

Waterside News

Empowering Learners to Achieve Dreams

Academic Year 2023/24 –Summer Term



Headteachers Message

We are now in the final stretch of the school year. We cannot believe how fast the year has gone. And soon it will be time for the pupils to begin their transition into the next phase of their education. Whether that is moving up class within Waterside, transitioning from Nursery to Reception, or moving up to high school, transition can be a difficult time for some children as they are faced with new people, and the unknown. We endeavour to make transition as smooth as possible for pupils at Waterside, and those transitioning through the school, will find that their new classrooms, the rules, the behaviour expectations, the way in which lessons are taught are the same; the only change will be the curriculum and the teachers teaching them.

This year our whole school transition days will be Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th of July. On these two days most Year 6s will complete transition at their new high schools and all children at Waterside will move to their new classes for those 2 days. On Monday 1st July, a letter will be sent home to yourselves and your child/ren informing you of their new class teachers.

In September there will be opportunities for you to come into school and meet the teacher. This information will be sent to you before the end of the year along with the calendar dates and events for the academic year 24/25.

If you have any worries regarding the transition for your child/ren please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher who will be able to support, you and them.

As we head towards the end of the academic year, we will be completing pupil reports and final assessments. Reports and assessment data will be sent out on Friday 12th July. KS2 SATs results are due in on Tuesday 9th July, and these will be sent home the same day.

This week year 1 have completed their phonics screening. They have been amazing, and we are very proud of them. These results will be sent out to you next week. Year 4 have also completed their MTC check but these results will not be published to schools until 24th June. Once we have these scores these will be sent home. All other assessment data will be contained with the school report.

We have lots events planned over the next few weeks including a production of Matilda which I can not wait to see!

Mrs. Willis



Welcome to Early Years



Our Early Years children have had another amazing term full of new learning opportunities and experiences to help to support their learning.

Nursery went on a visit to pets at home to see the different items which they sell and the staff discussed with them what items you would need to buy to care for particular animals. The children then got to see the different animals such as fish, rabbits and guinea pigs which the children absolutely loved. When they got back to school Miss Mayer had then made the role play area in the classroom into a pet shop and I was so impressed with the language and vocabulary which the children used whilst playing together.



In Reception the children have been learning about different traditional tales and they have been completely engrossed around the text of 'The Gingerbread Man'. They all safely walked to Lidl with the shopping lists which they has written and then used money to buy their ingredients. The children then followed instructions to make their own Gingerbread men and then decorated them, but then the Gingerbread men ran away!! The children then became great detectives and created wanted posters to locate the runaway Gingerbread men.



We also got a special visit into school from the farm, the children were all so inquisitive when speaking to the farmer and asked lots of interesting questions about the variety of animals. The children also showed great courage with getting close to the animals and also stroking them very gently.



This term it has been our turn to do Forest School activities with Miss Barker, we made minibeast homes to go into our school's Forest School area and then went on a mini beast hunt to see what animals live in our school environment. The child's behaviour was impeccable and as you can see from their smiles they all really enjoyed themselves.

Thank you to all parents who came to join us for 'Come and Play' sessions, the children enjoyed every minute showing you all the wonderful things which we do every day in school.

Key Stage 1

What an incredible term we have had so far this Summer. It has been an absolute pleasure to witness the children emerged in their lessons and growing increasingly in independence. It's been wonderful to see the children enjoying their learning with smiles on their faces, always eager to share their newfound knowledge and skills. Let's take a closer look at some of the exciting things that have taken place this Summer.



The children in Year 1 have been having lots of fun in Forest School, exploring the outdoors and completing lots of hands-on learning. They have enjoyed bug hunting, mud painting, making wands by tying knots and making observational drawings of insects.

In Science they have also enjoyed observing seasonal changes: spring to summer. To help them with this they went on a local area walk to observe changes in nature, comparing it to their prior knowledge of other seasons.



The children in Year 2 have also been enjoying their science work on plants. They have enjoyed planting their own bean and cress seeds, setting up experiments and observing and recording their findings. They were very interested to learn all about the job of a botanist too.

Sensational Salads has been a big hit with the Year 2's during their work in Design and Technology. Over the weeks they have showed superb team work skills working together to create pasta salads, fruit salads and root vegetable salads. Here they have developed their chopping, grating and mixing skills. Of course they had to taste them too and it was a big thumbs up from them all!



We have all been working hard to complete our citizenship programme passports for our year groups. Year 1 have been retelling a poem or story by heart to the class and solving puzzles with the Year 5 children. Whilst Year 2 have been making playground games and leading them in a small group. A reminder to keep sending any photos of work the children are completing at home towards their passport, we love to see them and showcase in our books.

This term the Year 2 children have also complete their Secret Agent Training (SAT's) and just this week saw the Year 1's completing their Phonics Screening check. The children completed these with such confidence and positivity.

All we ever ask is that they try their best, and they most certainly did. I am immensely proud of each and everyone of them!



This Half Term continues to be a busy but exciting one with lots of upcoming events. Year 2 will be visiting Beeston Castle linking to their learning in history and Year 1 will be going to visit the seaside! We also have Sports Day on Monday 24th June and we invite you all to come and cheer us on! To support us in getting ready for our new academic year we will also have transition days taking place over 2 days to help the children to get to know their new teachers. Finally I would like thank you for your continued support, it is very much appreciated.

Lower Key Stage 2

Summer Term has been full of exciting learning opportunities and enrichment visits for the children in Year 3 & 4. It has been a pleasure to see them all in their classrooms engaged and excited about their learning. Here are few highlights from Summer Term:



We have spent time completing Citizenship passports including **'Making Bread'** for Year 4 and **'Read with somebody younger than yourself'** for Year 3.

Next Half Term, we will continue ticking these off to achieve our Citizenship Award.



Design and Technology has been an exciting experience for our pupils in Year 3 who have made smoothies and salsa using their chopping, whisking and blending skills. We even got a couple of happy volunteers to do the washing up!



During the Summer Term, Year 4 have started their Swimming lessons where they have excelled in showing our Waterside Values – especially **determination** and **courage**. Miss Roberts and Miss Olenczuk have expressed how proud they are of the children for supporting each other and many have managed to gain their beginners certificate! I can't wait to see what they achieve this half term!



There has also been exciting out of school opportunities including 'Magma' and 'Clip n Climb'

Year 4 enjoyed going to Magna which is a Science Adventure Centre where the children had the opportunity to link their Science knowledge in a workshop and various exhibits in the museum.



To link with their English text 'Cliffhanger' Year 3 visited Clip n Climb where they were able to have a go at rock climbing to understand key vocabulary used in their story. It also managed to tick off a Citizenship task 'Take Part in an Adventurous Activity'



This Half Term, there are many more exciting opportunities taking place including **Sports Day** which is on **Thursday 27th June**.

We have our Transition Days coming up with their new teacher for the next Academic Year. As always, we enjoy seeing what the children achieve out of School so please continue sending any achievements that we can share and celebrate.

Upper Key Stage 2



This term has been busy in UKS2 with trips, visits and citizenship opportunities. Forest School has been met positively by all four classes and our work with Miss Barker, where the children have had the opportunity to be out in the fresh air and get in touch with nature, including collecting fallen leaves and creating picture frames using natural resources. Year 6 will continue with this for the remainder of the year as their final PE topic, and Sharks and Whales are looking forward to their next lesson on Monday.

Year 5 have fully enhanced their Science learning through an incredible space workshop! Combining with other schools across the city, the children took part in a range of activities including observing space in the star dome and using technology to track the stars.

We also had the pleasure of a visit from a real-life explorer who told us about the cultures and dangers of the Amazon rainforest. It was incredible to see the children's faces light up at this interactive experience – one which they will not forget for some time!

Whales and Sharks class went on a short journey to the Palace Theatre in Manchester to watch the superb production of 'Aladdin'. Both classes were entranced by the impeccable dance routines, powerful vocals and endearing characterisation of the main characters. I believe it was a unanimous vote for the genie as our favourite character! Some children are now considering a career in the performing arts as a result of watching such an incredible performance. We were very proud of the way Year 6 represented our school whilst out in public, showing that they were ready, respectful and safe at all times. Well done, Year 6!



Another topic of conversation in Year 5 and 6 is the 'buzz' around our citizenship programme. As we come to the end of the year, the rush is on to complete all of the activities in our citizenship passport! Year 6 children have recently undertaken helping across school and regularly talk about 'going to work', helping with younger year groups and even in the office! Congratulations to Antonia, Tomas and Giulia who have already ticked off every achievement on their passport.

As we move towards the last few weeks of the school year, our calendar is jam-packed with memorable events. We look forward to our Sports Day, which we get to share with our families, on the 26th June. Year 5 and 6 have been practising their events in PE lessons in preparation for this exciting day! The children are also looking forward to their transition days where we will spend two days in our new classes; Year 5 will move up into Sharks and Whales class, and the current Year 6 children will spend time at their chosen secondary school. This will be a time of mixed emotions – both nerves and excitement – but we know that each and every child will embrace this experience with positivity and showing our Waterside values.



Finally, Year 6 are counting the days until we embark upon our 'Out and About Week'. We will be spending the week completing a range of opportunities including a sporting day at the YMCA, pottery making at the Emma Bridgewater factory and Geography fieldwork at Dovedale. This will certainly be a memorable experience as our Year 6 children come to the end of their journey with us at Waterside.

Enrichment at Waterside

Afterschool Enrichment

This term, we have had a huge uptake in afterschool enrichment clubs! It has been great to see the enthusiasm the children have towards their chosen club, whether it be gardening, cross country or performing on stage. Lots of children have shown courage and determination during afterschool enrichment trying something new or trying to improve a skill.



Trips

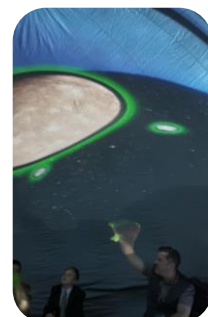
During the Summer Term, pupils have had many opportunities for trips. Trips at Waterside are planned alongside our whole curriculum to enhance and develop knowledge children are taught in the classroom. Year 2 had a fantastic trip to Blist Hill where their knowledge of Victorian lives came to too life. Reception visited Imagine That! in Liverpool – this was their first ever out of school trip! They loved exploring and investigating the role play areas and getting involved with lots of STEM activities. Year 5 had exciting visit from a real Amazon explorer.



There are many more trips planned for this year including the Year 6 out and about week, Year 4's visit to BeWILDerwood and Year 2's visit to a local Mosque.

Enrichment opportunities

At Waterside, we endeavour to give our pupils many opportunities and experiences to experience the world around them. We have recently had musicians from the CBSO come and perform in a Dino Disco and an Escape Room! Year 5 experienced a Space Camp day where they entered the Star Dome to view the stars and planets. Our Singing Superstars took the stage a Trentham to perform for the public. Later this half term, we will have our enrichment day where children will take part in an activity to improve a talent, take part in a hobby or spark a new interest.



Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)

At Waterside Primary School, our children are at the centre of everything we do. We aim to identify the needs of all pupils as early as possible. This is part of our **graduated approach**, in which we **Assess, Plan, Do, Review**. This ongoing cycle ensures that effective provision is put in place and removes barriers to learning. We have a range of interventions taking place daily in our school to meet the needs of all our children. We believe in **inclusivity** for all and strive to make this a reality for all our pupils.

The **Local Offer** is everything available in our area to children and young people up to age 25, with SEND, and their families. The website is a hub to share all this information.

[SEND Local Offer – SEND Local Offer \(stoke.gov.uk\)](https://stoke.gov.uk)

Free Positive Behavioural Support training for people supporting a child or young person with complex needs (up to age 25).

To register for this training please contact cyp.pbsteam@combined.nhs.uk or call [0300 123 1153](tel:03001231153).

POSITIVE BEHAVIOURAL SUPPORT

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

We are offering Positive Behavioural Support (PBS) Training to those who support a child or young person up to the age of 25 years with complex needs who may engage in behaviours of concern. We want to enable services/parents to support individuals in a way that promotes best practice.

TRAINING

It will comprise of understanding behaviours - why these occur, how you can best support the individual to manage their needs & develop the skills to live independently

DEVELOPMENT

Supervisions: Professional support from our team to help you implement the PBS approach

Guest speakers

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Must be a parent/carer of a young person aged 0-25years old diagnosed (or on a wait list) with a Learning Disability and/or Autism
- Living in Stoke-on-Trent/Staffordshire
- Commit towards the training

REACH OUT TO US

cyp.pbsteam@combined.nhs.uk
0300 123 1153

PARENT/CARER PBS TRAINING

TRAINING DATES

Virtual Training.

13th June 2024
(10am-2:30pm via MS-Teams)

F-2-F Training.

27th June 2024
(10am-2:30pm; Location: Hazeltrees)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Must be a parent/carer of a young person aged 0-25years old diagnosed (or on a wait list) with a Learning Disability and/or Autism
- Living in Stoke-on-Trent/Staffordshire
- Commit towards the training

EMAIL US TO REGISTER

cyp.pbsteam@combined.nhs.uk
0300 123 1153

Useful contacts:

SENDCo (Mrs Joinson-Spencer) – 01782 234630

SENDIASS (SEND Information, Advice and Support service) – 01782 234701



Pupil Parliament and Citizenship

Summer Term has been full of meetings, activities and trips for the Pupil Parliament team. Here are few highlights from Summer Term:

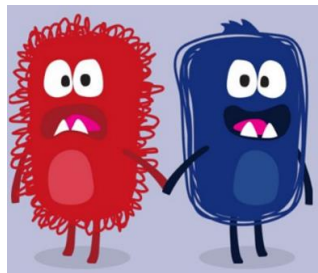
The Teaching and Learning department visited Hanley library. The library manager spoke to us about how the library is organised and how we search and order books. We all chose 2 books to take home and share with our families and Kian read his book to his class.

This half term we will be organising books to read at lunchtime and sharing our ideas in an assembly.



The Environment department have been busy making bird feeders, litter picking and planting seeds to improve our school grounds.

The Health and Wellbeing department have completed their Red to Blue training and have been an integral part in our Wellbeing Wednesday's. They have been giving out the Thankyou postcards to pupils and staff.



Citizenship Passports

Pupils are working hard to complete their citizenship passports. We have a few weeks left before we present our Citizenship awards so there is still time to tick those activities off!



IMPORTANT DATES FOR SUMMER

03.06.24/14.06.24: Y3 Farm Visit
10.06.24-14.06.24: Y1 Phonics Screening
10.06.24-14.06.24: Y4 MTC
24.06.24: Sports and wellbeing Week

08.07.24: Enrichment Day
10.07.24: KS2 Production (Morning and Evening)
11.07.24: KS2 Production (Afternoon)
12.07.24: Reports to Parents
16.07.24: Disco
17.07.24: Reception Graduation (AM)
17.07.24: Rewards Evening
19.07.24: Year 6 Leavers (PM)

Parking and dropping off

At Waterside, we are growing increasingly concerned around the parking of vehicles around drop off and collection outside of the school gates. Safety is paramount. We have been in contact with the local authority on many occasions around supporting school with this, and continue to do so.

We need your continued support as parents to ensure that children can enter and leave the school grounds safely.

We have been in contact with **Lidl** who have confirmed that parents are able to use their car park as a park and stride. Lidl is a 5 minute safe walk from Waterside along the canal.

If you are also in walking distance of school we ask that you walk to school to help with congestion during these times.

Thank you.

Reminder

Bikes and Scooters must not be ridden around the school site. This is to ensure that pedestrians are kept safe.

Help with Learning

If you require any support with learning, please contact your child's class teacher via class dojo.

Help with Behaviour

If you are concerned about your child's behaviour, please speak with the class teacher or your child's Phase leader.

Help with Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please raise these immediately with Mrs. Willis (DSL) or 01782235100 (Stoke)

Help with online safety

If you would like information on how to ensure your child is safe online, please contact Mrs. Marray or Mr. Grocott.