

Uphill Village Academy

Celebration Newsletter 31st March 2023

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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wow! What a busy term we have had. It has been an absolute pleasure to see so many of you over the last few weeks at a variety of events; culminating in our wonderful Easter bonnet parade today.

Please enjoy this celebration newsletter to see all the amazing events and activities your children have participated in.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a happy Easter and I'll see you all on Monday 17th April for the start of the summer term.

Mrs Samantha Hodder,
Principal

Parents Evening Feedback

We hope you found your child's Parents Evening helpful and informative. Remember we would love to hear your views on how we arrange our Parents Evenings.

Please could we ask as many parents as possible to click on the link below to complete a short feedback form.

<https://forms.office.com/e/NA46CG4cZH>

Uphill Village Academy Spring Term Awards

Congratulations to the following pupils who were presented with their thoroughly deserved awards by Mrs Hodder.

Key Stage 1 Awards

Ray Pegram Award - Sophie

English - Emily

Maths - Logan

Science - Jasper

Arts - Florence

Music - Ieuan

P.E. - Hannah

Citizenship - Harbwr

Key Stage 2 Awards

Tom Tait Award - Emilia

English - Elijah

Maths - Rupert

Science - Zachary

Arts - Melanie

Music - Malachi

P.E. - Jayden

Citizenship - Annabel

The Dot Woods Award - Josie



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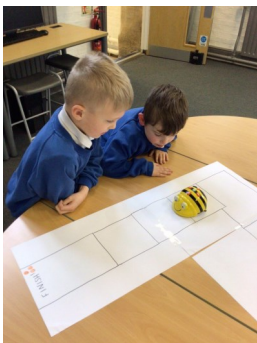


What have we been up to this term?



EYFS & Year 1 Classes

We did get a light sprinkling of snow earlier in the term, some of our EYFS children had not seen snow before and had great fun exploring the snow and ice in the playground. They made snow people, igloos and towers and loved the feel and texture, but were surprised how quickly it melted!

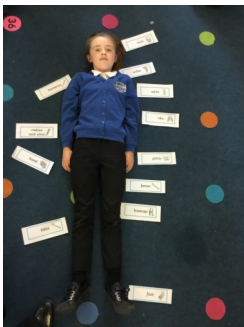


EYFS/Year 1 have kicked off this term's enquiry with some special visitors! As historians, they thought about what they would like to find out about technology in the past and wrote some questions that they wanted to ask. They loved welcoming in grandparents to learn what technology was like when they were children. They learned a lot and were able to look at some old technology to see how it has changed.



Year 2 Classes

This term as part of their enquiry 'Who were the Victorians?' Year 2 have been learning about how the village of Uphill has changed since the Victorian era. They were so lucky to have historian Michael Gorely from Historic England to take them on a tour of the village. He shared lots of really interesting facts about our local area and its history, which has really helped their understanding of Victorian life.



Year 2 had a brilliant day on their educational trip to the SS Great Britain in Bristol. They spent the day being historians, enjoying learning about Brunel's inventions, architecture and his life. It was a really great day! The visit helped them create their own 'museum' for their presentation of learning to parents last week.



The children have also been scientists, learning about the role of the skeleton in protecting our organs. They used chicken bones and vinegar to understand the importance of calcium in our diet to keep our bones strong and healthy!



What have we been up to this term?

Year 3 & 4 Classes

Last term, as part of Children's Mental Health Week the children made paper chains of all the things that make them feel 'connected' to others.

In PE, they have been gymnasts, working on their movement skills. The children have been practising different jumps and had a go at dismantling the large equipment.



What an absolutely fabulous trip the children had on the Matthew last week. They learned all about the Matthew's history, as a commercial goods ship and its famous 1497 transatlantic voyage. They were so excited to embark on their own voyage up the River Avon! Well done to all the children for representing Uphill Village Academy so well.



Year 5 & 6 Classes

Written by Ari & Harrison

Y5 and Y6 have been investigating the big question 'How does our world rage?' as their geography enquiry since the start of January.

We started off by learning about how the earth is made: the different layers and their temperatures.



Following this, we discovered how mountains are formed which would help us to understand how volcanoes occur. Using atlases, we located the main mountain ranges across the world and some of us researched fascinating facts about the world's highest mountains.



As, tragically, the earthquakes in Turkey unfolded, we were learning about how the world can rage in that earthquakes and volcanoes can occur frequently – particularly in the 'ring of fire' in the Pacific Ocean due to the tectonic plates moving.

Since half term, we have moved onto rivers and flooding which links with our quality text 'Floodland' by Marcus Sedgwick. We are looking forward to learning about the Uphill floods and going on a river walk around Uphill to find out how, where and why these floods occurred in our local area.

The children have had a really busy couple of terms including learning about First Aid, including how to put someone in the recovery position and what they would need to do next.

A few weeks ago The Small Piece Trust visited Year 5 to host a fabulous STEM workshop in which they designed, made and flew gliders – they all had a great time.



As geographers the children have been studying ordnance survey maps using the map symbols to understand the physical and human features of the local area. These maps were used this week to support their class river walks, where they explored the journey of the River Axe.



Our Year 6 children have spent the term working really hard to prepare for their SATs. We are really proud of their efforts and wish them all the best as they move into their last term of primary school.

What have we been up to this term?

Reading Week

We all enjoyed Reading Week at the beginning of March, with some fabulous activities! These included a Story Evening for Key Stage 1, 'Stop & Read', 'Teacher Reading Swap' and World Book Day.

We saw some amazing costumes on World Book Day when the children and staff dressed up as their favourite book character. Well done to everyone for their incredible efforts.

Our Book Fair was a huge success. Your purchases raised a fabulous amount of money to help us buy new books for the library and for guided reading. Thank you!

We received some wonderful entries for our 'Story in a Jar' competition, running over February half term. Thank you and well done to all those who entered.

It was difficult to choose winners for each year group as we were really impressed by the effort that went into making them. You are all just brilliant. Congratulations to Aoife, Delilah, Otilie, Beau, Matilda and Dillon.

Reading Week

By Charlie and Noah

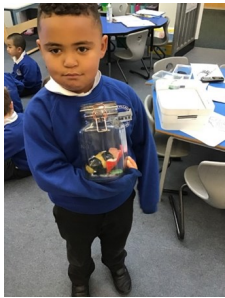
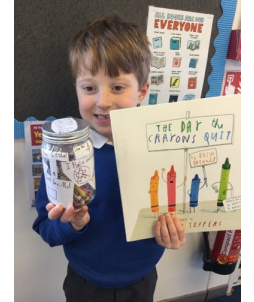
This year, World Book Day took place on the Friday 3rd March 2023. At Uphill Village Academy, we have been showing our love of books by celebrating world book day over the whole week.

After a whole school assembly, we learnt that some children, over 500,000 in the UK, do not own a book of their own. This shows just how important our school libraries are and how the book tokens can help all children to own a book of their own – for free!

During the week, children between 4-7 were invited back into school in the evening to wear their pyjamas and enjoy bedtime stories with their teachers.

At the end of the week, everyone at Uphill had the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character. "I dressed up as Winnie the Witch. It was a great final dress-up day for me," said Rosalind since she is in year 6.

The costumes ranged from Red Riding Hood to aliens in underpants - and that was just the teachers! The most excitement came from our annual reading competition. Children were asked to take part in the 'Story in a Jar' competition. There were brilliant ideas but take a look at the photos to see some of the winners this year.



What have we been up to this term?

RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch



The whole school really enjoyed taking part in the Big School Birdwatch, where every class spent time observing birds that frequent our school grounds.



You're Awesome Postcards

Postcards have started coming home for our new positive feedback scheme, in recognition of your children's hard work and excellence. Well done to all those children who have received one, please look out for them next term.



Extra-Curricular Clubs

Thank you so much to our dance teacher, Mrs Duffill, for developing two great routines for our Dance Club members to perform at the North Somerset Dance Festival.



We are so proud of our wonderful dancers who performed on the stage of the Weston Playhouse in front of a full house. This takes so much courage and confidence and they were truly spectacular! Thanks to Mrs Matthews & Mrs Frise who supported the event both during the day and on the evening.



Mrs Gray's Key Stage 1 Art Club has been very popular this year. Our young members have been producing some great artwork and the club will return next academic year.

We have some new extra-curricular clubs for terms 5 & 6 and still have a few spaces available in the following clubs:

Dodgeball (Yr4), Debate Club (Yr 5&6), Dance Angels (Yr6), Cross Country (Yr 5&6), Eco Club (Yr 3&4) and Cricket Club (Yr 3&4).

If your child wishes to join any of these clubs please email the office and we can book them in. Extra-curricular clubs start week commencing 24th April.

CLF 'Big Bake'

A few weeks ago we took two Year 6 children and their homemade, beautifully designed cupcakes, to the CLF 'Big Bake' competition, hosted at Winterstoke Hundred Academy, where we competed against the other CLF academies.

Well done Rihana & Olivia for an amazing 'Big Bake' - all their hard work paid off as their eco-themed cupcakes won first prize! Congratulations to you both and a big thank you to Mrs Matthews and Amy Matthews for their assistance.

A great trust-wide event that was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



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Rolls-Royce

What have we been up to this term?



Hot Chocolate Fridays

We really enjoy our Hot Chocolate Fridays, an opportunity for us to celebrate our fabulous children who have showed the very best versions of themselves.



Forest School

Our Year 3 and 4 children have been enjoying attending Forest school this year, exploring the natural world in our local area, including Uphill woods.

The children worked together to create shelters, explore, look for mini beasts and set trails for others to follow, as well as making journey sticks!



Sport Events

In January our Year 3 and 4 children took part in a great Kurling and Boccia session, giving the children the opportunity to learn a new sport. Earlier in the term, some of our Year 3 children took part in a multi-skills festival at Hutton Moor Sports Centre alongside schools across North Somerset. They were fabulous and represented our school brilliantly.

Our Year 3 and 4 children took part in a lunchtime football dribbling challenge and they have been working on their tag rugby skills in PE. This involved playing a game called 'cat and mouse' and practising passing the balls between each other. Its been a busy sporting term for this year group!



Easter Bonnet Parade

Despite the weather, we were treated to a fabulous display of Easter bonnets from our Key Stage 1 children, who were very excited to welcome the Easter Bunny to their classrooms!



Well done to everyone who took part; it was great to see so many colourful creations!



KS2 Play Area Design

Well done to all those children in Key Stage 2 who entered the 'Play Area Design' competition. There were some outstanding creations and some very worthy winners!

Well done all.



Easter Chocolates and Raffle

A lovely Easter Hamper was the star prize in the raffle, along with a gorgeous bouquet donated by Beau & Bloom, and many other super prizes.

The winners have been drawn online and prizes can be collected from the school office.

Unfortunately, due to the weather, we were unable to hold our popular Easter Egg Hunt this year however all the children have still received a chocolate treat to enjoy at home.

Thank you to all the PTFA committee members for their hard work. A special thank you to the parents and children who have supported our Easter fundraiser so whole heartedly.

Dates for your Diary

Don't forget to check out the school website for all our events as well as lots more useful class information and an array of great photos of our children's learning;

<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/events/>

MENU CHANGE

The menu on Monday 17th April has been changed to:

Mac n Cheese
Apple Crumble & Custard

March

Friday 31st

END OF TERM 4

April

Monday 17th

START OF TERM 5

Tuesday 18th

Year 6 Charterhouse Parents Meeting @ 5pm—School Hall

Thursday 28th

EYFS Height & Weight checks - School Nursing Team

May

Monday 1st

BANK HOLIDAY (School closed to pupils)

Tuesday 2nd

Year 4 Bikeability training (selected pupils)

Wednesday 3rd

Year 4 Bikeability training (selected pupils)

Monday 8th

BANK HOLIDAY King's Coronation (School closed to pupils)

Tuesday 9th - 12th

Year 6 SAT's

Monday 15th - 19th

Year 6 Charterhouse Residential Trip

Tuesday 16th

Year 4 Folly Farm Residential Parent Meeting @ 3.15pm—School Hall

Thursday 18th

PTFA Textile Recycling @ 9.00am. Bags left by Ellesmere Road flower box

Thursday 25th

Class & Year 6 Photos

Friday 26th

END OF TERM 5

June

Monday 5th

START OF TERM 6

Thursday 15th & 16th

Year 4 Folly Farm Residential Trip

Tuesday 20th

Year 5 & 6 Sport Event in school

July

Friday 7th

INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)

Monday 17th

No Extra-Curricular Clubs this week

Friday 21st

END OF ACADEMIC YEAR



Weston Hospice Easter Trail



Weston
Hospicecare



EASTER TRAIL

Saturday 8 April 2023



Follow the map and find the clues!

Start the trail at Uphill
Victory Hall to get your
map

Only £5 per child

Sign up
here!



westonhospicecare.org.uk | Registered Charity No. 900328



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