



Waverley Abbey School

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



School Newsletter 9

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17th January 2025

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HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Next week's worship theme – Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd... He gives me new strength.

Welcome back to a new term and a new year! It has already been an eventful start to the term with a display of various weather types including snow and flooding! Please remember, that we will try to ensure the children have fresh air and a playtime outside even when the weather is poor, so do make sure that they bring their coat with them every day. Many thanks to parents who kept us informed of the changing road closures too during the flooding. I have forwarded our concerns to Surrey County Council and requested that they also keep us informed when water levels mean roads must be closed, so that we can support alternative travel plans for families.

The past two weeks have also been filled with visitors in school and experiences to enhance learning for pupils. Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the Rural Life Centre as part of their WWII topic this week. On Monday, Year 4 were treated to a fantastic Anglo-Saxon day where they were given the opportunity to view various artefacts such as weapons, coins and tools and learn all about their use. They also re-enacted a battle with authentic war cries! Next week our choir are off to the O2 to perform their Young Voices concert which all are very much looking forward to.

Internet Safety: Recently we have experienced an increase in concerns raised by both children and families about children's safe and appropriate use of the internet/ mobile devices. Please continue to keep a close eye on your children's internet use, and of their messaging and WhatsApp threads/ friends too. This also extends to pupils' use of online games

such as Fortnite (age rating 12).

Fire/ lockdown drills: Each year, all schools in the country are expected to practice both fire drills and what we should do in the event of a lockdown. Thankfully, our pupils treat both as 'water off a duck's back', being calm and sensible as we practise what we would do in the event of a fire, or if we needed to stay in the building for any reason. Some staff share with children that 'this is what we would do if there was a dog on the field!' which usually makes them smile. Surrey produces both fire drill and lockdown procedure guidance which we follow at all times. These are readily available via any search engine, should parents wish to know more.

Carpark updates: We have secured funding and are expecting the lip on the entrance to the field car park to be repaired within the next few weeks. We are also looking at solutions for the sandy car park and are meeting with a contractor next week to explore the possibility (and cost) of a grid to ensure that it is fit for purpose. Thank you for your patience whilst we explore various options. I will keep you posted.

Parent Consultations: Parent consultations will be taking place during the final week of half term, on **Tuesday 11th** and **Thursday 13th February**. A separate communication will be sent out nearer the time with details of the appointment booking system, but please remember that no teacher led clubs take place that week.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Rebecca Marshall

School Meals

Please make sure meals are ordered at least 7 days in advance.

A courtesy email is often sent from the office, but it is not their responsibility to remind parents.

Thank you.

Residential Trip Reminders

This is just a gentle reminder of final payments due dates for the following:

Year 4 Runways End - end of February 2025

Year 5 Calshot - end of February 2025

Year 6 UKSA – 3rd March 2025

Prompt payment is appreciated but please do let us know if you are going to have difficulty meeting the deadline unless extended terms have already arranged.

Lost Property

All items which are named should be returned to your child, but this may take a day or two. No lost property is kept in the office apart from valuables such as glasses and watches. All unnamed items are put in the basket outside the front of the school (apart from school uniform which is washed and sold as second hand).

Please clearly name all items with your child's full name – not initials.

Surrey Arts Drum Lessons

Mr Wilcox the drums teacher from Surrey Arts has availability for lessons on a Wednesday. Please contact Surrey Arts if your child is interested in having lessons.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/culture-and-leisure/arts/music/lessons-for-children>

Telephone Number - 01483 519282

World Thinking Day and Founders Day

Saturday 22nd February is both World Thinking Day and Founders Day - an important date for members of Girl Guiding and the Scout Association respectively. As the 22nd falls on the last Saturday of half term this year children are welcome to wear their Guiding/Scouting uniform to school on Thursday 13th February.

LATE FOR SCHOOL?

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 <u>1.5 Years</u> of lost learning
1 hour a Day	1 day a Week	8 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>2.5 Years</u> of lost learning

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

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

Pupil News!

Congratulations to Austin in 4MB who recently received his first ever Blue Peter badge! Austin was awarded the Green Badge for his contribution to caring for the environment, litter picking and taking care of wildlife amongst other things. He'd been hoping for over a year to be lucky enough to receive a badge and was over the moon to open a beautiful letter from the Editor just before Christmas Day!



January	
Monday 20th	Bag2School Collection - 9am
Tuesday 21st	Year 5 - Mosque Visit
Wednesday 22nd	Young Voices at The O2
Thursday 30th	Year 3 - Butser Ancient Farm Visit
February	
Wednesday 5th	Watts Gallery Visit - 4MB and 4HI
Thursday 6th	Watts Gallery Visit - 4LS and 4LH
Wednesday 12th	4HI and 4LS Clarinet Concert - 2:30pm
Thursday 13th	World Thinking Day and Founders Day
Friday 14th	Break Up For Half Term
Monday 24th	INSET Day
Tuesday 25th	Return To School

Remaining 2024-25 Academic Year Inset Days

Monday 24th February 2025

Friday 23rd May 2025

Monday 21st July 2025

Tuesday 22nd July 2025