



Waterside Primary Academy Newsletter 12th September 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am delighted to be able to formally welcome you all back to a new school year at Waterside. As stated in my letter in July, I am relishing the prospect of leading the school forward. Although it has been a busy first week back, I have been overwhelmed with the warm welcomes I have received from members of our school community – thank you!

As we start the new school year, there are a few updates and dates that I would like to share with you.

Welcomes

Firstly, I would like to welcome all new members of our school community to Waterside. The new nursery children and in-year starters have all made successful transitions into the school and I know they will quickly feel like part of the family! I would also like to extend my warm welcomes to new staff. Along with our existing dedicated and talented team, I know that Miss Duggan, Mr Waters, Mr Sitkowski, Miss Peel, Mrs Field, Mrs Nandi and Miss Golbourn will contribute to this new and exciting era for Waterside Primary Academy.

Learning Environments

Over the summer holiday, we have been busy updating all communal areas and classrooms in school to ensure the children have a lovely environment to return to. I am looking forward to showing you around the school during this half term, once we have some outstanding work on our display boards. In the meantime, I have included a few photos below to whet your appetite!



I would like to thank our wonderful staff for their contributions towards this – it would not have been possible without all of their hard work over the summer holidays. I have also got many more projects in the pipeline. Watch this space!

Afterschool Clubs

I believe it is vital that children have opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities and we will be hoping to continuously offer a rich after school programme. We will be asking for a small donation towards the running costs of these clubs, which will be reinvested into buying equipment to run further clubs throughout the school year. This will be £5 per child, per term. Further information about this will be included in the sign up letters which will follow.



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The clubs on offer for this half term are as follows:

Day	Club	Year Groups	Staff
Monday	Waterside Football Club	4, 5 & 6 (Boys & Girls)	Mr Waters , Mr Sitkowski & Mr Atherton
	Book Club	KS2	Mrs Mason & Mrs Mesley
	Netball Club	4, 5 & 6 (Boys & Girls)	Mr Bailey
Tuesday	Multi-Sports	1,2 & 3	Mr Bailey
Wednesday	Staff Well-Being Day		
Thursday	Waterside Striders (Running Club)	KS2 (Boys & Girls)	Mr Atherton
	Art/ Film Club	KS2	Mrs Heritage
Friday	Waterside Football Club	1, 2 & 3 (Boys & Girls)	Mr Yearwood
	Recorder Club	Year 4	Mr Atherton

These clubs will be starting week commencing 23rd September. Sign up letters will follow in the next few days, with places offered on a first come, first served basis. Please note that poor behaviour will not be tolerated during after school clubs.

Morning Mile

Due to popular demand, this will be returning from Tuesday 1st October. I would be appreciative of parental volunteers to run this, so please let the office know if you are available to sign up for a day per week. We have an exciting challenge for all children to complete this term. More details to follow...

Behaviour Policy

In order to ensure that all members of our school community are promoting and coaching positive behaviour at school, I have introduced a new behaviour policy at Waterside. Please ask your children about our Behaviour Values (E.A.R.S) and ways in which they can demonstrate them at school and at home. We will not accept behaviour which falls below the expected standards and are sure that you will support us in ensuring that all children show positive behaviour at all times. This is fundamental to children being safe, happy and will enable all to achieve their full potential in their learning.

Meet the Teacher

I would like to invite you all to attend a 'Meet the Teacher' event on Wednesday 2nd October. On this day, we will release all children onto the playground as usual. Teachers will then return to their classrooms to meet parents between 3.35pm and 4.15pm. This will be an opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom, see some of the work produced so far and hold informal conversations with the teacher. I hope that many of you will take advantage of this event.

Curriculum

As I was fortunate to visit the school over the last two terms, I have been able to adapt the curriculum we teach in school. Each class (years one to six) will be starting a new topic (called Pathway) with a focus on teaching a broad and balanced curriculum. The topics each class will be covering are below:

Year 1 – Dinosaurs

Year 2 – The Great Fire of London



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Year 3 – The Greeks

Year 4 – The Romans

Year 5 – The Tudors

Year 6 – World War II

The teachers have been working collaboratively to prepare engaging lessons for their topics, with the culmination of all the work in this unit being displayed in our school hall at 'The Waterside Museum', on Friday 18th October 2019 (2-4pm). We hope that you will join us to see the work produced during these topics – I can't wait!

Uniform

I am currently in the process of reviewing our Uniform Policy. Contrary to rumours, the school's uniform will not be changing. However, I plan to make the rules clearer for parents and ensure that it is worn consistently by all. Children may continue to wear summer uniform until October half term, with all children returning from this break in their winter uniform. It has been great to see that the majority of our school community are taking pride in their presentation and looking super smart – thank you!

Dinner Money

As Free School Meals are only provided in Key Stage One, please can I remind all year three parents that you must now pay for your child's meals. If you believe you are still entitled to free school meals, please visit the office to check for your eligibility and receive an application form.

Twitter

I am delighted to announce that we now have a school Twitter account. This will be used alongside my newsletters to share the wonderful work and achievements in our school community. I have found in the past that this has proven extremely popular with parents, who are able to witness the daily learning in their child's class (and across the school) and get involved in their learning. I have also heard that it proves a good topic of discussion when children reply to the well-known, "What have you done at school today?" with a less enthusiastic, "NOTHING!" I would strongly encourage you to follow us and join us in celebrating all the great work of our school community.

[@WatersidePA](https://twitter.com/WatersidePA)

Key Dates for your diaries up to October half term. Further dates will be published shortly.

Date	Event	Parents invited to attend *
Monday 23 rd September	Clubs begin afterschool	
Friday 27 th September	PTA Sausage Sizzle 8.30 – 9.00 am	*
To be confirmed	Harvest Service – Christ Church 9.30am	*
Tuesday 1 st October	Morning Mile - 8.30am	Volunteers required and parents to supervise their own children
Wednesday 2 nd October	Meet The Teacher 3.35 – 4.15 pm	*
Friday 11 th October	Year 6 visit to Chiltern Air Museum	
Friday 18 th October	Waterside Museum Afternoon 2.00 - 4.00 pm	*
Monday 21 st October	Individual photographs	
Friday 25th October	October Half term begins 3.30 pm	
Monday 4 th November	School opens	



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