterloo Way.

Reception Reading Talk

A reminder to all parents and carers of children in Reception that there is a Reading Talk next Wednesday morning, at 9.00am in the Sports Hall. Please do come along, as the team will be sharing with you how you can best support your child as they develop as a reader. There will be a chance for you to ask any questions and speak to members of the Reception and Early Reading Team.

Jeans for Genes

At Waterloo, we believe it is important to teach our children to help others. Next week, is Jeans for Genes week and we will be marking this important occasion with a special assembly and our own Jeans for Genes day (**next Friday, 20th September**).

The Jeans for Genes campaign raises awareness of the daily challenges faced by those living with a genetic condition and raises money to fund projects that make a tangible difference to the lives of those affected. It is a great cause and one which we have supported for many years.

We would like to invite the children to attend school (next Friday) in their jeans, in support of this worthy cause. We always ask the children to wear their school uniform (t-shirt and jumper or cardigan), so that their jeans are really obvious and stand out much more effectively than when they dress in complete non-uniform. In return for wearing their jeans, we ask for a £1 donation per child (£2 maximum donation for families with more than 2 children) to go towards this charity.

Consultation Evenings

This term, our consultation evenings are being held on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th October. To give you more control over your appointment times, bookings will be made using Parentapps Connect. If you do not have access to PA Connect, please give the office team a call and they will be happy to help you to get set up. Booking is not 'live' yet, so please do download the app this week so that you are ready to make your selection. We will let you know when the booking window opens.

Parent Governor

A letter was sent home earlier this week, asking all parents and carers to consider joining our Governing Body. If you are interested in taking on this role, please return your slip by Friday 27th September.

Parking on Harris Avenue

Unfortunately, we have upset some of our school neighbours this week. We have had reports of people blocking driveways when they drop off or pick up their children. Whilst I fully appreciate that parking is limited, we work very hard to maintain good relationships with people who live near school. Please do not block driveways, our neighbours need access to their property at all times.

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 25th September from 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Thursday 26th September from 4.30pm - 6.30pm

Tuesday 15th October from 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Some Dates for the Diary...

Wednesday 18th September - Reception Reading and Phonics Talk

Thursday 19th September - Reception new starter photographs

Friday 20th September - Jeans for Genes Day

Wednesday 25th September - Open Event for September 2025 new starters

Thursday 26th September - Open Event for September 2025 new starters

Tuesday 15th October - Open Event for September 2025 new starters

Monday 7th October - Individual/sibling photographs being taken

Tuesday 8th & Wednesday 9th October - Consultation Evenings

At the end of another busy week, I want to thank you for your continued support – we couldn't make school so successful without your help.

Everyone at Waterloo, wishes all our children and their families, a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,



Jenny Brown
Head of School