

Whats on WAVERLEY?

E-NEWSLETTER
SUMMER
2024

DEAR PARENT/CARER

As I write this article our students across the trust have just finished their end of year assessments and examinations and we are fast approaching the end of another academic year. Where has the year gone?

I always say that without children, schools are nothing but bricks and mortar. It is the children that are the heartbeat of a school, who provide the life and energy that make a school what it is.

It's been another great year at Waverley Education Foundation with many wonderful experiences and opportunities for our students, staff and local community to engage in.

In July alone we have had the following trust wide events which were all a great success and will live long in the memory.

For the first time since 2018, we had the pleasure of performing another musical production, Annie the Musical. It was wonderful to see students and staff across all key stages from Waverley School and Waverley Studio College, coming together as one family to perform this great production. As always, the students were wonderful. A real credit to themselves, their families and the trust.

The Creative Arts Exhibition showcased some of the wonderful work, produced by our students across the trust. It was so nice to see work of such a high quality from students of all ages and abilities. Both Annie and the Art Exhibition demonstrated that **"Waverley students have a lot of talent"**.

On 18 July we will be hosting our Annual Ladies night at Waverley School. The evening is a wonderful opportunity for ladies from the trust and the local community to come together and enjoy an evening of food and entertainment, while at the same time raising money for our designated charity ACEF. This year, more than ever, we are trying to raise as much funds as possible for ACEF. In April 2024 the school in Kenya, Brainhouse Academy, built through fundraising efforts, was devastated by flash floods. The floods rampaged through the streets tearing down homes, shops, walls and leaving buildings under metres of water. The surge of water acted as bull in a china shop - smashing Brainhouse Academy apart.

The lives of many children and families have been turned upside down and ACEF are seeking our support to help rebuild Brainhouse Academy and give the children a quality of life and education that we all take for granted.

If anyone would like to help, please click on the link below for further information. Any support you can give would be greatly appreciated.

ACEF - Disaster Fundraising

All of the above events could not have taken place without the hard work, commitment and support of staff. Our staff always go the extra mile to help and support the pupils, for which I am very grateful.

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I end this year's newsletter on a sad note. Many parents and carers may have known or heard of Mrs Ivy Caesar, one of our Members and former Trustee at Waverley Education Foundation.

Sadly, Mrs Caesar passed away in February of this year. Mrs Caesar's commitment to Waverley and its community spanned over 30 years when she worked as a Lunchtime Supervisor at the old Waverley School site on Hobmoor Road. She subsequently served the school and trust as a Governor, Trustee and Member, and was a great advocate for the school on community and council groups.

Mrs Caesar was very proud of our Waverley community, and she always wanted the best for all the students and staff of Waverley School and Waverley Studio College.

Mrs Caesar would often speak to the students across the trust and share inspiring messages and wisdom to help them overcome challenges as they go through life. Her uplifting words will be a source of strength and inspiration for generations to come. Below are some of her inspirational sayings which we will be displaying around the trust.

- ▶ 'It's not where you have come from, it's where you are going!'
- ▶ 'No matter where you come from you can do well and education is the key.'
- ▶ 'You can be whatever you want - why can't you become the next Prime Minister for this country?'
- ▶ 'Pick up a pen and write/learn.'

- ▶ 'The power is in the pen.'
- ▶ 'I do not care about the colour of your skin. It is what is inside you that counts.'
- ▶ 'All will be well.'
- ▶ 'Reach for the stars and achieve your dreams'.
- ▶ 'Pick up a pen and let the pen do your talking'.

Mrs Caesar touched the hearts of everyone she came into contact with and will be missed by us all.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank all of our parents and carers for their continued support and we wish you all a happy summer break.

-Sukhbir Farar
Executive Principal

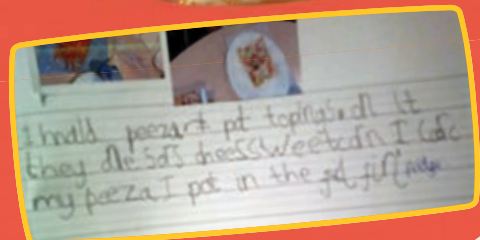


Primary Summer Events

Reception

Pizza Tasting in Reception

Reception pupils have been immersed in the text, 'Book with No Pictures!' From this book they have used their thinking and deciphering skills to work out what different silly words could mean and why someone would write such a silly book. One of the main takes in the book is that there is a character who has a blueberry pizza head and so we explored what this might look and taste like. The children had a hands-on experience of tasting some blueberry pizza with positives all around. Pupils created their own pizza with toppings of their choice, before writing about which pizza they liked best.



Year 2

Year 2 Visit Dudley Zoo



Year 2 pupils had an exciting visit to Dudley Zoo, where they delighted in observing a diverse array of animals from across the globe. The pupils were thrilled to see majestic lions, playful monkeys, and colourful parrots, among many other species. Each exhibit provided a unique opportunity for the pupils to learn about the animals' habitats, diets, and behaviours. The zoo's engaging and educational environment helped to spark the children's curiosity and enthusiasm for the natural world, making the day both enjoyable and informative.

This trip was particularly beneficial as it directly supported the Year 2 Science curriculum, which includes topics such as animals and their habitats. By seeing these creatures up close, the pupils could better understand the concepts they had been learning in the classroom. Additionally, the visit provided a practical connection to the book: *Nim's Island*, which they had been reading. The story features a young girl living on a tropical island and interacting with various animals, making the zoo's diverse exhibits a perfect real-world extension of the narrative. This hands-on experience helped to bring their studies to life, reinforcing their learning through direct observation and engagement.

Class 2C's Celebration of British Values

Year 2

The 2C class assembly on British Values was a resounding success, showcasing pupils' eloquence and understanding of core principles such as Humanity, Equality, Aspiration, and Respect. Each pupil confidently articulated these values, bringing them to life through thoughtful enactments that illustrated their importance in everyday life. Their performances were punctuated with spirited singing and lively dancing, which not only entertained their fellow pupils but also reinforced the messages being conveyed. The assembly highlighted how British Values intertwine with the universal ideals of Humanity, fostering a community where Equality is paramount, Aspiration is encouraged, and Respect is a cornerstone. A heartfelt thank you was extended to the parents for their unwavering support and encouragement, as their attendance significantly boosted the pupils' confidence and enthusiasm.

Year 3

Year 3 Learn about Nature

Year 3 had a fabulous time at the Eco Park. The children were immersed into learning about nature in a sustainable environment. During the trip, pupils investigated the fascinating world of flowers, gaining insights into the different parts of a flowering plant and function. Topics such as pollination, reproduction and the vital role that flowers play in the ecosystems were explored. Pupils had an enriched experience, which deepened their understanding and appreciation of the natural world. Our Year 3 children explored trails, observed wildlife, and participated in eco-friendly activities. It is a great way to appreciate nature while promoting eco consciousness.



Year 3

Year 3 Pupils Embrace Jewish Traditions and Culture

Visiting a synagogue offered Year 3 pupils a rich experiential learning opportunity immersing themselves in the practices and beliefs of Judaism. Stepping through the ornate entrance pupils were immediately enveloped in an atmosphere rich with history and spirituality. Guided by knowledgeable hosts, the children marvelled at the intricate architecture, the solemn beauty of the sanctuary, and the vibrant symbolism adorning the walls. They listened intently as stories of faith and heritage unfolded before them, gaining a deeper understanding of the rituals and customs that define Jewish identity. As they engaged in dialogue and asked insightful questions, their curiosity ignited a profound sense of respect and empathy for a culture different from their own.



Unravelling Nature's Wonders with Year 3 Geographers

Our keen Year 3 pupils embarked on a memorable field trip to the picturesque River Cole. Given our ongoing study of local rivers and their ecological significance in our geography lessons, this excursion provided a perfect opportunity to enrich our pupils' learning through real-life experience.

We strolled leisurely along the banks of the River Cole, observing its source and marvelling at the lush green grasslands, which serve as an ideal habitat for wildlife. As we followed the path, we encountered the river's meanders, witnessing its winding course and deepening depths.

The outing proved to be not only educational but also a delightful experience for our Year 3 pupils, sparking their curiosity and deepening their appreciation of the natural world. It was an afternoon brimming with exploration and discovery. Subsequently, we will be composing a recount of our trip to the River Cole, integrating it into our English and Topic cross-curricular activities.



Year 3 visit the Safari Park

Year 3 pupils had the exciting opportunity to visit the West Midlands Safari Park, embarking on an educational adventure. Observing a diverse range of animals such as lions, giraffes, and meerkats, pupils explored differences in anatomy, behaviour, and habitats. This hands-on experience brought to life their classroom learning about nutrition, skeletons, muscles, and animal adaptations.

The safari park's exhibits on various habitats supported the pupils' understanding of the "Living things and their habitats". They explored environments from African savannahs to tropical rainforests, noting features that make these habitats suitable for different animals. Discussions about

endangered species and the park's conservation efforts inspired pupils to think critically about human impact on the environment and the importance of preserving biodiversity.

Developing skills in scientific enquiry was a key part of the visit. Pupils engaged in activities requiring careful observation, recording findings, and drawing conclusions based on their experiences. They observed differences between herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores, reinforcing their learning about food chains and ecosystems. The hands-on sessions with park rangers provided a deeper understanding of anatomy and conservation, sparking enthusiasm and curiosity about the natural world.

Beyond academic, the visit promoted social and emotional development. Working in groups, pupils navigated the park, enhancing teamwork and communication skills while fostering empathy and curiosity about the natural world. The visit proved to be a memorable and multifaceted educational experience, bridging the gap between textbook learning and real-world application, leaving pupils with a deeper understanding of their studies and a lasting appreciation for wildlife and conservation.



Year 4 Pupils Visit to the Gurdwara

Our Year 4 children had the amazing opportunity to visit the great Guru Nanak Gurdwara in Smethwick. It began with a glorious tour of the grand Darbar hall where our children displayed exemplary behaviour and were a true credit to our school. They listened attentively to the spiritual leader and were able to answer questions on the Khalsa and the importance of Vaisakhi. Children ended the tour by visiting the amazing Langar hall where nobody leaves hungry.



Year 4 & 5

Pupils Go for GOLD

10 children from Year 4 took part in a Quad kids Athletics competition at Oasis Academy Hobmoor. The children had to participate in four different events; 400m, 75m sprint, howler throw and a standing long jump. Our children competed with determination and at times left everything on the track! Four of our children were recognised for outstanding effort and therefore received a self-belief pin badge that they are now wearing with pride. Out of the six schools competing Waverley managed to score 958 points and outscored all the other schools and our children took home the gold medal.



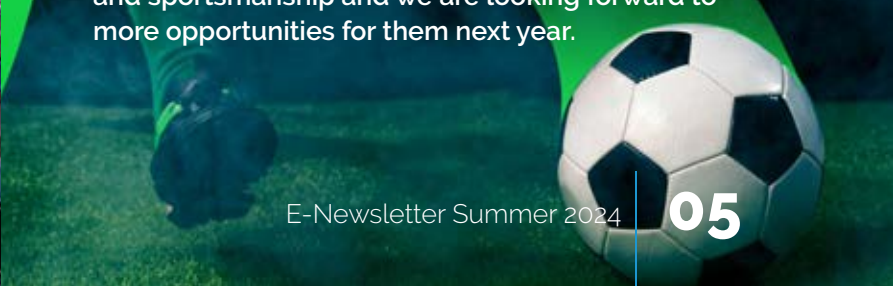
Year 4 Take a Boat Trip

Pupils in 4C visited the Birmingham Canals, where they took part in exciting workshops and enjoyed a boat ride. It was a wonderful opportunity for children, as for many it was their first time seeing and going on a narrow boat. It was a fantastic insight into transportation in the past and really brought history alive for our children. Pupils learnt about how and why canals were made, and they enjoyed participating in practical activities, where they created their own canals, using sand, clay and water. As always, 4C were excellent role models and represented Waverley brilliantly.



Footballers Show Fair Play and Sportsmanship

On Monday 13 May, children from Years 4 and 5 took part in an after-school football tournament at Oasis Academy Hobmoor. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to give some of our keen footballers a chance to play as part of a team on a real pitch, with nets and a referee. We were so proud of the effort that all the children put into the games. It was clear to see the progress they made across the matches as they got used to the positions they were playing in, and the pace of the games. Whilst we did not progress to the next round, there were some fantastic moments and great individual performances. The children represented Waverley brilliantly with their fair play and sportsmanship and we are looking forward to more opportunities for them next year.



Year 6 Pupils Take up the

CHALLENGE



We are so proud of the hard work and effort our Year 6 pupils have put into their SATs tests. Each day began with a wonderful breakfast in the canteen before heading to our classrooms for some last-minute revision. A big thank you to all the staff who have supported with the administration of the tests and ensured everything ran smoothly. Moving forward, we were excited to shift our focus to writing imaginative twisted tales in English and exploring the fascinating world of electricity in Science.



Year 6 Pupils Take to the Pool

Year 6 pupils went swimming this week at Sparkhill Swimming Baths. They had missed out on this opportunity before because of the pandemic, but they were so excited and eager to get into the pool. The children were thrilled to finally have their swimming lesson, and their enthusiasm was clear as they enjoyed every moment in the water.



Resource Base Pupils Make a Splash!



The Conversation Partners class have been enjoying swimming lessons each week this half-term at Sparkhill Pool. Each week, the children have been so engaged in the fantastic curriculum enrichment opportunity. This sensory experience builds on the life skills curriculum offered in the Resource Base to teach children how to stay safe in and around water.

Each week, colleagues are very pleased with the progress the children are making- not only with their confidence in the water, but with their independence changing and organising themselves for the lesson.

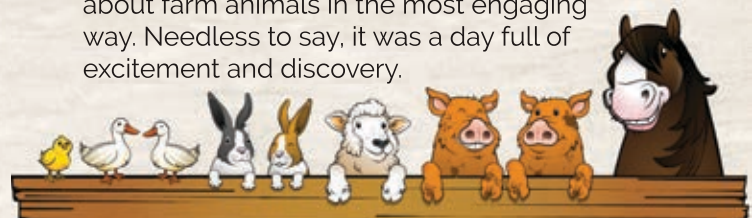
Ms Kanwal's thorough risk assessment has meant that every child in the class is able to access the learning activity, thrive and enjoy understanding how to stay safe in the water. Thank you to all the Team for supporting the children in this invaluable opportunity. Parent feedback has been so positive and appreciative as they know how much hard work the staff supporting this enrichment activity put into making it a true success.

Resource Base Pupils Visit Ash End Farm



Our trip to Ash End Farm was an extraordinary adventure for Resource Base, brilliantly linking with our curriculum topic on farm animals. The children were thrilled with the hands-on experience, engaging directly with the farm's inhabitants by feeding and touching them. A student, in a burst of creativity, even gave her own names to the animals, affectionately calling the donkey 'Amy,' and the duck 'Henry.'

The excitement continued as they interacted with rabbits, guinea pigs, and even fed baby sheep and lambs. The playground area and, most notably, the play barn, were undeniable highlights. Watching the children conquer their fears by zooming down a steep slide into a ball pit was a moment of pure joy. This memorable day was not only filled with fun and laughter but also educational, reinforcing their learning about farm animals in the most engaging way. Needless to say, it was a day full of excitement and discovery.



Resource Base Paint and Praise Party



The Resource Base Paint and Praise Party was a colourful and joyous celebration where the hard work of every child shone brightly! Parents and staff from primary came together to appreciate the dedication and talent of our Resource Base children. A huge thank you goes out to all the staff members who made the event possible, with a special shoutout to Mrs Pitt, Miss Ali and Mrs Begum for their extra efforts. The children delighted everyone with a performance of 'I Can Sing a Rainbow,' followed by a hilarious game of musical chairs where MM

emerged victorious, choosing a chair as her well-deserved prize. To end the celebration, parents and children painted a rainbow together and children wrote sentences praising themselves, creating memories that will be cherished for years to come. It was a fun, successful event that truly showcased the unity and spirit of our school community. Laughter, music and self-appreciation filled the air, leaving everyone with warm hearts and unforgettable memories. Here's to more moments like these that bring us all closer together!

SPORTS DAY

Primary Resource Base classes had the best time participating in sports day events. It was lovely to see how inclusive and accessible each event was. Ribbon twirling was a hit with parents and children alike, but everyone's favourite was the tug of war! Well done to all of our lovely children for joining in so eagerly and thank you to Mr Tonks for giving up his PPA to support such a memorable occasion. Ms Kanwal as always had ensured that the event ran smoothly and was organised so well.

“One parent shared that they had “never been more proud of her son” because he was now independent and thriving.”

Parent Sessions

Parents Learn About Sensory Needs

Over 30 keen parents attended the Communication and Autism Team's 'Understanding Sensory Needs' workshop to better explore how the body's eight (yes eight!) senses can be hyper or hypo sensitive and the impact of these factors on day-to-day learning, regulation and executive functioning.

Parents were attentive throughout the 1.5 hour session and were passionate when contributing stories and strategies that work

for their children. Thoughtful reflections on how Waverley School has aided each child were remarked on and the positive impact for the family.

“Ms Aztori, a specialist teacher for autism, reported how our proactive parents implement the advice we share in school for the children's benefit at home and how truly positive the partnership work is.”

Parents Embrace Adult Education Classes

Ms Khatun hosted another coffee morning for primary parents. The focus of this session was adult education and was led by Eagle Consultancy, a company who we have worked closely with over the last few years. Eagle Consultancy has supported our parents with ESOL and childcare courses and the programmes have been very successful. Through these courses we have a number of parent volunteers in school, working towards qualifications and supporting our children. We are currently finalising our adult education courses with Eagle Consultancy and Birmingham Adult Education service ready for next academic year.

Parents Tackle Mental Health

On Wednesday 15 May, our Primary Learning Mentors hosted another coffee morning for parents and carers. We are proud to have arranged a number of events like this to support our families and this one focused specifically on mental health. It was supported by 'Approachable Parenting', who marketed the event as time for 'Chit, Chat Chai'. It was a really positive meeting and provided parents with a forum to discuss mental health and share ways that they have found to get support in the community. Each parent had the opportunity to tell the rest of the group how they looked after their own mental health and what their 'me time' was. We look forward to involving 'Approachable Parenting' in some more of our work with parents in the future.



Primary Pupils Celebrate Vaisakhi

Waverley Primary celebrated Vaisakhi as part of our Religious Education Celebrations, this was an enriching and inclusive experience. Through a themed day dedicated to learning tasks centred around Vaisakhi, our pupils delved into the significance of this Sikh festival, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for different faiths and traditions. They engaged in activities that encouraged critical thinking, such as comparing Vaisakhi with festivals from other religions, promoting tolerance and respect for differing beliefs, in line with British Values. The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the themed Asian meal, where the flavours of tradition merged with the spirit of celebration, creating lasting memories and strengthening our school community's bonds.



Waverley WINNERS!

Pupils from Years 5 and 6 took part in a football festival at Aston Villa's Training Ground. This was a festival for boys and girls who came together in one team. For some of our children it was their first experience of playing football in a competitive match for the school. It was clear to see the progress they made across the matches as they got used to the positions they were playing in, and the pace of the games. With Waverley winning their last match 5-0 with a superb 4 goals scored by SR of Year 5. The children represented Waverley brilliantly and had a fantastic experience being at Aston Villa's Training Ground.



Pupils & Staff say *Eid* MUBARAK

Eid-ul-Fitr celebrations epitomized the spirit of British Values by embracing diversity, promoting mutual respect, and fostering understanding among its pupils. Pupils and staff proudly adorned themselves in their ethnic attire as they celebrated their cultural heritage.

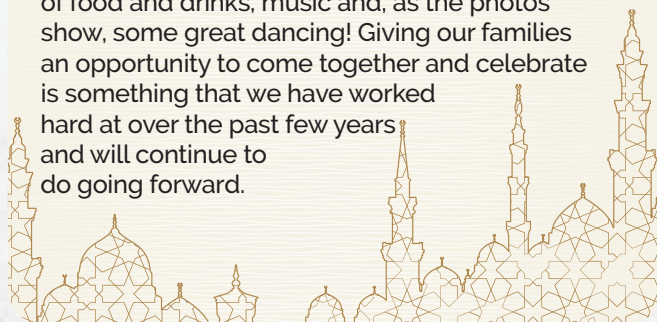
Throughout the day, pupils engaged in educational activities, delving into the significance of the five pillars of Islam and drawing comparisons between Eid-ul-Fitr and festivals from other religions such as Holi, Vaisakhi, Christmas, and Diwali, thus enriching their cultural capital and fostering understanding of diversity.

Pupils enjoyed the Eid-themed lunch and relished the flavours of the chicken and rice, onion bhaji, sheesh kebabs and much more!



Primary Parents Celebrate Eid

The primary learning mentors hosted another event for our parents and carers: a bring a dish party to celebrate Eid. Working with our parents/carers and building positive relationships is an incredibly important part of ensuring that we can give the best support to our pupils and so we were thrilled to have so many parents join us. There was a wide range of food and drinks, music and, as the photos show, some great dancing! Giving our families an opportunity to come together and celebrate is something that we have worked hard at over the past few years and will continue to do going forward.



Pupils Reach a Milestone

Primary hosted the second Sapphire Tea Party event of the year. This is a reward for all of our pupils who have collected 300 Epraise points. Points are awarded for excellent work, a positive attitude to learning and displaying our H.E.A.R. values. To gain 300 of these points shows great consistency over time and so it is right that our pupils have the opportunity to feel proud and celebrate their achievement. There was tea, squash, cake, biscuits, relaxing music and smiling faces all round.



Pupils Reach for the STARS

At Waverley Primary, STAR assemblies are a cherished tradition celebrated at the end of every half term. These assemblies serve to recognise and reward pupils for their punctuality, attendance in school and after-school clubs, participation in booster sessions and adherence to the school's core values: Humanity, Equality, Aspiration, and Respect (HEAR).

STAR assemblies highlight the importance of pupils striving for excellence, achieving personal bests and making significant progress in their learning. These celebrations have a profound impact, fostering a sense of accomplishment and motivation among pupils. They highlight the outstanding outcomes produced by the pupils, celebrating their successes and encouraging them to continue excelling.

Ultimately, STAR assemblies not only acknowledge academic achievements but also reinforce the values and behaviours that contribute to a positive and thriving school community.



Attendance

Well done to classes 2B and 6A who had the best attendance in KS1 and KS2 during Summer 1. Children worked collectively to ensure they had the best attendance possible and that they were coming to school on time every day in order to achieve the attendance. 2B enjoyed a movie with their friends in class while 6A benefitted from an additional sports session to celebrate their achievements.



Attendance

Pupils say: 'Speak out. Stay safe'

Children in Primary have taken part in an NSPCC assembly on the theme, 'Speak out. Stay safe.' These assemblies covered the different types of abuse that children can face and taught children a few key facts objectives: abuse is never a child's fault; children have the right to be kept safe; and to know who to talk to if they need help. The assemblies were interactive, with lots of opportunities to pause and discuss - we were very impressed with how sensible and thoughtful our children were. The assemblies

ended with some important information about Childline and some actions to help children remember the phone number. We will follow up with further workshops after half term to ensure that this information is embedded and that our children know what to do if they need help. Furthermore, we have also shared information about the assemblies with our parents by sending them a letter with links to online games and resources that they can use to reiterate these messages at home.



Pupils Celebrate

Eid al-Adha



Primary pupils arrived at school adorned in their finest Eid attire, their faces beaming with excitement and pride. The boys wore immaculate kurtas and shalwar kameez, while the girls twirled in colourful dresses embellished with intricate embroidery and sparkling sequins. The celebration of Eid al-Adha transformed the school into a lively festival, as children showcased their traditional garments, celebrating their cultural heritage with joy and enthusiasm. The air was filled with laughter and chatter as the pupils eagerly anticipated

the day's festivities, embodying a palpable sense of community and togetherness.

Staff embraced the spirit of the occasion, donning elegant traditional outfits and contributing to the festive atmosphere. Their participation underscored the school's commitment to recognising and valuing cultural capital, fostering a sense of inclusivity and respect. The entire afternoon was dedicated to celebrating Eid al-Adha, with celebrations in class that highlighted the significance of this important event.

Fostering Humanity Through Global Support

We were fortunate to have one of our Trustees, Liz Formby attend school this week to deliver assemblies to pupils about the impactful work ACEF is doing to support children in Kenya. It was a touching experience that not only informed the pupils about ACEF's initiatives but also deeply inspired them. The pupils learned a great deal about humanity, understanding the importance of compassion and global support in improving educational opportunities for others.

'There is no must in art because art is free' – Wassily Kandinsky

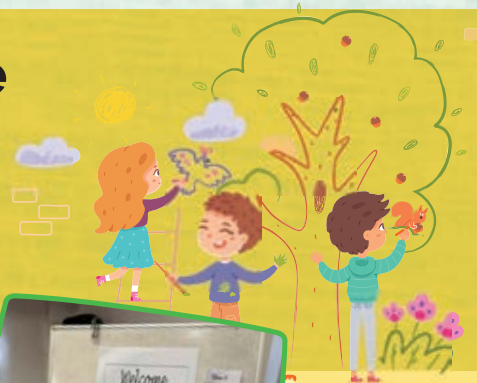
Primary pupils celebrated Arts Week with an array of engaging activities that ignited the creativity of both teachers and pupils alike. In Year 1, the focus centred on 'shapes'. Pupils delved into the fundamentals of art, exploring shape, line, and colour. The week commenced with enthusiastic introductions to renowned artists such as Wassily Kandinsky and Bridget Riley. Hands-on activities ensued, with children mixing paints, experimenting with compositions using circles, and collaboratively creating artworks inspired by water.

Year 2 continued the vibrant spirit of Arts Week, immersing themselves in artistic disciplines under the theme 'Tone'. Teachers guided pupils through activities ranging from painting and clay modelling to appreciating the works of Clarice Cliff and Nancy McCroskey.

Year 3 embraced the theme of 'Puppets', enhancing their skills in design, craft, and painting. Inspired by artists Diego Velazquez and Carl Giles, pupils created diverse puppets using different materials and explored the nuances of shading and cartooning.

Year 4 delved into the world of 'Printing', mastering texture and pattern through activities like stamp making and geometric design inspired by Frida Kahlo. The excitement of experimentation and discovery was palpable, enhancing both technical prowess and aesthetic appreciation.

Year 5 focused on the theme 'Architect', where pupils engaged in drawing, printing, and architectural design, drawing inspiration from Hundertwasser to envision imaginative structures. This immersive experience encouraged creative thinking and a deeper



understanding of the built environment.

Year 6 explored art with powerful messages under the theme 'Make my Voice Heard', drawing inspiration from iconic works to create impactful artworks that resonated with social justice themes. This deep dive into artistic expression fostered critical thinking and historical reflection.

Overall, Waverley Primary School's Arts Week transcended mere enjoyment, nurturing learning, creativity, and empathy among pupils. It reinforced the pivotal role of arts in holistic education,

fostering a lifelong appreciation for creativity and cultural expression. We are proud of our pupils! community and togetherness.

Staff embraced the spirit of the occasion, donning elegant traditional outfits and contributing to the festive atmosphere. Their participation underscored the school's commitment to recognising and valuing cultural capital, fostering a sense of inclusivity and respect. The entire afternoon was dedicated to celebrating Eid al-Adha, with celebrations in class that highlighted the significance of this important event.



Secondary and Sixth Form

Mental Health Awareness Week

Mental Health Awareness Week was a fantastic opportunity for students across the Secondary phase to understand the importance of reducing stigma, promote understanding and support for those affected by mental health conditions. During the week, form tutors delivered activities linking to the theme of 'Movement: Moving More for Our Mental Health'.

There was a poetry competition for all students where a winner and two runner ups were chosen.

Below is the winning poem from AB in Year 9.

Your Inner Garden

In every mind, a forest grows,
a hidden place which nobody knows.
Across the landscape shaped by the sun and rain,
is a medley of plants, both wild and tame.

The roses of our hopes and dreams
bloom bright and bold beneath the sun's soft beams.
Though, their thorns remind us: sharp and clear,
that often, beneath beauty, lurks pain quite near.

Here, trees bear the fruit of sleep.
Though these trees are important,
they aren't hard to keep.
All you need to do is get a good night's rest,
to keep them thriving at their best.

Now, the seeds of joy; they eagerly sprout,
pushing through the shadowy doubt.
They'll thrive even beneath the clouds of doom,
and put on their showy blooms.

But here too, weeds do play their part,
with creeping vines that choke the heart.
While stress, like weeds, may spread and sprawl,
they can be tamed; you can stop their crawl.

Water it with care, if you would be wise,
fertilise it with a good diet and exercise.
Use the shears of meditation to clear out the weeds,
it might just be what your garden needs.

So tend your garden, now or soon
to preserve its forest of green and its skies of blue.
That way, in this vast and expansive mind,
a haven of peace you'll surely find.



Cricket Finals

On Friday 3 May, our Year 11 students from Waverley School, went to a cricket tournament at Edgbaston Indoor Cricket Centre. The boys played exceptionally well and demonstrated good performances skills against stronger opponents.

The highlight for us was winning our 3rd game against a County Cricket Club. We bowled them out before making 50 runs.

We came 3rd in the tournament but more importantly the students had a great time and gained some valuable experiences.

Well done to all the students for being great ambassadors for the school



This academic year pupils in years 7,8 & 9 have had the opportunity to get back in the kitchen by participating in after school cooking club.

Students used a variety of techniques, learnt new skills and over the course of six weeks, got to make some delicious sweet and savoury treats which they got to take home at the end of each session and hopefully made again.

The club has been running since 2014 and continues to be a popular choice with pupils and staff.

A huge well done to all of our Waverley bakers who signed up to take part.

Mr McAuley (club coordinator)

Cooking Club

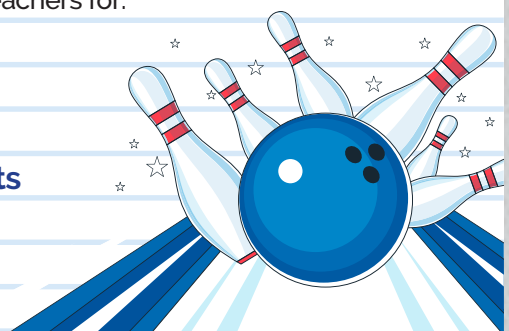


Sixth Form Rewards Trip

Year 12 and 13 students had a rewards afternoon which included bowling, pool, arcade games and lunch at Star City. Students were nominated by their teachers for:

- Good attendance and punctuality
- Good effort and dedication to their studies
- Good progress

Students had a great time and for some students that had never been bowling managed to get a strike with expert coaching from Mr Gonzales!



Final Year 11 Assembly

We had our last year group assembly with Year 11. This is the first cohort that started at Waverley School in Reception and have gone through to Year 11.

The assembly was a celebration of the students 12 years at Waverley School with some lovely stories and photos bringing back some wonderful memories.

A touching moment during the assembly was when a photo of Kalimullah Khalili was shown. Kalimullah sadly passed away last summer but his memory will live on for many years to come.

As part of the assembly, Ms Afzal wrote a poem for the students which is given below:

Dear Year 11's
As you approach your exams
I hope you leave feeling as ready as you can.
I want you to remember all the fun times you've had.
Even though many just drove me mad.

With many upheavals in your time
Like lockdown, self-isolation and working online.
You have bravely persevered and pushed through.
And nearly making it to the end of the line

And finally, the match between S Band and W Band
Was the match of all matches ever.
Teamwork does make the dreamwork and help deliver.
W Band are not just about partying hard but also working together
Was there a man of the match? I don't know.
If there was it would be IR because he told me so

On a serious note, Year 11's you have set the bar so high
And no one else will be able to reach the sky.
And just like your presence is known.
Your absence will be felt when we say goodbye.

Virtual ADHD day for parents

Dear parents/Carers

We would like to invite you to a **"Virtual ADHD Information Session for Parents"** This may be of particular interest if your child has a recent diagnosis of ADHD or you wish to learn more about it.

DATE : Friday 4th October 2024.

TIME : 10.00am to 2.00pm

HOW : We will be using the online platform "Microsoft Teams" (is like Zoom).

Details of how to access it will be sent closer to the time.

You will not need to download any programme.

AGENDA:

- Medical background about ADHD.
- Other conditions that may be seen with ADHD.
- Non medications options for ADHD management.
- Medication used in ADHD.
- School's role in supporting children with ADHD and advice regarding internet use in children.
- Tips for behavioural management for ADHD.
- Resources for further information on ADHD.
- Questions to panel.

These talks will be delivered by

- Community paediatricians,
- An Educational Psychologist
- An ADHD Nurse Specialist.

If you would like to join us on the day, please contact us

By phoning **01214655431**

Or emailing **dawnjones6@nhs.net**

Please ensure you give us an email and phone contact number for you.

Sixth Form visit to Bear Grylls Adventure Centre

On Friday 10 May, 30 Sixth Form students had the privilege of attending the Bear Grylls Adventure Centre at the NEC. It was a visit funded by KPMG as a result of our social mobility workshops completed in the Autumn Term. The students had a wonderful time and completed activities such as the high ropes, escape rooms and archery. A huge thank you Mr Gonzales, Ms Boateng, Mr Healy and Mr Dowe for your support to ensure this trip was a huge success!



The UAS (Unit Award Scheme)

A very well done to our RB learners in years 7-9 who have received many certificates in Maths, English, RE, Science, Art and Design for their exceptional efforts in lessons, meeting the outcomes of their units that have been carefully selected by the class teachers.

These awards are a testimony to all the hard work put in by staff to ensure that students are achieving and having these acknowledged via Scheme is a way of celebrating these efforts. This is an ongoing scheme and we hope this will continue to raise the aspirations and self-esteem of our learners.

“The scheme aims to boost confidence, increase engagement and improve motivation, helping learners of all abilities to make progress on their lifelong-learning journey.” (AQA)

The Brilliant Club Graduation

On Tuesday 16 July we had a graduation event at Warwick University for 28 students that have taken part in The Scholars Programme with The Brilliant Club. All 28 students have passed their assignment, 14 students from KS5 and 14 students from KS4, and we have 14 students that have

achieved a First Class and 10 students that have achieved a 2:1, an incredible achievement!

“A big thank you to Ms Ahmed-Choudhury for her support with KS4 students and ensuring their Scholars Programme was a huge success!”



Year 11 and 13 End of Year Celebrations

On Friday 21 June, students across Year 11 and Year 13 came together to celebrate their time at Waverley and to mark the end of their examinations. The evening was full of dancing, singing and moments that students and staff can look back on for years to come.



Highlights included:

- Ms Khatun elegant transformation of the Main Hall
- Students enjoying Ice creams, pizzas, samosas and pakoras
- Magic Mirror, Candy Floss and Professional Photography
- Ms Afzal making a grand entrance to AC/DC
- Student Certificates being presented.
- SA performing Jackson 5
- RA singing her heart out.
- AR and TR singing/screaming down the mic.
- Cultural dances from several groups of students
- NAA leading the Cha Cha Slide
- And last but not least, Mr Nandra breaking into some Bhangra moves in a dance off to end the night.

“Thank you to all the staff for all their hard work and support in the organisation and planning of the evening. It was a great success.”

Alton Towers

On Tuesday 25 June 147 students attended Alton Towers. This was the final celebration for former year 11 and former year 13 students. The students had a wonderful time, as did all 12 staff members! A huge thank you to all staff involved.



Message from the library

Thank you to all pupils and staff who visited the library this academic year.

Thanks also to everyone who took part in our summer term library competitions:

'Describe Your Journey to School' creative writing competition (which coincided with national walking month in May) and in June/July the 'Euro 2024 football tournament' competition.

Have a fantastic summer holiday!

Happy Reading

Waverley Studio College



Child Exploitation Awareness Day

KS4 students had the opportunity to participate in Child Exploitation Awareness assemblies, delivered by Umbrella, on National Child Exploitation Awareness Day (Monday 18th March 2024). The purpose of the assemblies was to highlight the issues surrounding Child Exploitation (CE); encouraging everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse and

adopt a zero-tolerance to adults developing inappropriate relationships with children or children exploiting and abusing their peers. Our young people took part in thought provoking discussions and were provided with useful support services and how to access them if the need arises.

EAL Hub Trip to The Tower of London

Visiting the Tower of London with our EAL students was an enriching experience that blended history, culture, and language learning. For many of our migrant students, it was their first time in London, fulfilling a lifelong dream. As we explored the Tower and marvelled at the Crown Jewels, the significance of this iconic landmark came to life, as well as developing a greater understanding of the British Values we promote as a college.

What made the experience truly special was witnessing our students confidently

using their language skills to communicate with others in the real world. Whether asking questions about the Tower's history or sharing their own cultural perspectives, they embraced the opportunity to engage with fellow visitors and staff.

The trip was not just a sightseeing excursion; it was a testament to the power of education in broadening horizons and making dreams a reality. Waverley Studio College's EAL Hub couldn't be prouder to

facilitate such transformative experiences for our students. As they continue their journey of learning and exploration. Moments like these will surely leave a lasting impact, inspiring them to pursue their aspirations with confidence and determination.



Envision Project

Wednesday 1 May 2024, was the final day of the Envision project, where our Sixth Form students had to present their ideas on introducing enrichment into Sixth Form to other Colleges as well as a panel of judges.

Initially the group met and ran through their presentation in the morning before leaving College. The whole of our WSC family was rooting for them.

On arrival the group met with their mentors to touch base and run through how they were since meeting at their offices in Birmingham town centre.

It was lovely to see the connection between them.

Mr Farah came to support and kindly took some pictures of the group with their mentors. Before leaving he spoke to the group expressing how proud he was of them, for just being part of the project.

The group practiced the presentation at the front of the room and were able to receive feedback from their mentors prior to doing the actual presentation before the judges.

My heart was pounding as I waited for them to be called. I could see that some were feeling nervous, and I was just praying that they would not forget what they wanted to speak about. I just encouraged them as we waited.

The delivery of the presentation was fantastic. Everyone played their part. They answered all the questions asked by the judges, confidently and clearly.

At the end they were pleased to see Mr Farah who was able to return for the end of the event, just after the judges announced the winners.

“ They have come such a long way, and we are so proud of our students. What a fantastic opportunity for them.

Oh, by the way they **WON**. Yeah!! ”

Impress the Examiner Masterclass in Science

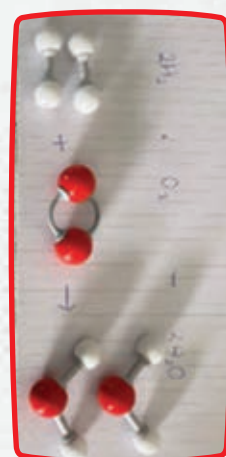
On Thursday 18 April we hosted an examiner from Impress to deliver masterclasses in Science. These masterclasses helped prepare the students for their upcoming GCSE exams and provided them with invaluable exam practice as well as guidance on how to answer questions. The examiner shared advice on what examiners would be looking for in their responses. It was a brilliant day. The students' behaviour was

exceptional, and the examiner commented on how polite, well behaved and engaged the students were and that he wanted to come back here in the future. The examiner taught key topics, bridged gaps in knowledge and practised exam questions with the students. I have no doubt that this session will contribute significantly to pupils achieving the grades that they need in GCSE Science.

Student Leadership in Science

We have had a productive and exciting time in science. We successfully incorporated leadership opportunities within the classroom which encouraged learning, progression, confidence, peer support and a positive learning environment for the students. For the bond enthalpy topic, students went around teaching other students

on how to calculate bond enthalpies who were struggling with the topic. By doing this all pupils were able to calculate bond enthalpies by the end of the lesson and were confident in the topic. Well done student leaders! We also used mollymods to show how atoms rearrange in a chemical reaction and to explain what single and double bonds are.



ROAD SAFETY WORKSHOPS

West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) provided our sixth form students with the opportunity to participate in road safety education, as evidence-led data illustrates that 16-24 year olds are most at risk of being killed or seriously injured in a road traffic collision across the West Midlands.

The road safety presentation called 'Every Choice Counts' (ECC) aimed to empower this vulnerable road user group to make good choices, as young drivers and car occupants inside a vehicle. Students enjoyed the experience and left the workshop feeling more informed on how to make better choices whether as a driver or passenger and potentially save a life in the future.

Scientists of the Half Term

It has been a busy and exciting time in Science at Waverley Studio College this half term. We have carried out lots on STEM investigations such as making copper sulphate crystals, rates of reaction and calculating the Vitamin C in fruit drinks. The students have demonstrated an enthusiastic energy in science and have really come a long way in developing their scientific procedures and techniques. Most of all they have really got emersed in learning scientific concepts, looking forward to Science and have come to every lesson with a thirst to learn and engage in lessons. The effort the students have put into their class work and science investigations and showing leadership skills in lessons

has been exemplary and not gone unnoticed especially during a visit from Ken and Jill from our school improvement team.

It was a perfect opportunity at the end of the half term to award students with Scientists of the Half Term Awards for the reasons mentioned above and much more. I hope this encourages students to continue with their love for STEM subjects and pursue a bright career in STEM. Well done AA, MA, IA, EB, SB, MF, AH, VH, UMR, TO and KWM!

Show Racism the Red Card

On Wednesday 22nd May 2024, the charity group Show Racism the Red Card were welcomed into Waverley Studio College to deliver a series of workshops for both pupils and staff members. The workshops focussed on challenging stereotypes, recognising injustice in society and how to raise concerns and address instances of racism that we may unfortunately encounter in our lives. The workshops aimed to provide pupils and staff with a

better awareness of how to recognise injustice and the capacity to confidently respond to any instances of racism, if they were ever witnessed first-hand. The charity group have similar principles to the Waverley Education Foundation, particularly through their shared promotion of the virtue of respect and the values of humanity and equality, alongside the opportunity for all to live in a society where we can all aspire to reach our dreams and goals.



Forensics Crime Scene Investigation trip

We had the pleasure of taking our year 12 Medical Scientists to Think Forensics. It was an amazing experience for the students as they learned all about how Forensic Scientists collect evidence from crime scenes. As part of the investigation the students had a go at using different Forensic equipment to collect

fingerprints, footprints and analyse cloth and hair fibres plus much more. The students enjoyed dressing up in their Forensic PPE and then collect evidence from simulated crime scenes where they collated evidence together to solve a murder. The students found this trip very insightful and will now use this to complete a

coursework on Forensics for their level 3 Medical Science qualification. The students were enthusiastic, well behaved and mannered and an asset to our college. Think Forensics expressed how they enjoyed teaching our students and hoped that we will go back again. Well done Forensic Scientists!



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LEARNING THROUGH DIVERSITY

"Leaders have designed an ambitious curriculum."
Ofsted 2022



"Pupils display positive attitudes to their learning and work well together."
Ofsted 2022

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W/SC ENROLLMENT

Trust Events

Going the extra mile for charity

Ms Scott ran the TCS London Marathon on Sunday 21 April 2024 which she said was a truly emotional and humbling experience. She was very fortunate to be able to raise money for an amazing charity called The Black Trail Runners in the UK. This charity's ethos is to include all people from all ethnic minorities to experience the beauty of running the trails across the country. They endeavour to help all people overcome financial barriers in participation of events. The Black Trail Runners help by offering transport, equipment, paying for race entries and accommodation so that people from different backgrounds can participate in some truly magical events. Would she do this event again? Yes, in a heartbeat!!



WEF Attendance Reminders:

Leave during term time:

Recently we have had a lot of requests to take children abroad during the school term. This absence will never be authorised, no matter what the family circumstances.

Missing days of school has a huge impact on academic achievement and their wellbeing.

They will get behind in their learning, find their lessons more difficult and therefore enjoy school less on their return.

Unfortunately, since September, we have referred 170 families to Birmingham city council to be fined.

As a school, we do not like to fine families, and understand it can be very difficult to find the money but will continue to follow the procedures as education is so important for our children. We need to work together to ensure pupil absence does not stop them from reaching their full potential.

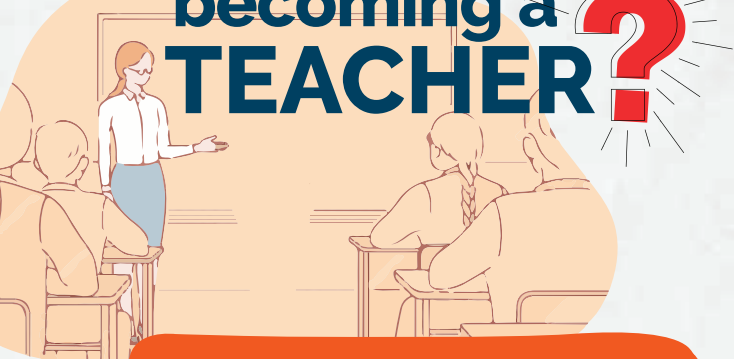
We hope that you will continue to support us with attendance by ensuring that your child is in school every day and on time.

Reminder: to always leave messages for any absences before 9:00am on the morning of absence.

Please see the diagram below, which shows the number of days and lessons missed from school, linked to attendance percentage.



Thinking about, becoming a **TEACHER?**



Are you, a family member or someone you know thinking about becoming a teacher?

Look out for our new **secondary PGCE courses** in partnership with Birmingham City University and local school partners. You will be able to apply for courses starting September 2025 from early October via the DfE Apply service.

To be eligible for a programme, candidates will usually have an honours degree and GCSEs in Maths and English at Grade C/4 or above.

Please note that a degree needs to be in a closely related subject to the subject to be taught (approx. 50%).

If you want to make a difference to young people's lives, why not join one of our information events during the autumn term?

Find out about the recruitment process, different types of programmes, and what being a teacher is like, with the opportunity to ask questions.

To register your interest, get in touch with the **Waverley Initial Teacher Training team** and we will get back to you with more information in October:

✉ Training@waverley.bham.sch.uk

We look forward to hearing from you!

WEF Alumni CALLING ALL FORMER STUDENTS

If you're a former student of Waverley School or Waverley Studio College, we want to hear from you!

Your experiences since leaving could help to motivate and inspire our current students to feel more confident in making decisions about their future. We'd love you to join our alumni network and stay connected with the schools.

We've partnered with the national education charity **Future First**, who specialise in helping schools like ours to stay connected with their former students.

You can choose how and when you help – perhaps you can act as a career and education role model, provide work experience, become a mentor in person or online, or help with donations, fundraising or even apply to become a governor.

It doesn't matter when you left us, whether you're in further education or employment, whether you still live nearby or have moved further away, there are still ways you can help.

In order to sign up, just follow the link below!

Waverley School

<https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk/register/waverley>



JOIN YOUR ALUMNI NETWORK TODAY!

STAY IN TOUCH WITH US AND USE YOUR SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE TO HELP CURRENT STUDENTS



www.futurefirst.org.uk | [futurefirstorg](https://www.instagram.com/futurefirstorg) [Future First](https://www.facebook.com/futurefirst)

Waverley Studio College

<https://www.futurefirsthub.org.uk/register/waverley-studio-college>



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