



# Waterloo Primary School

Headteacher:  
**Mrs. R. Baldwin**  
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14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the last couple of days of the school year I would like to express my sincere thanks to every single one of you for your unstinting support. In particular I have to thank you for reading with, or listening to your child read every day as part of their homework. Not only is this an important experience for parent and child it is having such an impact on your child's progress and their enjoyment of the whole curriculum. This is evident from your child's school report which will be emailed to you on Monday evening.

This year has seen a significant contribution from our highly active PTA. Monthly coffee mornings, the Bingo Night, termly activities for children and the Fayre's have seen much needed funds being donated to school enabling us to purchase new Dining Room seating, the development of reading corners in every classroom together with reading books, funding to reduce the cost of the Y6 residential and contribution to other requests made by staff for their year groups. All of this is to enhance the provision for every child. Even this week, the Pre Loved Uniform Stall reminded us all of the need to recycle rather than send perfectly good uniform to landfill. There will always be Pre Loved Uniform available in the foyer of the school for you to use for your child, rather than purchasing new. Our lost property collection alone could clothe a couple of classes of children – and all of it without a name! A huge thankyou to the PTA team, who are so generous with their time and completely committed to supporting the school in this way. I know they are always keen for new members – so please come along to a coffee morning or approach one of the PTA for further information!

I am privileged to lead such a team of dedicated and hardworking staff. Every member of staff gives their very best to support the children of the school. This is what makes Waterloo Primary School such a special community of learning.

The final year at Primary School is always tinged with sadness as we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. A large number of our pupils have spent 7 years in our care – 2 years of which covered a period of significant disruption due to COVID. They have worked so hard to continue to narrow the gaps in their learning that had appeared as a result of the disruption to education from when they were in Year 3 in 2020. We all acknowledge that this has not always been an easy path but this group of young people should be incredibly proud of their journey at Waterloo Primary School.

We will miss all of our Year 6 pupils and wish them the very best of luck for the future. I am looking forward to hearing of the great success they make of Year 7 and beyond from their new schools and feel sure that we will be visited in September from these outstanding young people wearing new blazers, school shoes with their complaints about homework! We also say goodbye to those parents who are also leaving our school – thank you for your dedication and commitment to the school over many years.



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The school curriculum has been enhanced by a wealth of learning opportunities. I know some of you will have shared some of our fantastic educational visits by acting as a volunteer. The staff can't thank you enough for finding the time or booking the time off work to accompany them on visits and really value the contribution you make. Without your support we would be unable to take our children on these valuable visits e.g. Llandudno going down the mine and up the Great Orme, Martin Mere, Museums, Galleries, Waterloo Forest, walking to Library, Concerts at the Philharmonic, weekly tennis at Waterloo Tennis Club ..... the list is endless. We try hard to give children a wide range of opportunities to make the curriculum come alive and with your help this has happened again this year. If anyone hasn't had the opportunity to volunteer to accompany children on an educational visit or if you have the capacity to help in school on a regular basis we would love to hear from you.

I would also like to thank the Governing Body of the school for the significant part they play in the life of the school and for giving up their time so willingly to ensure that the children receive the education they deserve.

#### School Uniform changes from September

We have made some slight changes to the Uniform Policy of the school (see Website).

From September, children will **NOT** be allowed to wear black trainers, or any other trainers for school, unless this is with their P.E. Kit. Children must wear black school shoes (no open toe shoes or heels) unless they are coming into school in their P.E. Kit. Also – we must stress that only school uniform can be worn for school. For P.E. days this is a red polo shirt and blue shorts or blue/black leggings/jogging bottoms. No brand items can be worn as part of uniform unless you decide to purchase school logo kit. Children should also wear school P.E. Kit for any sports after school club.

Please ensure all items are named as we have an enormous collection of lost property which will make its way to "Pre Loved" if we can't find the owner of the item.

All long hair (for both boys and girls) must be worn tied back for health and safety reasons. We will provide hair bobbles if necessary as children enter school but would urge this to be done prior to coming into school. We would strongly advise parents not to allow their children to dye their hair for school.

No child can wear nail varnish for school. We will have nail polish remover in school and children will be asked to remove it themselves. In addition, for health and safety reasons children are not allowed to wear acrylic or false nails.

All jewellery must be removed for P.E. Children should leave this at home on days when they come to school in P.E. Kit. All ear-rings MUST be removed for any sport. This is school and Sefton policy.

I am sending a separate Parent App from Sefton Swimming Service regarding acceptable swim wear if your child is due to go swimming in September.

#### Charges/Remission Policy

The new Remission Policy/Charges is on the school website.

We have not increased Breakfast Club costs for many years. Due to rising costs of food etc, the daily cost of Breakfast Club will be £4 a day from September. Whilst we recognise that this is an increase for our families, the cost still represents excellent value for money and is significantly cheaper than other providers. Please also note that this Club is open from 7.30 a.m. each day.

From September, it has also been necessary to review the charges of our After School Club:

3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m = £4.50

4.30 p.m. to 5.50 p.m = £5.00

3.30 p.m to 5.50 p.m. = £8.50

### School Meals

Please note that if your child is moving into Year 3, the Free Infant Meals no longer applies, and payment must be made for school meals (£12.10 per week) unless your child is eligible for benefits related free meals. We would urge you to complete an application form which can be found on our school website. At the moment this also entitles your child to vouchers during all school holidays (£15 a week per child).

### Staffing information

Each year, not only do we say goodbye to our Y6 pupils, we also say goodbye to some members of our valued team of staff. This year is no exception.

Mrs Greaves, who has taught within our ASD provision, has made the decision to retire early from teaching at the end of this term. I would like to thank her on behalf of the whole school community for the dedication she has shown to the children within our Resourced Provision for many years since joining the school in 2004. Together with the other staff in her classes, she has ensured that children have been fully prepared for the next stage of their education – in many cases working with pupils and families for several years. On behalf of the whole school community I would like to wish Mrs Greaves a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Mrs Duckett, who has worked as our Higher Level Teaching Assistant for many years, will be leaving us at the end of the school year to pursue other areas of interest at this time. Mrs Duckett has worked tirelessly across the whole school, supporting pupils during teacher PPA time, delivering intervention and supporting year groups. She has such a long association with the school and we thank her for the significant contribution she has made over the years. She will be hugely missed by all of the staff and pupils. We all wish Mrs Duckett, and her family, the very best of luck for the future.

Mrs Brodie, one of our Cover Supervisors and Teaching Assistants working in Y4, will sadly be leaving us at the end of the term. As a dedicated and hard working member of staff, she even recently

wallpapered a corridor and set up a “StarBooks” reading area as part of the Reading Corner challenge supported by the PTA! Mrs Brodie is a highly organised and supportive team player who will be sadly missed as she undertakes a new direction working for the Home Office in the summer. We all wish her the very best of luck and hope that when she finds any free time she can still manage a few school trips with the children! We wish her, and her family, the very best of luck for the future.

Mrs Gray will also be leaving Waterloo at the end of this term. As one of our Cover Supervisors and Teaching Assistants, currently in Year 3, she will be leaving the school to undertake a new role outside of education. She has been an asset to the team of Waterloo and I know the staff will miss her professionalism and incredible support.

Miss Holt has been teaching in one of our ASD Resource Bases this year. Having trained at Waterloo in 2021, we wish her the very best of luck in her teaching career as she moves to a new school in September. We would all like to thank her for her commitment to the children in our ASD Resource Base and the rest of the staff team.

Miss Taujanskas, who works as a Teaching Assistant in one of our Resourced Bases and in Breakfast and After School Club, will begin her training as a Play Therapist in September. Her calm and approachable manner will be very much missed however we are delighted that she is using her skills to support children in this way going forward. We wish her well at college.

Mrs Rhoades will be leaving school at the end of the school year. She has worked so effectively with children since joining the school during the period of COVID. We all wish her well in her new role.

Miss Hamer and Miss Hill are also both leaving the school having only joined us last September. We wish them both the very best of luck for the future.

Miss Foreman, who has worked as a Welfare Assistant will also finish her lunchtime role with us next week. A huge thankyou goes to Miss Foreman for her dedication to the children of this school over the years.

Miss Au will also start her maternity leave at the beginning of September. We wish her well and hope she manages some rest over the holidays before the arrival of her second child.

Finally, two further members of staff, who only joined the school recently, on part time hours, will be moving to new roles within education. We say goodbye to Miss Allwood and Miss Murphy who have been supporting pupils in Y5 and Y3 respectively. We wish both of them the very best of luck for the future

### Welcome to new teachers

In September we welcome Mrs Shaw, a highly experienced ASD teacher, who will be teaching in our new ASD Resource Base (when the conversion of the building is completed) and taking over the leadership of the ASD Resource Bases.

Mr Taylor, an experienced ASD teacher, will also be joining the ASD Resourced Base team.

We also welcome Mr Duckworth who will be teaching in Y1, Miss Greeves who will be teaching in Y2 and Miss Parker who will be teaching in Year 5. Miss Williams will also be teaching in Reception with Mrs Farrall who returns from maternity leave in September.

We also wish Miss Grocott every happiness as she gets married over the holidays. She will be known as Mrs Owen in September. We all have our fingers crossed for wonderful weather on her Wedding Day!

### Building Work

You will have noticed a significant amount of building work beginning over the past few weeks – including the Green Wall structure. Huge thanks must go to our premises staff for working so hard in ensuring this first phase has been completed before the holidays.

At the current time, there is a new upstairs toilet block being developed near Y4,5 and Y6 and a new intervention class is being remodelled from two smaller rooms off the upstairs hall. Over the summer a significant piece of work is being undertaken on the ground floor of the building, with new pupil toilets being relocated to the back of the building just off the playspace and work being undertaken to develop a further ASD classroom which will link our provision together in a discrete block. There is also planned building work to develop the Reception playspace which includes levelling up the ground, with better access and external shelter for children. The same is also happening with the new Nursery playspace. In addition, there will be pointing of external walls and some roof repairs. It is certainly going to be a busy summer.

Although not all of the work will be completely finished by September – the school will be fully operational by the beginning of September.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your support during this incredibly busy year and send you my very best wishes for a lovely summer break. We look forward to welcoming your child back to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September. **Doors will open at 8.45 a.m. and will close at 9.00 a.m**

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Baldwin

Headteacher