

13th December 2024

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we near the end of an incredibly busy autumn term at Waterloo, it is amazing to see just how far the children have come and what they have achieved over the last few months. They have worked incredibly hard and we are extremely proud of every single one of them. Our new curriculum has had a significant impact on the children's learning, and we really hope that you have enjoyed hearing all about it from them.

Festivals

Over the last few weeks, we have had the privilege of watching some of our KS2 children take part in the Dance Festival and the Blackpool Music Service Christmas Festival. On both occasions, our children performed brilliantly and we were really proud of how well they represented Waterloo. Several local headteachers have commented since on how well-behaved and well-mannered our children were. We are extremely proud of every single one of them. A massive thank you to the staff, who gave up so much of their time, to enable the children to have experiences that they will never forget. We truly do have the most wonderful and dedicated staff team.

Christmas Celebrations

We are in the thick of our celebrations in school and the children are absolutely loving the build-up to Christmas. This week, was Christmas dinner week. It was brilliant to see so many children enjoying the delicious food - several children were overheard to say that their Christmas dinner day was, 'The best day ever!' Huge thanks to the catering team, who worked incredibly hard to produce hundreds of Christmas dinners.

Our very talented Reception children performed a wonderful Wiggly Nativity, which was enjoyed by all. Thank you to all the parents and carers who came to watch – your children were absolutely fantastic!

Our Nursery children had a lovely time at their Christmas Stay and Play today. Thank you to those parents and carers who were able to join us.

We still have more Christmas fun to come! Here are some reminders, ahead of next week...

Christmas Parties

Christmas parties are a real highlight of the festive period and the children are really looking forward to them. On their party day, the children are encouraged to come to school in non-uniform/party clothes.

Christmas Party Dates	Year Groups
Tuesday 17th December	Reception, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6
Wednesday 18th December	Nursery, Year 1, Year 2 & Year 3

Family Carols

On **Tuesday 17th December (6pm - 7pm)**, we will be holding a family carols evening in the Sports Hall. It will be a very relaxed event; the school choir will be performing and there will be

the opportunity to share in some carols together. Please do come along and join in with what should be a lovely part of our last week of term. We will open the Harris Avenue gates at **5.40pm**, but please refrain from parking on Harris Avenue, as we do not wish to upset our neighbours. During the evening, we will be taking a retiring collection in support of Brian House.

Christmas Jumper Day

On **Thursday 19th December**, we will be holding a Christmas jumper day in school. The children are invited to come to school in a Christmas jumper/non-uniform, in exchange for **£1 each or £2 per family**. All the money raised will be donated to Brian House. Brian House is a local charity who provide specialist care and support for babies, children and young people who have a life-limiting condition. They are a local hospice, and this particular charity holds a special place in the hearts of the Waterloo staff family. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

PE

A reminder that **there will be no school-based PE lessons next week, but swimming will continue for Year 5 as normal.**

Staffing News

The end of term is a particularly special time for two members of staff. Mrs Metcalf, our Nursery Manager and Mr Brown, our KS1 Phase Leader, have both secured new and exciting leadership positions. Mrs Metcalf will be leaving us to take up her new role as EYFS Lead at Layton Primary School and Mr Brown will be leaving us to take up a 12-month secondment as the new Assistant Headteacher at Blackpool Gateway Academy. Both Mrs Metcalf and Mr Brown are much-loved members of staff, who have been at Waterloo for a long time. Although they will both be missed, they leave us with our love and best wishes for the exciting challenges that lie ahead.

End of Term Arrangements

A reminder that school finishes **next Friday (20th December), at 1pm**. This change to our normal hours means that **there is no after school club on that day and no afternoon session in Nursery**. When we have an early finish, we often have children who are left behind. We politely ask that all children are picked up promptly next Friday. **Our last day will be a non-uniform day in school.**

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

Spring Term 2025

Just a reminder that the new term begins on **Monday 6th January 2025** at the normal time.

At the end of a very busy week, everyone at Waterloo wishes all our children and their families, a restful weekend.

Kind regards,



Jenny Brown
Head of School