

# **Waverley Abbey School**



All things are possible for one who believes. Mark 9:23



# **HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE**

### School Newsletter 4

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### 20th October 2023

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#### Next week's worship theme - Our school values

Every member of Waverley Abbey is a child of God who learns to live a life of love, compassion and hope within our school family on their way to fulfilling their God-given potential. We want children to leave having grown in faith and courage and established on their spiritual journey.

All things are possible for one who believes. Mark 9:23

As we reach the end of a jam packed half term, I would like to thank you all for your continued support both within school and also for the additional events such as the school discos which were a huge success, raising over £1000 for future projects! Thank you to the amazing FOWA team and volunteers for organising this and for stocking the snacks and sweets.

It was so lovely to welcome you all into the school for our parents' evenings this week. It was wonderful to see so many of our families and to be able to share the positive feedback with you. If you were unable to come, please do book a telephone appointment with your class teacher so they can update you as to your child's progress and learning. We really do want to talk to every single parent.

Waverley DSL Team: At Waverley we have a number of staff who make up our DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) team. Ms Morris is the lead with myself, Mrs Hilyard, Mr Brown, Miss Whitehouse (office team) and Mrs Parker Swann (HSLW) too. If you have a concern, however small, we always ensure that there is a member of the DSL team on site if you want to come and talk. We also use the E mail dsl@waverley-abbey.surrey.sch.uk if you would prefer to E mail.

Jewellery including earrings: A reminder that school policy is plain stud earrings only to be worn. Recently we have seen a number of other designs/ patterns which are not suitable for school. Also, earrings must be removed for PE including swimming as we follow the PE association's guidelines.

Pupils should also not wear jewellery to school other than plain earrings and watches. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Winter Uniform: After half term we move over to winter uniform. School shirts and ties should be worn at this point, so please pack your polo shirts and summer dresses away for the summer term 2024! Girls are permitted to wear smart buttoned blouses and if the neckline will not accommodate a tie, then it is acceptable not to wear one. For all other shirts a tie is expected.

Labelling uniform: There has been a large number of jumpers and other school uniform left on playgrounds/ the field after break and lunchtimes. When the clothing is clearly labelled with the child's full name this is easy to return, however there have been items with no name at all or just initials. As I'm sure you can appreciate, with nearly 500 children it is essential that clothing is clearly named in order for a quick return! All unnamed lost property will be left at the front of the school this afternoon for parents to collect prior to half term. Those items not collected will either be recycled or will be sent to bags2schools.

Waverley Fireworks: Our annual firework event will be held from 6pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November. If you would like to join us for this event there will be food and drink on sale as well as sweets for the children too. For new parents, our firework display certainly rivals some of the town events and is a great way to spend bonfire night. Tickets are available on SCOPay and are available to Waverley parents, friends and family first. We will open up the booking to all after half term, so please book now to avoid missing out.

Have a wonderful half term!

Mrs Rebecca Marshall

#### **Waverley Abbey School Values**

Our Christian values permeate the life of the school. As we go through the day the children and adults aim to live out these values, deepening their meaning and showing them in many practical ways. Although not a Christian value, growth unites all of the values as we look to grow in all of these as we progress on our spiritual journey.

Our focus themes, stemming from these values form the basis for our daily Collective Worship. Each week, through Good News assembly, we spend time together as a school celebrating those children who have particularly shown these values in their attitude and behaviour at school.

The values have been decided as a school community and reflect what is of importance to Waverley Abbey.

Although these values may be supported and shared by Christians and non-Christians alike, theological backgrounds and biblical references help to explore what is distinctively Christian about each value. Jesus said, 'all things are possible for one who believes' (Mark 9:23). This is far more than self-belief and growing as a learner. It is *the power of God* that makes what seems impossible possible. Nothing is impossible with God (Luke 1:37).

#### Hope

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". Jeremiah 29:11

This powerful and affirming passage is a part of a letter Jeremiah writes to the exiles in Babylon—the Hebrews who have been taken from their own land and are now living in a foreign place. Jeremiah's advice is, in essence, to fully embrace the new situation.

Hope is our value because we believe that there is always hope and all is never lost. Hope is an attitude of mind that we develop through faith in God and each other. At Waverley Abbey this helps us to persevere, even when things get tough and when we face new challenges.

#### Love

Children, let us not love with words or speech but in actions and in truth. John 3:18

Love is a value that underpins all that we do at Waverley Abbey. We often use the phrase 'actions speak louder than words'. For all of us, it's not enough just to say nice things to others – we need to back it up by doing kind and caring things for them too.

Jesus demonstrated his unconditional love during

his time on earth indiscriminately and as followers of Jesus we aim to walk in his footsteps. **We show love to everyone by putting others before ourselves, without expecting anything in return.** 

#### Courage

In Deuteronomy (31:8), Moses says 'The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged'.

Courage is a value for Waverley Abbey because God asks us to be brave in the face of hardship, knowing that He is with us at all times.

This reminds us to be brave and to be the best we can be when things are difficult. We have courage to stand against injustice and are committed to what is right and true.

#### **Honesty**

Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." <u>John 8:31-32</u>
At school, we discuss how being honest with yourself is important – that everyone makes mistakes but that everyone has the potential to become perfect in the eyes of the Lord. Everyone is growing and no matter what, if we come to the Lord, then He will forgive us. We talk about how being untruthful weighs us down, trapping us and making us feel sad.

Being honest with friends and family is important for personal relationships and for us to feel comfortable with ourselves. Honesty in friendships and at home, in the classroom and in the school community helps us to be trusted amongst peers and those in the wider community. Being fair and open with each other, agreeing always to tell the truth helps others to see us as trustworthy, reliable and dependable.

#### Compassion

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other just as in Christ, God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32

Compassion is a value that is important to us at Waverley Abbey. The word means to put ourselves in someone else's shoes, leading to a desire to act so that we can stop sadness and suffering.

At school, we think about those within our community and beyond, recognising the importance of loving those who may not like or who are different to us. We encourage compassion, empathy and forgiveness for each other as we are all made in the image of God.

#### **SCHOOL MEALS**

The new Autumn/Winter menu comes into effect after half term (menu available on our website). Please note that option 3 will be jacket potato with either cheese, tuna or baked beans every day.

Information regarding Special Diets is also available on the school website.

Please can we remind all parents (including those whose children have free school meals) that meals must be ordered at least one week in advance. We have had several pupils with no meals booked recently which puts additional pressure on the catering staff to provide meals and can lead to shortages for other children.

Thank you.



CHILDREN LEARN BEST AT THE START OF THE DAY

If your child misses	That Equals	Which is	Over 13 years of schooling that is
10 minutes a Day	50 minutes a Week	1.5 Weeks per Year	Nearly <u>1/2 Year</u> of lost learning
20 minutes a Day	1 hour 40 minutes a Week	2.5 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 Year</u> of lost learning
30 minutes a day	1/2 a Day a Week	4 Weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 Years of lost learning
1 hour a Day	1 day a Week	8 Weeks per year	Nearly 2.5 Years of lost learning

Support your child's success. Make sure they attend school, all day, every day!

## **EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!**

#### **Waverley Abbey Fireworks**

Tickets for this event on 3<sup>rd</sup> November are available on SCOPay. Family tickets are £30 and cover 2 adults and 2 children.

#### **FOWA Request**

Please save any unwanted soft toys for the Christmas Fayre. As long as they are in good condition, we would love to have them! A box will be placed in the entrance overhang, please feel free to drop them in after half term.



Piper in Year 4 took part in the Brownies regional swimming gala and helped Frensham 1st Brownies win joint 1st place!

Congratulations to Piper, who was very proud to receive a medal for her efforts.

#### **Shots Girl's Football Club**

The Shots girls football club has spaces available on a Tuesday after-school.

Please contact Jamie.macallister@shotsfoundation.org for further information.

#### **Cross Country News**

Last Saturday, Waverley Abbey fielded a team of 90 pupils across the school, who took part in our Farnham District Junior Cross Country event over at Farnham Park. Although, it was a rather chilly autumn morning, the sun was shining for all the children who were running. Waverley competed against 12 other schools with a total of 680 pupils across all the schools.

Waverley had some fantastic individual results with Will and Charlie in Year 6 finishing 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> out of 346 boys. As well as Hayley in Year 6 who finished strongly for a place on the podium, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 334 girls. An incredible achievement! The girls team finished 4<sup>th</sup> and the boys team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> with Waverley Abbey finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Well done to all our runners that took part!

#### **PE After Half Term**

All children must make sure they have their PE kit in school.

PE kits consist of; school T-shirt, black shorts, plain white socks, trainers, navy/black jogging bottoms/sweater or school fleece.

It is essential that all children have their PE kits in school so that they can take part in all aspects of our PE curriculum. Your support with this is appreciated.

As Year 3 have missed swimming this week, Mr Cassim will teach another week of swimming for the first week back after half term. Please can you make sure the children have swimming kit and PE kit. After the first week, they will then just have PE focusing on dance.

Year 4 will have swimming after half term and they will need their swimming kit (trunks/one piece costume, swimming hat, towel) as well as their PE kit just in case the pool is unavailable).

Year 5 and 6 will need their PE kits in school as they will be moving onto orienteering.

#### **Additional Diary Dates**

4<sup>th</sup> November 10am - Tilford Green clean up. A chance to meet local families and do some volunteering. This could also be credit towards the WA challenge!

3<sup>rd</sup> December 4pm - Switching on the Christmas tree lights and Carols on Tilford Green. Come and sing with your community. Waverley Abbey children will be invited to sing a hymn too (more details to follow).

Diary dates for Autumn Term 2023  October 2023			
Monday 30th	Return To School		
	Year 6 - Fairground Showcase		
Tuesday 31st	Year 5 - Parent Showcase		
	November 2023		
Wednesday 1st	Year 6 - Greek Workshop		
Friday 3rd	Waverley Abbey Fireworks Evening		
Monday 6th	Individual School Photos		
Wednesday 8th	Nasal Flu Vaccinations		
Monday 13th	Anti-Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day		
Friday 17th	Children In Need Day		
	December 2023		
Monday 4th	Year 4 - Natural History Museum Trip		
Monday 11th	Christmas Lunch And Jumper Day		
Friday 15th	Last Day Of Term		