

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 15th December 2023



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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

We made it & we have had a terrific two terms of learning and experiences!

This celebration newsletter is packed full of information about the fabulous events and activities that have taken place this term. Please also take a look at our Twitter feed and the class pages of our website too; these both have even more photographs and detail of how much learning our children have taken part in.

Well done to those children who received an award this term, your hard work has been rewarded. Keep it up!

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the PTFA for their tireless work over the festive season, it is very appreciated.

And finally the whole staff team would like me to say thank you for all the generous gifts they have received; we are all grateful.

I look forward to welcoming our children back to school on Wednesday 3rd January 2024 and in the meantime I wish you all a merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

Mrs Hodder, Principal

Christmas Lunch

The busiest lunch service of the year!

Staff and children were treated to an amazing Christmas lunch in the hall with festive music, and our Principal, Mrs Hodder serving the puddings!

Teachers and support staff shared their Christmas meal with the children in their class. What a fantastic atmosphere and a great way to celebrate Christmas.

Parents of KS2 children should be aware that the cost of the meal will be met by the school and ParentPay charges will be deleted by the end of term. Please do not make any payment towards this meal.

Thank you to our lunchtime supervisors for all their hard work and to the catering team at Aspens for providing a great Christmas lunch.

Dates for the 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/>

December

Friday 15th

END OF TERM 2 - Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!

January

Tuesday 2nd

INSET DAY - School closed to pupils

Wednesday 3rd

START OF TERM 3

Monday 8th

Extra-Curricular Clubs & Music lessons start this week

Wednesday 17th

Year 5/6 Trip to Caerleon

Thursday 18th

Chandra Class Swimming

Thursday 25th

Chandra Class Swimming

Friday 26th

Young Voices 2024 Concert (selected pupils)



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Benefit Related Free School Meals

If your income or circumstances have changed and you feel your child(ren) may be eligible for benefit related free school meals, please apply now to check eligibility.

Those parents of children in our EYFS cohort should check eligibility as there are many more benefits than just free school meals, which your child will already receive under the universal infant free school meals system.

An application should be made for each individual child; as siblings will not automatically qualify.

Even if you have a younger child who qualifies for Universal Free School Meals (Yr R-2), it is important to check if you are eligible for benefit related Free school meals to enable you to receive financial support from the school towards the cost of trips, milk, jumpers/cardigans and KS2 music lessons.

North Somerset Council offer support during the school holidays through their HAF programme; further details can be found at

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/benefits-support/other-benefits-support/holiday-activities-food-haf-programme.co.uk

Online applications can be found on the North Somerset Council website. Use the link below to access further information and to apply online:

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/local-schools/free-school-meals.co.uk

If you need support to access this, please contact the school office. Please note, provision will start from the date of application and eligibility cannot be backdated.

IMPORTANT - If your child is already eligible for free school meals DO NOT REAPPLY as you may lose your entitlement.



PTFA Fundraising

As always, our hardworking, fabulous PTFA have had a bumper festive period of fundraising.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the many events that they have held during this term. You have contributed towards the following amounts raised:

Quiz Night - £264.84

Rags to Riches - £50

Christmas Bazaar - £1,488.47

Christmas Cards - £235

Wreath Making evening - £309.99

The monies raised help the school to purchase items above and beyond the curriculum.

A huge thank you to our PTFA members who have worked so hard for the school and the children, it is very much appreciated.

Feel Fab Christmas Stars

Are you looking for some fun activities over the Christmas break?

This year we have been given the opportunity to enter into the Feel Fab Christmas Stars competition.

All you need to do is help your child tick off the activities as you go and then return the form to their class teacher when we welcome them back in January. They will receive a certificate to celebrate their achievement .

You can find the activity sheet by clicking this link...

<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/news/feel-fab-christmas-stars/>

Save The Children

Christmas Jumper Day raised a phenomenal £288.56 for Save the Children.

Thank you for your generosity.



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What have we been up to this term?

EYFS & Year 1 - Rainbow, Sunshine & Saturn Classes

We are so proud of our EYFS/Y1 children who showed great courage, enthusiasm and talent performing their nativity 'Donkey for Sale' to two appreciative audiences. You were brilliant and a joy to watch!



This is the first time many of the children have performed in front of an audience and they were great we are so proud of them!



EYFS have enjoyed doing lots of other wintery crafts to help develop their fine motor skills such as making paper chains, snowflakes and weaving baubles. A sunny day back in November was perfect for EYFS to get the bikes and scooters out and practise their balancing.



As mathematicians year 1 practised subtracting using the counting back method. They problem solved subtraction using pennies falling out of a pocket!



Well done EYFS & Year 1 you have really settled in well this term!

Year 2 - Pluto & Jupiter Classes

Year 2 have learned so much this term!

As mathematicians year 2 have been adding and subtracting two digit numbers and exchanging tens. They used counters to show how we exchange a ten.



As geographers, they had an exciting field trip exploring Uphill / WsM coastline from the top of the hill. They looked at the human features that they could see as well as examining the topography.



As scientists, year 2 have been investigating liquids; how they move and if they all moved/can be poured like water. They predicted then tested this out by timing to see how fast liquids went down a slope. They found there were slower liquids than water. The Carol Concert at St Nicholas Church was a huge success, I am sure you will agree. The Year 2's all sang beautifully. We are so proud of them.



Forest School

Forest School have been out and about learning from our natural environment. Here they are searching for creatures that live on the woodland floor. They spent time collecting, identifying and classifying. At the start of October the children enjoyed making environmental art trails across the grounds of our school.



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Rolls-Royce



What have we being up to this term? continued...

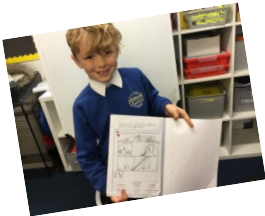
Year 3 & 4 - Sputnik, Chandra & Voyager Classes



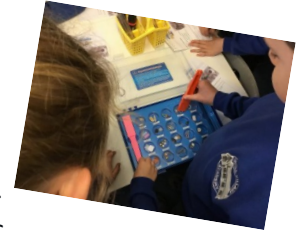
Our Year 3/4 pupils have been busy this year. As writers they have been writing a non-chron report all about Viking Gods and Goddesses. To start their learning journey they read an information report and identified features using their rubrics, which showed their success criteria as writers.



As mathematicians they investigated and explored arrays. They used arrays to help them understand and 'see' their times tables.



As linguists, year 3/4 learned French words for the rooms in their houses. They practised these together and then used them to create their own 'dream houses'.



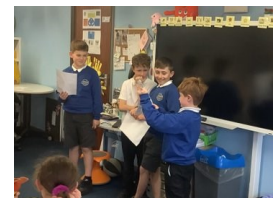
And as scientists, they learned all about magnets and their magnetic fields. They predicted and tested which materials would be magnetic or not.

Well done on a fabulous term year 3/4

Year 5 & 6 - Pegasus, Orion & Unicorn Classes



We are very proud of our mixed 5/6 football team who took part in the North Somerset tournament. The team supported each other brilliantly and showed great sportsmanship towards each other and the other teams.



As historians, years 5/6 used their knowledge of Stone Age innovations to write persuasive speeches to encourage the audience to think about the reasons why these were the most impactful inventions. The speeches were delivered to children in Years 3 and 4.

During their bikeability level 2 our year 6 children learned to ride safely on the roads - an essential skill.



The year 6 Prefects have risen to the challenge of taking on important duties such as librarians, lunchtime play leaders and Council Crew leaders.



Well done Year 5/6 - we are enjoying watching you grow in maturity, confidence and ability.

Whole School Remembrance Service

We celebrated Remembrance Day, on 11th November, by holding a two minute silence and a whole school Remembrance Service. A poignant reminder of those who have lost their lives serving their country as part of the armed services.

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to the Poppy Appeal.



Christmas Events



Christmas Dinner

Thank you to everyone involved in making the Christmas Dinner a success. The children and staff all enjoyed celebrating together. What a lovely way to end 2023.

Our School Choir

The Choir have been performing at a number of venues this year - they were in high demand! We visited numerous sites around the village and also on stage at The Winter Gardens as they took part in the West of England Music Alliance Christmas Extravaganza, alongside other schools across North Somerset.



They sang fantastically and got to meet Jess French from CBBC who was the show's compère. This was a new experience for us and the children were absolutely fabulous. They performed so well and really did themselves and the school proud at each event.

The Christmas Bazaar

What a wonderful turnout we had for the Christmas Bazaar. Thank you to everyone who donated items, attended with your children, and came to support us. It was truly magical hearing the KS2 singing carols to open the event. A huge thank you and well done to the PTFA for organising and orchestrating this event. It is a lot of work but it is always worth it, raising an impressive £1,488.47.

Well done and thank you to you all.

Christmas Parties

Each class has enjoyed their Christmas party this week - a chance to have fun with friends! The children have been playing games, listening to Christmas music and enjoying some party food.

A big thank you to the PTFA committee for their generous donation of party food for each class.

PTFA Secret Santa

Shh... it's a secret!

The children have been choosing and wrapping gifts for their family members this week. It's a truly wonderful activity that teaches the children the joy of giving at Christmas.

Thank you to the PTFA for their organisation and providing the selection of gifts.





UPHILL VILLAGE ACADEMY AWARDS DECEMBER 2023



At the end of Terms 2, 4 and 6, we celebrate outstanding achievements across the school in all subjects.

The children selected for an award are presented with a trophy to be displayed in school for the term and a certificate to keep.

Congratulations to the following pupils who thoroughly deserve their awards:

Key Stage 1 Awards

Ray Pegram - Zara Brehout

English - Scarlett Lange

Maths - Sophia Holmes

Science - Florence Disney

Arts - Daisy Jones

Music - Felicity Chouvarda-Edoria

P.E - Violet Williams

Citizenship - Harry Bray

Key Stage 2 Awards

Tom Tait - Sophia Lloyd

English - Lily-Rose Thompson

Maths - Victor Kostov

Science - Lillian Cameron

Arts - Popsey Blakemore

Music - Lily Jones

P.E - Barney Murdoch

Citizenship - India Kay

Dot Woods Award - Etta Sampson

