Dear Mothers, Fathers and Carers

**Open day – Tuesday 17th January.** A chance for parents and carers to come and look round the school, view our displays and see the children at work. We will have two sessions; the first between 9.15am and 11.50am. The second will be between 1.30pm and 3pm. Please note, that unfortunately we cannot accommodate younger siblings on this date.

**Admissions Deadline –** 15th January 2017 is the deadline for applying for a reception place for the September 2017 intake.

**2016 SATS** - Congratulations to last year’s Y6 and all the staff who worked with them during their years at Waycroft. Once again the Academy is securely within the top 10 schools in Bristol regarding achievement in reading, writing and maths with maths results being exceptional. The percentage of children working at the higher level was 49% compared to 17% nationally. The tests and expectations were significantly harder this year with this being the first year of assessing the new National Curriculum. It is great to see our pupils achieving so well whilst still enjoying a broad and exciting experience at school. For more detail please see <https://www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables> or the pupil achievement section on the school website.

**Attendance Policy** – Can we please just remind parents that school starts at 8.55am. Our registers close at 9.20am. Therefore if your child arrives after 9.20am, they will receive an unauthorised mark for their morning session. Being late can cause embarrassment and mean that your child misses vital information about their lesson. Our full attendance policy can be found under the policies tab of our website, along with information regarding taking children out of school in exceptional circumstances.

**School Council update:** During terms 1 and 2 the children chose to build our link with the residents and staff at Bluebell Gardens. The school council members in KS2 were the first group to visit and were extremely helpful serving cakes to the residents and delivering the Harvest donations that were so kindly contributed by the children in our Nursery and Reception. The KS1 school councillors were then very excited to visit during December to sing some Christmas songs for the residents and to enjoy some Christmas treats – even Father Christmas made an appearance!

**2017--18 TERM DATES**

* **Term 1** Monday 4 September to Friday 20 October 2017
* **Term 2** Monday 30 October to Friday 15 December 2017
* **Term 3** Tuesday 2 January to Friday 9 February 2018
* **Term 4** Monday 19 February to Friday 23 March 2018
* **Term 5** Monday 9 April to Friday 25 May 2018
closed on 7 May 2018 for the Early May Bank Holiday
* **Term 6** Monday 4 June to Tuesday 24 July 2018

***Please note, INSET days will be published later in the year.***

**Menu Change** – Thursday 19th January. We will be having a special ‘Star Wars’ themed menu on this day.

Han Burgers served with C-3PO Chipped Wedges accompanied by either Bossk Beans or Princess Leia Peas. The vegetarian options will be either Chewbacca Cheesy Pizza or Jedi Jacket Potato served with Bossk Beans. Dessert will be a choice from Darth Vadar Chocolate Sundae, Skywalker Fruit Smoothies or

Yoda Yoghurt. Every child who takes a dinner on this day will be entered into a draw to win a Star Wars related prize.

**KS2 SATS 2017** – For parents of our current Year 6 pupils, there is a useful video clip on You Tube which outlines the dates of each of the tests the children will be taking in May and a brief explanation of what each paper involves. Please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fC2yhtEtk4o&feature=youtu.be> to view the clip.

**Learning Heroes** – On 6th January, in our achievement assembly, the following children were awarded as learning heroes

Yr 4; Scarlett & Marcus.

Yr 3; Jaiden & Marley.

Yr 2; Isabella & Macey.

Yr 1; Jacob & Sophia. Well done to all our children for showing their use of ‘building learning power’.

**Uniform** – In line with our uniform policy, children should be wearing flat plain black shoes or flat black ankle or calf length boots. Long hair should be tied back and earrings should be removed on PE days. We appreciate your cooperation with following our guidelines. Thank you.

**Letting –** Our new hall is now available for hire. Please get in touch with our Business Manager, Mrs Warburton, who will be able to advise you on hire fees and assist with the necessary paperwork.

**Camp Meetings:** There is a meeting scheduled for Year 3 parents on Wednesday 25th January at 5pm to discuss the Hooke Court camp taking place for Year 4 children in the next academic year. There is also a meeting scheduled for Thursday 26th January at 5pm to discuss the Barton Hill Camp that Year 2 will be going on this summer. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at these meetings.

**Playmaker Vacancy** – We have a vacancy arising in February for a playmaker. 12.10pm – 1.20pm, 5 days a week, term time only plus INSET days. This post is paid at £7.85 an hour. We are looking for an enthusiastic individual who will interact with the children whilst supervising their play at lunchtime, this includes making the most of our extensive grounds in nearly all weathers and children using their imagination and creativity with a range of resources provided. If you are interested, please pick up an application form from the school office. Short listing and interviews will take place prior to the end of Term three.

**Trim Trail** – We are delighted to announce the installation of our brand new trim trail. The Friends of Waycroft have very kindly funded this exciting new addition to our field. The children have been watching in anticipation as the trail was erected last week. We look forward to everyone using it very shortly.

**Friends of Waycroft** – Their next meeting is being held in the school hall on Wednesday 11th January at 6.30pm. They would love to see some new faces at the meeting. Even if you are only able to help out with the odd event across the year, they really would appreciate the addition of any new volunteers. Check out their Facebook page ‘Friends of Waycroft’ where you can contact the members directly to find out more information.

Yours sincerely



Lisa Craig

Head of School