



29 November 2018

Website: www.waverley-abbey.surrey.sch.ukEmail: info@waverley-abbey.surrey.sch.uk

Telephone Number: (01252) 782321

Head's Update

It does feel a little strange in November writing to say that this is the penultimate newsletter of the year! There has been a wealth of activity within and beyond school over the past fortnight. The Christmas Fair was a great success. Thank you for all those who supported the event; from making Christmas crackers, to setting up, manning stalls, donating prizes and attending in your droves! Particular thanks must go to our FOWA chairs, Kelly and Chris, who were so busy ensuring the day ran smoothly.

We have lots of success to celebrate too. A huge well done to Bobby, Johnnie and Billy in Year 5 who have reached the North East Hants, league cup final. Best of luck in the final boys! I would also like to congratulate Mia M who has been on a personal mission to reduce the amount of plastic used in restaurants. Following a visit to a local restaurant Mia was disappointed to see them using plastic straws. After setting up a petition and meeting the manager with her signatures, the chain have agreed to switch to paper straws. What a fantastic outcome.

Parking: I am disappointed to have to be writing again about this but unfortunately there have been incidents this week where members of staff have been subjected to unpleasantness and an unwillingness to co-operate with parking on the school site. We are aware that we are in a fairly unique position regarding location and that the volume of cars on site from 3pm is vast. However, I request that you extend the same courtesy to staff that you would expect of us. If the situation does not improve, we will remove the privilege of being able to park on site for the perpetrators.

Staff update: As many of you will have heard, Mr Collier will be leaving the UK in December and relocating Stateside with his partner. We wish them every success and look forward to regular updates. In January, Mr Millwater will be returning as 4MC's class teacher.

Christmas Post Boxes: The school Christmas post boxes will be out next week. If your child would like to send cards, the post boxes will be in the corridor between the computing room and the rest of the school. Please ensure that your child writes both the recipient's surname and class otherwise we have trouble directing them to the right person!

Christmas jumper competition: If your child would like to take part in this Waverley Abbey tradition please send their decorated jumper to school on Monday 10th December. The jumper will need to be labelled with the pupil's name and class. There will be prizes for the most creative and 'child completed' jumpers! Please can all jumpers be brought to the dining hall first thing on Monday morning. Many thanks.

Nativity in the Cathedral: Mrs Robinson Weir and her team of artists have been busy creating figures for the Cathedral's nativity scene. If you have time to go and visit, there are some really amazing creations from many local church schools.

Save the Children Christmas jumper day: On Friday 14th December the children may wear a Christmas jumper to school in return for a £1.00 donation to Save the Children. This is also our Christmas lunch day. In the afternoon we watch a film together and this year we have chosen 'The Santa Clause' which has a rating U 'suitable for all'.



Rebecca Marshall
Head of School

Important dates:

Please remember that tomorrow is an inset day.

Year 5 Showcase Assembly - Parents are welcome to attend the Year 5 Showcase assembly on **Thursday 6 December** at 2.45 pm in classrooms. This will be an opportunity to hear more about what the children have been learning this half term at Waverley Abbey. We look forward to seeing you.

Waverley Abbey Clubs – Please be advised that Waverley Abbey run autumn term clubs finish on Friday 7th December.

Wednesday, 12 December - Year 3 Christmas Production 6.30pm

Thursday, 13 December – Year 5 Christmas Production 6.30pm

(Please note that Year 4 & 6 will be doing their productions in the Easter and Summer terms)

Monday, 17 December - Year 3 & 4 Church Services will be held at 11am and 2pm

Tuesday, 18 December - Year 5 & 6 Church Services will be held at 11am and 2pm

Christmas Disco – Tuesday 18th December we will be holding Christmas Disco's for Lower & Upper school pupils, see below for more details.

Last day of term - The last day of term is **Wednesday 19 December**. We will have an earlier lunch break that day and school will finish at 13.30.

Other News:

Christmas Lunch - Forms requesting a school Christmas lunch on **Friday 14th December** for children normally on packed lunch that day, or requesting the vegetarian option (applies to all children) must be returned to the school office **by 4.30pm today, Thursday 29th November**. Late requests cannot be processed as the meals are made strictly to order. Thank you.

School meal payments: Can all parents please ensure that meal payments are up to date at the end of term. Payment should always be made promptly and in advance of meals being taken. Thank you.

Christmas Discos - The Waverley Abbey Christmas Discos will take place on **Tuesday 18th December**. There will be two discos – one for the lower school (4 – 5.15pm) and one for the upper school (5.30 – 5.45pm). This is an opportunity for children to celebrate the end of the first term as we approach the Christmas break. There will be 180 tickets available for each session and tickets are booked via scopay on a first come first served basis. If you are unable to access scopay then please contact the school office. Each ticket will cost £5.00 and will include a small snack and a drink. Additional items will be on sale. Tickets are non-refundable.

It will only be possible to run this event if we have enough volunteers to help on the day and throughout (including someone who can 'run the decks!'). If you want to help please leave your name and contact details with the school office. **Please volunteer to help - it will be fun!**

Waverley Abbey Attendance Policy – Please find attached our school Attendance policy for 2019. Highlights from the policy are as follows:

- Pupil absence should be advised to the office on each day that the child is absent as the school has a responsibility to ensure that all children are accounted for. If the child will be absent for a known number of days i.e. 48 hours in the case of sickness etc. then those dates may be advised to us in advance and will be marked in the register.
- All medical appointments must be advised to the office in writing so that they can be marked into registers.
- Any requests for holiday/other leave of absence is made 3 weeks in advance to allow time for the forms to be completed and returned to parents and registers marked accordingly.

Nut Aware School – further clarification: Having taken advice following queries from parents regarding products which are labelled as ‘may contain nuts or traces of nuts’ and their suitability as snacks in school, we would like to clarify that products containing nuts, or indeed snack packs of nuts should not be brought into school but we are aware that the possibility of traces of nuts being present in some products cannot be avoided.

The school must always be made aware of a pupil’s allergies or suspected allergies and children also need to be able to manage their allergies. Children should not share food with other pupils. As you will appreciate, there are several children in the school who are allergic to some foods, particularly nuts, so your co-operation regarding this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Children’s Safety - Clever Never Goes has been developed to replace the ‘stranger danger’ approach.

Clever Never Goes moves the focus away from strangers and instead teaches children to recognise when someone (anyone) is asking them to go with them. In doing so, the programme aims to give children practical safety skills which they can use as they get older and become more independent.

Please have a look at more information on the website: <http://clevernevergoes.org/> which has free resource packs for parents.

Online Gaming Safety - Roblox is the latest and most popular downloaded gaming App. Although much of the content is child friendly, there are millions of games on this App which are not always suitable for young children.

Roblox games can be multiplayer experiences. Players can comment and converse with other players inside a game and also chat with their friends. If you wish to switch this feature off, the link below shows how parents can turn off Roblox’s social features (see the sidebar “Roblox’s Social Features” Roblox also has a parent’s guide at corp.roblox.com/parents).

While Roblox’s social features can create some anxiety for parents and carers, they also provide a hands-on opportunity for people at home to help children develop good digital habits that will last a lifetime. This is important as, at some point, your child is likely to use other social networking platforms which don’t offer parental controls.

With this in mind it is important that the correct age is set in the ‘Personal Settings’ option. This determines whether a child is younger or older than 13.

Other useful websites

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/203313120-Safety-Features-Chat-Privacy-Filtering>

<https://www.connectsafely.org/roblox/>

FOWA News:

Bonfire Night 2018

There was an amazing turnout of around 900 people and we would like to thank you all for supporting this event. A big thank you to all those who helped on the night running the stalls and special thanks to the:

Bonfire Building Team – Scott Holman, Julien Tidmarsh, Rich Hedgecox, Lauren and Magda

Apex Direct Mail – For supplying the pallets to make to huge bonfire.

Our PA for the night – Amy Adam

The BBQ team – Scott and Magda and their helpers.

The Refreshment tent team – You were certainly rushed off your feet.

All the teachers for organising the parking, the entrance gates and ensuring everything was packed away in a blink of an eye, at the end.

Mr Emmerson – Making sure we had power and we could all see what we were doing. The very important job of lighting the Bonfire and finding the water tap in the undergrowth to fit the hosepipe on.

We hope you all had a good time and hope to see you at future Waverley events.

Chris – Co-Chair Fowa

Diary Dates:

November	
30 th	Inset Day
December	
3 rd	Year 5 Arabian Dance Day
3 rd	Year 6 Height & Weight Measurements
6 th	Year 5 Showcase 2.45pm (in classrooms)
7 th	Waverley Abbey run clubs finish
10 th	Christmas Jumper Competition – Judging
12 th	Year 3 Christmas Production 6.30pm
13 th	Year 5 Christmas Production 6.30pm
14 th	Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
17 th	Christmas Church Services Year 3 & 4
17 th	Year 6 Christmas Party
18 th	Christmas Church Services Year 5 & 6
18 th	Year 3, 4 & 5 Christmas Party
18 th	School Christmas Disco's
19 th	End of term – 1.30pm Finish