

# Uphill Village Academy

## Celebration Newsletter 4th April 2025

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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.

I was particularly pleased to see so many of our parents and carers at our Spring Parents Evenings; it shows the commitment our families have to their child(ren)'s education. Thank you.

Please enjoy this edition of our celebration newsletter where you can see all the amazing events and activities your children have participated in.

I am looking forward to a busy term 5 & 6, there is so much to fit in! We say hello to our new reception children as we begin to meet them for the first time, we have two residential trips for our KS2 children, our Year 6 children will sit their SATs and of course we will be preparing them for their move to secondary school.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy Easter and I'll see you on Tuesday 22nd April

Mrs Samantha Hodder,

Principal



### Parents Evening Feedback

Thank you to all those parents that attended Parents Evenings. It is always lovely to have the opportunity to share your child's progress with you.

We have taken on feedback that families of our younger children prefer having a face-to-face appointment whilst families of our older children like the flexibility of the video calls. We will endeavour to continue to have flexible options in future.

Thank you to those parents who have taken the time to complete the feedback form. If you haven't done so already, please click on the link and let us know your thoughts on Parents Evening.

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

We need to emphasise that Parents Evening's give us and yourselves an opportunity to have a snap shot of your child's progress; if you feel you may need to speak more in depth to your child's class teacher we are more than happy to arrange this with you. Please email your child's year group to get in touch about any matters you want to discuss.

### Late Arrivals at School

We have had an increasing number of late arrivals at school over the last few weeks.

**Punctuality is an important life skill to instil into your child & we expect everyone to arrive on time each and every day.**

Children who arrive late for school can struggle to settle in to class as it causes disruption for both them and other children in the class who will already be starting work.

Please leave plenty of time for the school run to ensure your child arrives on time. The gates open at 8.35am; the registers are taken at 8.45am, then the gates are closed and locked and children should not be entering the gates at this time, but instead already be in class.

We will send a text to all parents when a child arrives late to school to inform you of this.

If your child is repeatedly late for school, please expect us to contact you to discuss how we can support them in improving their punctuality.

Attendance & punctuality matters—help us help your child to understand these important life lessons.



Working in partnership with



Rolls-Royce

## Term & INSET Dates 2025-26

### Term 1

Monday 1st September	INSET Day (school closed)
Tuesday 2nd September	INSET Day (school closed)
Wednesday 3rd September	<b>START OF TERM 1</b>
Thursday 23rd October	INSET Day (school closed)
Friday 24th October	INSET Day (school closed)
	<b>END OF TERM 1</b>

### Term 2

Monday 3rd November	<b>START OF TERM 2</b>
Friday 19th December	<b>END OF TERM 2</b>

### Term 3

Monday 5th January	INSET Day (school closed)
Tuesday 6th January	<b>START OF TERM 3</b>
Friday 13th February	<b>END OF TERM 3</b>

### Term 4

Monday 23rd February	INSET Day (school closed)
Tuesday 25th February	<b>START OF TERM 4</b>
Friday 6th March	INSET Day (school closed)
Thursday 2nd April	<b>END OF TERM 4</b>

### Term 5

Monday 20th April	<b>START OF TERM 5</b>
Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Friday 22nd May	<b>END OF TERM 5</b>

### Term 6

Monday 1st June	<b>START OF TERM 6</b>
Friday 3rd July	INSET DAY (school closed)
Tuesday 21st July	<b>END OF TERM 6</b>

We would expect parents to ensure any holidays are booked during the school holiday dates as listed above. It is not acceptable to book family holidays within term time and requests will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. For further details please see our Attendance Policy, available on the website [www.uphillvillageacademy.co.uk](http://www.uphillvillageacademy.co.uk)

## Importance of Attendance

Thank you to our families for their continued support in ensuring our children attend school every day.

Research shows us that children that attend school regularly achieve better academic outcomes than those with poor attendance. Every day in school helps your child settle better and enjoy the benefits of school life.

Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, there are some children who we know have struggled with their attendance recently.

Over the coming weeks, we will be contacting the parents of these children with the aim of finding ways that we can work together to support all our children to attend school every day for the remainder of the academic year.

We will try to find ways to build great attendance habits for the next academic year.

**At Uphill Village Academy, we believe every child has the right to an education and helping them get into good attendance habits is of the utmost importance.**

Absence should be reported on the absence line by 8.45am, **each & every** day of absence.

Holiday season is fast approaching and we do understand the temptation to take children out of school during term time, when it is cheaper.

If you are intending on taking your child out of school, we would rather you let us know the real reason rather than reporting them as poorly.

Children love to tell us what they have been up to & we love to hear about it, so please let them share their experiences.

Sometimes children may have a disturbed night's sleep for a variety of reasons, such as nightmares, hayfever etc. We understand this may mean that occasionally they could sleep in later the next day and miss morning registration.

Please remember there are two attendance marks every day.

If your child wakes up and feels refreshed then please bring them in to school later in the day so they are present for afternoon registration.

**Trust us with your child - we will always take care of them and always want the best for them.**

Attendance Matters!

Make every day count for your child's education.



# What have we been up to this term?

## EYFS & Year 1 Classes

This term we were very lucky to have some guests in from North Somerset PE to run a physical literacy session with us!

As citizens in RE, we were discussing how it isn't always easy to be a good friend all of the time. We drew what being a good friend looks like on a heart and then shared ideas with a friend!

As scientists we have started our new topic of 'The Human Body'. We enjoyed looking at body parts and labelling parts of the body on the floor!

As writers we read the story 'We're going on an egg hunt', then we drew our own Story S! Year 1 added some innovative ideas with post it notes ready to write our own story.

Wow - what a lot of learning EYFS & Year 1!

This week, we have enjoyed being able to get out in the little bit of sunshine we have had this term!



## Year 2 Classes

This term as part of their enquiry 'Who were the Victorians?' Year 2 have been exploring artefacts and photographs to find out what life was like as a Victorian child. They have been playing Victorian games, dressed up in Victorian clothing and role played being a child in a Victorian school!

As mathematicians and artists, Year 2 combined the two subjects to think about symmetry for CLF's Big day of Maths by drawing symmetrical patterns and made patterns using our cubes!

Year 2 had a brilliant day on their educational trip to the SS Great Britain in Bristol. They witnessed maritime history and learned all about the way the Victorians built this great ship. Pupils were transported back in time to experience firsthand the realities of life as both workers and passengers aboard the legendary vessel. They also had the unique opportunity to don authentic Victorian clothes and bring the pages of history to life.



As athletes, we have continued to learn about balance and stance and have been thinking about the position of our feet and how this impacts on balance. We played a game using cones to help improve core strength.

Some great learning Year 2!



# What have we been up to this term?

## Year 3 & 4 Classes



As scientists we have learned about soil so we can recognise that soil is made from rocks and organic matter. The children conducted an experiment where they mixed soil with water so they could see the different layers.

As geographers, we had a debate about the impact the Europeans had when they went exploring. We thought about how Europe benefitted from these explorations but also what damage was caused. We shared our ideas as a class and had a debate in small groups.

As athletes, we continued to develop our tennis skills, we learned about rallies and had a go both with the wall and then with a partner.



Last week we had a fabulous poetry assembly where Years 3/4 entertained and informed us with poetry about famous explorers. They were all brilliant!

Thank you to all the parents and carers who came and supported our presentation of learning this week. It was lovely to be able to share our learning with you all.



## Year 5 & 6 Classes

As geographers, we have explored the features of an OS map and traced the course of the River Axe (which has its mouth next to Uphill beach!)

As readers, we have used drama to recreate scenes from our book 'Floodland' involving the gangs in the story. We made connections with other stories and films involving gangs and discussed how some gangs can make you feel.



As scientists, we were learning about genetics and inheritance. To illustrate the point of shared genetics and inheritance from previous generations, the children loved cutting up coloured gummy bears. We also enjoyed some clay modelling and created either body fossils or trace fossils having learned about the process of fossilisation.

Year 6 house captains and vice captains did a great job introducing the children in their houses to the maths challenge that took place as part of 'Maths Week'. In their classes, the children completed times tables challenges and earned house points for completing them quickly.

As geographers, we enjoyed a field trip this week to Nettlecombe in Somerset. We conducted a river study measuring the velocity of the river, tracking its course and exploring the wildlife that lives within it!



Year 5/6 enjoyed their Presentation of Learning last week, it was a great opportunity for our parents/carers to sit with their child to look and talk about learning with your children!





# What have we been up to this term?

## Dance Festival

We are so proud of our dancers who took part in the North Somerset Dance Festival at the Playhouse Theatre. They showed immense courage to perform in front of a packed theatre and were brilliant on stage. It was so lovely to see how much everyone loved performing.

We are so proud of you girls - well done!



## Young Voices

Another fantastic year singing with 5000 others in Birmingham.

The children were amazing, they sang beautifully and really did us proud, we had a fantastic time.

It's such a privilege to be part of this event and we're already looking forward to next year!

## Girls Rugby & Girls Football Events

Some of our Year 6 girls attended a Rugby Festival supported by members of the England Red Roses squad. The girls played brilliantly and won all of their games - brilliant!



Some of our Year 2/3 and Year 4/5 girls visited Hans Price Academy for a Girls Football tournament. The Year 2/3's won their tournament and came home with gold! The year 4/5's won all but one of their matches, after losing the final and came back with silver!

We are so proud of you all!

## The Big Sing 2025

Year 3/4 were very lucky to be invited to join in with 'Big Sing' at The Winter Gardens.

They had a fantastic day of singing with a variety of schools from across Weston!



## Hot Chocolate Friday

On Friday's each week, we hold Hot Chocolate Friday as a reward for the selected children who have made brilliant choices throughout the week.

Just look at all the lovely smiley faces with their hot chocolates!



## Extra-Curricular Clubs

Some of our children have been extending their learning by attending our extra-curricular clubs!

Cross Country club were lucky enough to enjoy some wonderful weather on one of their runs down to the beach, through the woods and around the village recently.

Our Eco Club have been busy clearing our pond area and preparing the ground for some new trees!

Great work everyone!



## Reading Week

We all enjoyed Reading Week at the beginning of March. There were some fabulous activities including Stop and Read where we all stopped what we were doing and read for 5-10 minutes when the reading bell sounded. Key Stage 1 children loved coming back into school in their pyjamas and having a Bedtime Story with the teachers. The children particularly enjoyed Teacher Swap and of course World Book Day.



We saw lots of amazingly creative costumes for World Book Day with some of the children (and staff) working together to be characters from the same book. Well done to everyone for your truly incredible efforts.



Mrs Giblett ran 'Starbooks' where Years 3/4 and Years 5/6 could discover new books and recommend some others! After, they got to decorate their own Starbucks cup!



Our Book Fayre was a huge success! Thank you so much for all your support. We were overwhelmed with the amount of money raised. It has meant some fabulous new resources for the children to use in our library will be on their way to us very soon.



## Story Masks

We received some wonderful entries for the Story Masks competition. Thank you and well done to all who entered.

As I am sure you can imagine it was a hard task to choose the winners as all the entries were so good, we were really impressed with the effort that went in to making them.

Please join us in congratulating the winners.

**Overall Winner** - Florence in Chandra

**EYFS/Y1** - Roux in Saturn

**Y2** - Zara in Pluto

**Yr3/4** - Yara in Sputnik

**Yr5/6** - Malachi in Unicorn





## Easter Bonnet Parade

With the weather being so lovely, we were treated to a fabulous display of Easter bonnets from our EYFS & Key Stage 1 children.

Well done to everyone who took part; it was lovely to see so many colourful creations! You have clearly all worked very hard.

We hope those parents that attended enjoyed seeing our children parade their hats - thank you for your support.

The PTFA hosted some Easter Games after school and it was so lovely to see so many children and their siblings joining in!

The Uniform sale was a great success—we hope you grabbed yourself a bargain!



## Easter Garden Creations

Wow - didn't the children let their imaginations run wild!! We had some fantastic Easter Garden designs.

Well done to our overall winner Elliott Jones!

Our Runners up were Freddie Gray & Reuben Steele. Well done everyone!



## Broad oak Visit

Our Year 5 children were very fortunate to be invited to watch the Broadoak Academy production of Shrek The Musical.

It was lovely to see some of our past pupils up on stage; inspiring our current pupils. It was a truly fabulous production—well done Broadoak!

## Sustrans Walk and Wheel

Thank you to everyone who supported the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel. Jupiter has completed the most active journeys, as a class. But we've made a great impact on our local environment and our health as a whole school.



Well done to everyone and thank you for your on-going support with this!

## PTFA Round Up

We wanted to take time to say thank you to our brilliant, and ever supportive PTFA for the many events they hold during the year. They raise huge amounts of money for the school which goes towards the 'above & beyond' items that we need as a school.

Next month they will be holding one of their biggest events of the year 'Back to the Nineties' on Saturday 10th May at The Grand Pier—the event is always a great success and raises such a large amount for our school. Please get your tickets!

<https://tiny.cc/90s2025>

Today they helped organise our Easter Activities and provided over 300 easter eggs so every child could have an egg this holiday.

Thank you to our PTFA - you really are incredible.



# Uphill Village Academy Spring Term Award 2025

**Congratulations to the following  
pupils who were presented with  
their thoroughly deserved awards  
by Mrs Hodder in our  
Celebration Assembly.**

## **Key Stage 1 Awards**

Ray Pegram Award - Sophia Groves

English - Bodhi Zinn

Maths - Dylan Steele

Science - Caspian Brinsdon

Arts - Aiden Pang

Music - Yazan Ahmed

P.E. - Logan Morgan

Citizenship - Arya-Raine Frost

## **Key Stage 2 Awards**

Tom Tait Award - Malachi Hutchinson

English - Bethany Spence

Maths - Charlie Daley

Science - Theo Kirk

Arts - George Hall

Music - Bobbi Bright

P.E. - Anastasia Udrea

Citizenship - Harrison Taylor

The Dot Woods Award - Isla Moore





## 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/>

### April

**Friday 4th**

**END OF TERM 4**

**Monday 22nd**

**BANK HOLIDAY (school closed)**

**Tuesday 23rd**

**START OF TERM 5**

Monday 28th

Extra Curricular Clubs begin

Year 4 Bikeability Level 1 Training

Tuesday 29th

Year 4 Bikeability Level 1 Training

Sunshine Class Trip to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm

Wednesday 30th

Saturn Class Trip to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm

### May

Thursday 1st

Rainbow Class Trip to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm

**Monday 5th**

**BANK HOLIDAY (school closed)**

Thursday 8th

Year 3/4 Trip to The Matthew

Monday 12th - 15th

Year 6 SAT's (AM only)

Thursday 15th

Year 4 Residential Parents Meeting at 3.30pm in the school hall

Monday 19th - 23rd

Year 6 Charterhouse Residential Trip

**Friday 23rd**

**END OF TERM 5**

### June

**Monday 2nd**

**START OF TERM 6**

Thursday 26th

Sports Day

Friday 21st

CLF Festival of Sport (Yrs 5-8 - selected pupils)

### July

Tuesday 1st—3rd

Year 6 to Year 7 Secondary Transition Days

Wednesday 2nd - 3rd

Year 4 St Briavels Residential trip

**Friday 4th**

**INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)**

**Monday 7th**

**INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)**

