



WATERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE— 94.1%

Friday 16th January, 2026

Dear Parents and carers,

May we start by wishing you all a rather belated, but heartfelt 'Happy New Year' from all the team here at Waterside Primary School. It was fantastic returning to school to hear from the children about their Christmas and all the good times that were had.

A massive 'thank you' too to all those families who took part in our Winter Wellness Challenge. It was lovely to see all the photos. Miss Jacobs is in the process of putting together a display of your responses and the children who participated will of course be receiving their leaves too!

We have had a super first couple of weeks and I can't believe that we are already over half way through January. We have had children out enjoying swimming and athletics and we also had a fantastic afternoon on Wednesday watching Treehouse Theatre and their production of Alice in Wonderland. The performance was fully funded by our previous PTA committee and we were very grateful for their support in funding this for every family.

We hope everyone has a good weekend and we look forward to another good week ahead.

Thank you as always for your support.

Emma Moakes and Kira Jacobs
Headteacher Deputy Headteacher



IMPORTANT DAY TO DAY INFORMATION



Winter weather

As we have seen over the past couple of weeks, the weather and temperature can change very quickly, causing all sorts of problems for us getting to school.



As a precautionary measure, I felt it sensible to share some of the considerations and actions a school can take in the event of very cold, icy or snowy weather.

Firstly, it is important to say that schools always work very hard to stay open. Schools rarely close because of poor weather, but do so on the advice of Hampshire County Council and when it is genuinely considered unsafe. This could be because of travel to and from school, because of the temperature in school or because of staffing levels due to travel conditions.

In the event of a school closure, I will email parents via Arbor in the usual way. The closure will also be registered on the school's website and on Hampshire County Council's school closure pages.

I will aim to do this as early as possible and following a site inspection. With this in mind, please keep an eye on emails and communication when weather is forecast to be particularly hazardous.

Fingers crossed, we won't experience any of the above, but best to be prepared!



Fundraising

As a school we are always really grateful for the charitable donations we receive but also for the money earned through fundraising. Mrs Farrell has shared this week that purchases made by parents through Cauliflower Cards at Christmas made the school £131.00 in commission! This money will be used to purchase additional resource for the children. Thank you for your support.

A rich and engaging curriculum



Year 2 swimming

Last week the whole of Year 2 went swimming at Applemore Recreation Centre. The class was split into ability groups and taught over three sessions to develop their confidence and swimming ability. We are very grateful to the staff at Applemore for their teaching, but also for Mr Bray who took and collected us each day on the mini-bus.

It was lovely to hear how the children developed over the week and we hope this is an activity they will continue to enjoy.

Swimming is a life skill and so essential especially when we live in a coastal area.



Treehouse Theatre Visit

On Thursday afternoon, the whole school enjoyed our annual visit from Treehouse Theatre with their production of Alice in Wonderland. As previously mentioned the performance was funded by our former PTA committee, for which we are very grateful.

The children loved singing along to the songs and taking a very active part in the story. We hope they came home with lots to tell you about the 'wonderful' afternoon we had had.



WOW Ambassadors and award scheme



This year we will be embarking on a new project to promote healthy and sustainable travel to school.

The children will record how they come to school each day on an interactive tracker in the classroom. The aim being that at least once a week the children are supported to walk, cycle or scoot or and if this is too tricky because of distance, then to park and stride to school. Children who are able to be supported to make this commitment over the course of a month, will be awarded a special 'WOW' badge which they can wear on their school jumper. **Each month there will be a new badge to collect!**

Excitingly, the project will not be led by staff, but by pupil ambassadors who will have been trained by 'Living Streets' who run the campaign.

Our WOW Ambassadors for the coming year will be Louisa (Year4), Isla (Year 4), Charlotte (Year 4), Taiba (Year 4), Darcie-Rae (Year 4), Layla (Year 5) and Imogen (Year 5).

For more information on the scheme, please follow the link below:

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-to-school/primary-schools/wow-the-walk-to-school-challenge/wow-ambassador/>

LIVING STREETS LET'S WALK TO SCHOOL

WOW the WALK TO SCHOOL challenge

2025/26

WALK TO SCHOOL = EARN BADGES

REDUCE CONGESTION AND POLLUTION

SUPPORT PUPILS' PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

FRIENDS OF WATERSIDE

Dear Parents and Carers,
Happy New Year!

Friends of Waterside would like to wish you and your family a very **Happy New Year**, we hope that **2026** brings you joy, health, and happiness.

We would also like to take a moment to express our heart-felt gratitude for your continued support. Thanks to your contributions, our recent Christmas Fair was a tremendous success, raising an incredible **£958.99!** This money will go a long way in ensuring enriching experiences for our students.

Stay tuned, as we will be announcing our upcoming events next week. We're excited to share what we have in store and look forward to your participation.

Best wishes,
Friends of Waterside

Diary Dates (new dates in bold)

Useful contacts:

Emma Moakes (Headteacher)
E.MOAKES@waterside.hants.sch.uk

Kira Jacobs (Deputy Headteacher)
K.JACOBS@waterside.hants.sch.uk

Lesley Ralls-Baird (SEN/Inclusion lead)
L.BAIRD@waterside.hants.sch.uk

School office manned 8am—4pm

023 80842143

There is an answerphone for any messages left out of hours.



www.waterside.hants.sch.uk

INSET DAYS

We have three remaining INSET days this year. These will be on the following dates:

Thursday 7th May

Friday 26th June

Monday 29th June

28.1 Year R parents invited to singing assembly (9am)

10.2 School Disco (details to follow)

13.2 Break up for half term

23.2 Back to school

3.3 Year 5 to Science Centre

6.3 **GREEN DAY** (details to follow)

4/5/6.3 Year 5 residential trip

6.3 Year 6 Circus Skills day

11.3 Year 5 parents to singing assembly (9am)

13.3 Year 5 to Gregg School

25.3 Year 4 parents to singing assembly (9am)

27.3 Last day of Spring Term

13.4 Back to school

29.4 Year 3 parents to singing assembly (9am)

7.5 INSET DAY—Closed for Polling

11.5 SATs WEEK starts for Year 6

16.5 Spring Fayre (tbc)

11.5 Class photos (tbc)

13.5 Year 2 parents to singing assembly (9am)

22.5 Break up for half term

1.6 Back to school

10.6 Year 1 parents to singing assembly

26/27.6 INSET DAYS