

18th October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Curriculum Experiences and Outcomes

Staff and pupils have worked hard this half term and this has been reflected in the experiences and outcomes produced. Curriculum workshops have played a huge part in allowing pupils to explore historical sources and artefacts. Year 3 have had first-hand experiences with replica flint tools and fossil bones, Year 4 were taken back in time to the ancient Olympian Games and Greek mythology whilst Year 5 learnt all about the Vikings and the raid of Lindisfarne.

Our Year 4 pupils have been fortunate to visit Walsall Art Gallery where they carried out poly-printing and created sculptures. Pupils were enthusiastic to learn about each piece of art, the medium used and even how much each one would sell for. Year 1 travelled to Twycross Zoo where they were immersed in the zoo's fascinating exhibits, exotic birds and animals.

At Waverley, we are proud of the opportunities that we provide our pupils to understand and embrace the diverse world that we live in. This half term, Year 6 pupils visited a Buddhist Pagoda where they learnt of Buddha's life and teaching and the Triratna Buddhist Community. Year 2 pupils were in awe after visiting St Pauls Cathedral; they explored the Cathedral and its origins and beliefs, role of prayer and baptism and the story of the life of Christ. This week we have our Diwali lunch and celebrations to look forward to.

We are hitting high notes with our music provision – our Waverley Choir have started their performances and are preparing for special occasions like whole school assemblies, Christmas and Summer concerts. Our next big performance will take place in World Resort Arena where our Waverley choir will join 6000 other pupils from local schools to take part in the Young Voices project. The performance is on the 26th of January at 7:00pm. Tickets are available for parents to purchase from the World Resort Arena Box office. Our Year 4 pupils have started their journey in learning to play an instrument. We have clarinet, violin and ukulele sessions. Some of our Year 5 and 6 pupils are continuing their tuition in small elective groups. Look out for our end of term music concerts where our pupils will be showcasing their talents.

Our Phase Newsletters will give you further insight into what our children have been learning.

Black History Month

Pupils across the school have been celebrating Black History Month. We have had a virtual visit from Elaine Steele, one of the co-founders of Rosa Raymond Parks Institute; she was able to share first hand experiences, events and stories with our pupils – what an amazing opportunity! Other significant figures have included Martin Luther King, Benjamin Zephaniah and Harriet Tubman to name a few.

Parental and Community Engagement

Many of you will be aware of just how much we have done this half term with our parents. We are proud of the level of engagement and commitment from our parents. The coffee conversation mornings have been a success and it was good to hear your thoughts on how we can further work together. We now have parents signed up for the adult classes, which will start next half term. The workshops on statutory assessments earlier on this year were well attended, as were the speech and language workshops.

End of Day Dismissal and Collection

We have robust procedures in school for the end of day dismissal. A reminder that once your child has been handed over to you by the class teacher, it is the responsibility of parents to ensure that your child is safe. This means ensuring your child is with you at all times, not using this time as an opportunity to play games and wander off. Unfortunately,

we have had a couple of instances this half term where pupils have been handed over to parents but then have wandered off. All parents must keep their children with them at all times.

Healthy Eating

All pupils from Reception to Year 2 receive free fruit each day. In addition to this, Reception pupils receive free milk. From next half term, we will be promoting a healthy approach to morning snacks and packed lunches. Pupils should not be bringing sweets, crisps and chocolates into school – a healthy snack and fruit will be the expectation.

Harvest

Can I thank all parents for such generosity and care for our wider community; all donations will be collected on Thursday 20th by Birmingham City Mission who will distribute to charities around Birmingham.

Parents' Evening & Book Fair

Details regarding the forthcoming Parents' Evening have been communicated with all parents and by now all appointments should have been confirmed. During this week, we will have Scholastic Book Fair in which will be accessible to all pupils and parents from 3:15 to 5:45pm on the Tuesday and Wednesday in the Primary dining hall. Please come and have a look as we want all of our children reading and developing a love of books!

Key Dates for your Diary:

Monday 31/10/22: Start of Autumn 2 for all pupils

Monday 31/10/22: Start of the Phonics Screening Check Years 1 and 2

Monday 31/10/22: Start of Bikeability sessions for Year 3

Tuesday 01/11/22: Primary Parents' Evening 3:15-6:00

Wednesday 02/11/22: Primary Parents' Evening 3:15-6:00

Thursday 03/11/22: 5B Class Assembly Diwali Parents invited 8:40-9:00

Thursday 03/11/22: Autumn 1 Attendance Reward Trip Scallywags Stechford EYFS/KS1 12:00-3:00 Class tbc

Friday 04/11/22: Autumn 1 Attendance Reward Trip Scallywags Stechford KS2 12:00-3:00 Class tbc

Monday 07/11/22: Teacher Training Day School Closed to all pupils

Tuesday 08/11/22: Year 1 Class 1A visiting ASDA

Wednesday 09/11/22: Year 1 Class 1B visiting ASDA

Thursday 10/11/22: Year 1 Class 1C visiting ASDA

Friday 11/11/22: Resource Base Trip to Tamworth Snowdome

Friday 11/11/22: Armistice Day

Wednesday 16/11/22: Year 6 visiting National Justice Museum

Wednesday 16/11-Friday 18/11/22: Anti-Bullying Workshops

Thursday 17/11/22: 2B Class Assembly Universal Children's Day Parents invited 8:40-9:00

Friday 18/11/22: Resource Base Trip to Tamworth Snowdome

Thursday 01/12/22: 4A Class Assembly Buddhism Bodhi Day Parents invited 8:40-9:00

Thursday 08/12/22: 1A Class Assembly Christmas Parents invited 8:40-9:00

Friday 09/12/22: Hanukkah Lunch

Wednesday 14/12/22: Pantomime The Greatest Fairy Tale Ever Told

Wednesday 14/12/22: Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Friday 16/12/22: **End of Autumn Term. School finishes for primary at 12:15 (secondary will finish at 12:30)**

As always, thank you for your continued support. I wish you an enjoyable and restful half term and I look forward to welcoming all pupils back safely on Monday 31st October.

Yours sincerely,

S. Dosanjh

Mrs Dosanjh

Principal Waverley School – Primary