

# Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 20th December 2024



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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 Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 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 20th

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

### January 2025

Monday 6th

**INSET Day**

Tuesday 7th

**START OF TERM 3**

Monday 13th

Sputnik Class Swimming (1)

Monday 16th

Young Voices Concert in Birmingham (selected children)



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Rolls-Royce



## Weston Hospice Elf Run



On Friday 13th December, we took part in the Weston HospiceCare Elf Run which was a fabulous opportunity for us to get active and support our local hospice.

Elf Run was established by Weston HospiceCare and was open to all schools, nurseries and pre schools in and around Weston to take part in.

Children could jump, walk, dance run & skip a chosen distance to raise funds for this worthy cause.

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously; we raised a massive £268.42

It takes over £16,000 to host Christmas day for all the patients in their care, and this will go towards helping to fund this.

Well done to all our children for putting in so much effort.



### Clubs

Dance Club & Year 3/4 Art Club will recommence in term 3, after the Christmas break. They will recommence on w/c 13th January 2025.

We will be starting our term 3 Junior Science Club on a Monday from Monday 13th January. Those children who secured a place will receive a text directly to let them know.

Young Voices Club only has two more weeks to go! We will be holding our club on Tuesday 7th and Tuesday 14th January, ready for our trip on Thursday 16th.

Please be aware club will run from **3.15pm - 4pm**, not the usual 4.15pm.

### 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:

Christmas Bazaar - £1,272.87

Christmas Cards - £133

Wreath Making evening - £800.00

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

### Return to School

We finish today for the Christmas holidays.

We look forward to seeing everyone on our return to school on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

We wish all our children & families a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!



### Dogs Outside School

We love our furry friends coming to collect children from school. However, please be mindful that some of our children are afraid of dogs (even the little ones!)

Please do not allow your dog to jump up at children as they walk passed & please do not leave dogs tied to the railings unaccompanied.

Many thanks for your co-operation.



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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 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!

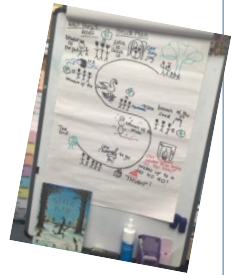
EYFS have enjoyed doing lots of other wintery crafts to help develop their fine motor skills such as making Christmas wreaths and weaving baubles.

As mathematicians year 1 practised subtracting using the counting back method whilst our EYFS children explored money using their class shop!

As readers they have all expanded the learning from the story 'Stickman' by Julia Donaldson; learning different techniques to retell the story including creating story boards, making puppets and drawing the characters.

As scientists they have focussed on magnets, learning scientific language such as repel, attract, north pole and south pole.

Well done EYFS & Year 1 your learning has been spectacular and 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 citizens, they were learning about the difference between bullying and unwanted behaviours; this fitted in great to the learning during Anti Bullying Week. They made paper chains to demonstrate how people linked together, working to stop bullying.

Year 2 have really worked hard on their writing this term, examining and identifying features of a letter. When they had learnt how to build a letter they were busy writing their own - Wow Year 2 that is a great skill to learn!

Last week, we're sure you will agree, the Carol Service at St Nicholas Church was a huge success. The Year 2's spoke clearly, signed beautifully and sang with such joy. You were an absolute delight to watch and we hope your parents enjoyed it as much as we did.

We are so proud of them.



## Forest School

Forest School have been out and about learning from our natural environment. We are so lucky to have our own Forest School Co-ordinator, Mrs Matthews. The children in Years 3 & 4 learn so much about the world around them during the sessions & have brilliant fun!



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

## Year 3 & 4 - Sputnik, Chandra & Voyager Classes



Our Year 3/4 pupils have been really busy so far this year. As writers and historians, they have been learning all about the chronology of the Tudor period, where they discovered Lady Jane Grey was only Queen for 9 days! They have also learned the art of debating - this has given them the skills to form opinion, write persuasive speech and practise their oracy skills.



As mathematicians they have recapped learning the column method of adding and subtracting as this masters and embeds the skills they need for almost every maths problem they will encounter. We are really pleased with how well they have recalled this knowledge and used it effectively.

Thank you to all the parents who supported the Presentation of Learning and came into school to share your child's books with them - it was great to see the children show such pride in explaining their learning.



Well done on a fabulous term year 3/4.

## Year 5 & 6 - Pegasus, Orion & Unicorn Classes

Year 5/6 have certainly hit the ground running this year; their pace of work is exceptional!



Term 2 started with rehearsing their Remembrance poems; learning about choral poetry. They performed their poems to the rest of the school in the assembly before Remembrance Sunday. Our year 6 House & Vice Captains, accompanied by Mrs Beal, represented the Academy at the Uphill Village Service on the hill, whilst at school, the children respectfully took part in a collective two minute silence during our special Remembrance Day assembly.

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

As historians, years 5/6 have learnt about the Egyptians; their Gods, their way of life and their food. They ended term 1 with a visit from Egyptian Ali for a whole days workshop about Ancient Egypt.

A number of our year 6 children took part in the level 2 Bikeability during term 1 when they learn to ride their bike safely on the road. This is an essential life skill and we were really pleased so may children took part.



They finished the term with their Presentation of Learning. This was a full house of parents watching their children explain what they have been learning this term.



They spoke loud & clear and clearly explained their learning—year 5/6 you did really well and we were very proud of you.

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.

## Year 5/6 Cross Country Event

Earlier in the term, some of our Year 5/6 children took part in a cross country event organised by North Somerset Schools PE Partnership. Four of our children qualified for the Inter Area Cross Country event at Ashton Park School and two of them, Bobbi Bright & Edna Jacobs, participated in the event.

Edna finished 35th & Bobbi 55th which is a phenomenal achievement for both of them given the calibre of the field of athletes. Well done girls, we're really proud of you both.



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# Christmas Events



## 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 listening to our very enthusiastic KS2 children singing carols, followed by our very own choir, led by Mrs Curtis.



Although the weather wasn't kind to us, everyone had a fabulous time with stalls, games & the ever popular Christmas raffle.

A huge thank you and well done to the PTFA for organising and orchestrating this event. It is such a lot of work but it is always worth it, raising an impressive £1272.87.

Well done and thank you to you all.



## Our School Choir

This year our School Choir have been out & about performing at the Uphill Village Pop-up Café and visiting the residents of the Manor Nursing Home.

They sang fantastically and performed so well; they really did themselves and the school proud



## EYFS & Year 1 Nativity

Well done to our EYFS/Y1 children for their brilliant Nativity performances. You showed great courage to sing, sign, dance and act. This is the first performance our EYFS children have taken part in and they were fabulous. Our Year 1 children rose to the challenge of learning lines, acting and narrating. We are so proud of you all.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for coming along to watch on both mornings; we had a full house on both days!



## Year 2 Christmas Service

Year 2 held their Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church in the village.

We are so proud of our year 2 children. A fantastic service at St Nicholas Church which is a big venue for little voices! Not for our Year 2 children though - you spoke clearly, signed beautifully and sang with such joy.

You were an absolute delight to watch and we hope your parents enjoyed it as much as we did.

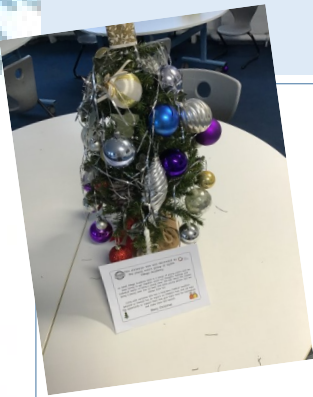


# Christmas Events

## Young Carers Group

Our Young Carers group have welcomed some new carers this term and had the opportunity to discuss why they are part of the group. They talked about the Christmas holiday and made decorations for a table top tree that was part of the Christmas Tree Exhibition held at St Nicholas church last weekend.

Thank you to Mrs DeScossa, our Learning Mentor, who works with and supports these children.



## Christmas Dinner

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. 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 2024.

Thank you to our brilliant kitchen staff from Aspens & our Lunchtime team for making this event possible.



## 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.

The EYFS & KS1 classes even had a special visitor!!

A big thank you to the PTFA committee for their generous donation of party food for each class & thank you, of course, to Santa for taking the time to visit us.



## 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 & to the teaching teams for their help in making this possible.







# UPHILL VILLAGE ACADEMY AWARDS DECEMBER 2024



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 given a certificate to keep.

Congratulations to the following pupils who thoroughly deserve their awards:

## **Key Stage 1 Awards**

Ray Pegram - Ella Maxwell  
English - Lucas DeGelas  
Maths - Arthor Penrose  
Science - Myles Sparkes  
Arts - Flo Fellingham  
Music - Leo Thomas-Marquiss  
P.E - Apollo Papantoniou  
Citizenship - Edith Allen

## **Key Stage 2 Awards**

Tom Tait - Maisie Doyle  
English - Martha Taylor  
Maths - Theo D'Rozario  
Science - Bethany Spence  
Arts - Isaac Coles  
Music - Olivia Wells  
P.E - Freddie Bliss  
Citizenship - Austin Wilkins  
Dot Woods Award - Ted Tandy

