



Waverley Abbey School

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



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

School Newsletter 9

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26th January 2024

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Next week's worship theme – Being a shining light

The lives of good people are like lights in the darkness

Proverbs 13:9

I am glad to see that the inclement weather has not dampened spirits at Waverley and despite a few coughs and colds the children have worked just as hard in their learning. I am also pleased to see that children are wrapping up warm too. In the past I have asked parents to ensure children are wearing coats so thank you for your support in this.

Medicines in school: Recently we have updated our policy about medicines in school. If you would like to see this in full it can be found on the school website, however some of the main points are as follows:

Where possible parents should administer medicine at home - if medicine needs administering 4x a day then one can be at school, but the medical form must be filled out beforehand, giving specific dosage and the time needed.

If a child becomes unwell and requires Calpol, the office will phone to request permission and you will then need to send an email to confirm your consent to info@waverley-abbey.surrey.sch.uk. Calpol will only be administered once written consent has been received. This will need to be done on each occasion.

Staff are not permitted to administer aspirin to any child unless prescribed by a doctor.

All medicine must be in its original packaging and clearly labelled with the child's name. Staff are not permitted to administer if it is not.

When the course of medicine has been administered, parents must come to collect the medicine. It will not be given to children to take home.

Parents and carers are responsible for checking that medicine e.g inhalers, are in date.

Where possible, we encourage children to be responsible for going to the office for their medicine but would recommend parents schedule the doses so that this falls at the start of lunch (12 to 12.30pm) as children and staff are focussed on teaching/ learning during lesson times!

Mobile phones: We actively encourage families not to allow their children to bring expensive items into school including mobile phones, however If your child must bring a phone in then our school policy is that they need to drop it off at the office first thing in the morning, returning to pick it up at the end of the day. We should also have a letter confirming that your child will be bringing a phone onto the premises. Thank you for your co-operation in this.

Cultural week: Our cultural week begins after half term on Tuesday 20th February. There is lots planned for the children during this week. We still have some assembly slots free for any parent/ relative who would be willing to come into school to talk about a country – perhaps after living there for a period of time or as this is where a parent is from. Please let Mr Brown know if you would like to take part.

Mrs Rebecca Marshall

Lost Property

Please check our new lost property basket outside the front of school for any **un-named** items. This will be routinely emptied once or twice a term. Anything that is clearly named should be returned to your child. We also have a selection of glasses in office, so it is worth checking if your child has lost a pair. These should also be named if at all possible please.

Thank you.

After School Clubs

A reminder there is no girls' football next Tuesday (30/01). The club will resume again on Tuesday 6th February.

Please remember that teacher led clubs will NOT take place during the week of Parents' Evenings (5th – 9th February).

External Clubs and 360 Care will run as normal.

School Meal Payments

To avoid complications with the handover to our new caterers after half term, please ensure all outstanding dinner monies are paid by Friday 9th February.

Thank you.

Second Hand School Uniform

Our stock of larger sized jumpers, cardigans and PE T shirts is currently very low, so please do check with the school office before paying via SCOPay. We are charged for every refund we issue so need to avoid unnecessary refunds wherever possible.

If you have received items of 2nd hand uniform which you have not paid for, please do so as soon as possible as this all helps towards raising money for the school.

Thank you.

Residential Trip Payments

Please remember that, unless previously agreed with the school, all residential trip payments should be made in full by the end of February. This applies to UKSA, Calshot & Runway's End. You can check your balance at any time via your SCOPay account but please let the office know if you have any problems regarding payment.



Well done to Ava in Year 4 who has donated an incredible 14 inches of her hair to the Little Princess Trust!

The Little Princess Trust provides **free** real hair wigs to children and young people, up to 24 years old, who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions. Each wig costs around £700.

If you would like to support Ava's fundraising, donations can be made via the link below.

Thank you.

[Ava - Year 4](#)



Congratulations to Charlie in Year 5 whose stunning photo of an ancient tree in Paineshill Park was featured on Alan Titchmarsh's Love Your Weekend television program.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about



WHATSAPP

UK AND EUROPE
16+
THE REST OF THE WORLD

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender, and any recipients: not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted - it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes - encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded - so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." It is a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe - but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CLICK HERE

CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody' - choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.

EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list - so they also need to be deleted from the address book.

REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.

LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.

DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.

Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.03.2022

Diary dates for Spring Term 2024

January 2024

Friday 26th	Non-Uniform Day - Dare To Be Different
Tuesday 30th	Year 3 Trip - Butser Ancient Farm
Wednesday 31st	Year 4 - Classes 4OK and 4LS Clarinet Concert

February 2024

Thursday 1st	Year 6 - WW2 Showcase
Tuesday 6th	Safer Internet Day Parents' Evening
Thursday 8th	Parents' Evening
Friday 9th	Break Up For Half Term
Monday 19th	Inset Day
Tuesday 20th	Return To School
Thursday 29th	FOWA - U Film Night

March 2024

Friday 1st	FOWA - PG Film Night
Thursday 21st	Year 4 - Easter Production - 6pm
Friday 22nd	Year 4 - Easter Production - 2pm
Thursday 28th	Easter Egg Raffle Last Day of Spring Term