



Waverton Community Primary School
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Head Teacher: Mrs Carla Cartwright



Learning together; Achieving together.

8th September 2026

Dear Waverton Families,

Welcome back. It is lovely to see everyone after the summer break. I am sure the summer holidays have provided everyone with a well-deserved rest, and everyone has returned refreshed and ready for the year ahead. The children have settled in well and it has been lovely to meet our new reception children. Chris our Caretaker has been busy over the holidays painting and getting the school ready for the new year.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning will start this week. The year 6 class will have outdoor learning this half term and Years 4 and 5 the following half term. They are very excited. Please remember outdoor clothing and shoes as they will be out in all weathers.

Sports Platinum Award

We have been successful in achieving the 'School Sports Platinum' award again. This is the highest national award a school can receive for excellence in physical education (PE), physical activity and school sport. Well done everyone.

Trees



Following our annual tree survey, we followed safety advice and two trees were felled in the reception area during the summer break.

Attendance/Absence during term time.

The expected attendance for all children is 95%. As a school we are required to record attendance below 95%, which is discussed with our Education Welfare Officer termly. We appreciate that some children have had periods of illness so always take this into consideration. We now must make parents aware if their child's attendance drops below 95% so will give out attendance certificates during parents evening to keep you informed. If you have any questions about this our attendance policy is on the school website but we are also happy to have a conversation about it.

In August 2024, The Department for Education (DfE) announced important amendments to legislation surrounding holidays in term time.

As of 19th August 2024, the law ceases to include a leave of absence for a family holiday. A leave of absence should not be granted unless there are exceptional circumstances. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance. Head Teachers are only empowered to approve a leave of absence when it is requested in advance by the parent or guardian with whom the child resides and when circumstances of the requested leave are 'exceptional'.

The Head Teacher and the Governing Body will determine what constitutes an exceptional circumstance on an individual basis. If parents/guardians need to request Exceptional Leave of Absence, they must complete a 'Leave of Absence' form available from the school office. It should be noted that if any application is declined and absence occurs of a consecutive 5 or more unauthorised days, then school may apply to the Local Authority for a Fixed Penalty Notice to be issued to each parent/guardian as outlined on the Leave of Absence Form.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the school to thank you for your full support in this matter by not taking your child out of school during term time.

This new legislation will bring about increased attendance and improving standards in our borough's schools.

A copy of the Fixed Penalty Notice Framework is attached.

Updating details

It is important that the school hold current and up to date details for both yourselves as parents/guardians, but also for your child who may have had a change in dietary requirements/new dietary requirements, changes to medical information we currently hold for your child/new medical information we should be aware of etc. Along with changes in family circumstances, house moves, change of G.P. and importantly contact numbers. Please ensure that the office is informed of any changes so that our records can be updated.

Reception class 2027

We will be holding open days for families who have children due to start school in September 2027. The dates are on the website so please join us if you are looking for a place for your child or pass the information on to any other families who are.

Have a good week.
Mrs C Cartwright