

Waterside Weekly

Empowering Learners to Achieve Dreams

Week 29 2021/22 – 25th April 2022



Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to start by thanking all of the children, staff, parents and carers for the very warm welcome I have received, on this, my very first week, as Principal (Headteacher) of Waterside Primary School.

It has been wonderful to have the opportunity to be able to personally greet so many families as they come and drop off their children at school, for me to begin to get to know your amazing children and such an incredibly dedicated and talented staff team! Today I was even presented with a beautiful card from some of the children with individual welcome messages, thanking me for joining Waterside and looking forward to 'beginning our journey together'.

As we continue to strive towards excellence in every aspect of the work of our school, we are delighted to announce that a number of our team have successfully completed higher educational studies; with three members of staff attending graduation for their courses this week! The whole team also engaged in an exhilarating day of Trust-wide training on Monday which ranged from 'Agile Planning', curriculum development and specialist training to support children with specific special educational needs. In the days ahead we will be pleased to share with you how we will be launching our Digital Strategy to further engage and develop your children's learning.

In the coming months, I will be launching a consultation with children and families so that I can directly hear your views about Waterside School: the aspects that you would specifically like to promote and celebrate along with any areas that you would like to see improved or developed. This will be one of many opportunities where you will be warmly invited to share ideas and aspirations...so please watch this space!

Value of the week: Respect!



Our Vision and Values

Value	Rule
Respect	We always show respect for ourselves, each other and our school.
Excellence	We always do our very best.
Friendship	We always follow our friendship code.
Courage	We always tackle challenges and try being brave.
Determination	We are determined to get our school to outstanding
Inspirational	We will always be good role models to inspire our school.
Equality	We are always fair and value every individual.

*This week we have been focussing on several aspects of **Respect**: for ourselves, for each other, for our school (and its environment) and also for the wider community. The children have responded brilliantly to this input with positive behavioural responses this week at 99%!*

*Next week we will be focusing on **Friendship**. We are going to be introducing Friendship Leaders that will be democratically voted in by each class team. These specially chosen children will be responsible for leading playground games and activities to enhance our global provision.*

Attendance Target: 97%

Whole school attendance this week was only 93%! With 20 children being late for school.

This is significantly below our target.

Chicken pox has been one of the major culprits this week!

I know that all of our families will work hard to ensure that, whenever possible, children are in school.



Applications for Leave & Holiday Requests

Please be reminded that the school **does not** approve holidays taken during term time.

Any holiday taken during these periods will be marked as unauthorised.

Applications for leave should be for exceptional circumstances only; for example hospital appointments that cannot be amended. Applications for leave need to be made via a form from the school office.

Whilst we are sympathetic to the disruption that has been caused during the earlier stages of the covid pandemic, the school remains unable to authorise any holiday absences. The unavoidable disruption to learning and learning behaviours – both academic and social – has been felt nationally with many children falling significantly behind in their learning. Whilst our families have worked tirelessly in partnership with the Waterside staff team to ensure



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that this impact on our children has been limited, we are still very conscious that we will all need to continue to work very hard together to secure and embed the learning that our children will need to confidently apply in the new academic year.

Community News

On Tuesday many of our community will continue to celebrate Eid – one of the biggest religious festivals in the Muslim calendar. Children celebrating this event with families are welcome to attend our setting on Tuesday or may remain with their families without completing requests for special leave.

We are delighted to let you know that one of our mums celebrated their graduation from Keele University this week. The family have kindly offered to share information of this event with you which we hope to feature in next week's edition.

Dates for Week: 2/5/2022

Please be aware that Monday is a Bank Holiday and school will be closed to pupils.

After school clubs and interventions will start on Wednesday:

*Multi sports
Explorers
Board Games
Construction
Performance Poetry
Computing*

Place allocations for each of these events will be sent out on Tuesday by text due to the bank holiday weekend.

Year 5 swimming will continue on Friday mornings, so please ensure children have costumes and towels with them in the morning.

Dates for Week: 9/5/2022

Year 6 SATs will be taking place this week.

Year 6 children will be invited in for breakfast from 8am

A few of our children may be feeling a little anxious about formal examinations so please do let us know if there is anything more we can do to support your child.

A REMINDER OF TERM DATES- full details of next academic year can be found on the website

Summer Term 2022

Term Starts: Tuesday 26 April

May Day: Monday 2 May

Half Term: Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

Inset Day: Friday 1st July (5)

Term Ends: Wednesday 20 July

Holiday: Thursday 21 July – Friday 2 September

Autumn Term 2022

Inset Day: Monday 5th September

Inset Day: Tuesday 6th September

Term Starts: Wednesday 7th September

Half Term: Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October

Term Starts: Monday 31st October

Term Ends: Friday 16th December

Holiday: Monday 19th December – Monday 2nd January

Help with Learning

Book a time slot with the class teacher.

We hope to reinstate the weekly drop-ins in the new academic year.

You can also use Class Dojo or 'contact us' on the class pages of the website.

Help with Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility!
Come immediately to see:
Mrs King (Principal/Headteacher)
or
Mrs Willis (Deputy Headteacher)

01782 235100 (Stoke)

Help with Behaviour

Book a time slot with the class teacher if it is about your child. At school we do not tolerate unkind behaviour. If you are still concerned please book an appointment with the DHT or Headteacher.



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