

Uphill Village Academy

EASTER



Celebration Newsletter 20nd April 2026

Follow us on Instagram & Facebook 'uphillvillageacademy'

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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 break and I look forward to seeing you on Monday 20th 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 would love to get your feedback on your child's parents evening. Please click on the link and let us know your thoughts

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/9wJcUlhxeg>

We need to emphasise that Parents Evenings 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.

Big Wheel & Walk

Thank you to everyone who supported the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel. So many families helped by walking, cycling or scooting to school every day! We 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!



Walk Wheel Cycle Trust Health Partner SCHWALBE

Thank you PTFA!

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, including their recent 'Back to the Nineties' event.

They raise huge amounts of money for the school which goes towards additional resources and equipment.

Today they provided over 300 easter eggs so every child could enjoy an Easter treat!

Thank you to our PTFA - you really are incredible!



Empowering Learning



Rolls-Royce

Working in partnership with

Term & INSET Days 2026-27

TERM 1

Thursday 3rd September
Friday 4th September
Monday 7th September
Weds 21st October
Thursday 22nd October
Friday 23rd October

INSET DAY (School closed)
INSET DAY (School closed)
START OF TERM 1
Last Day of Term 1
INSET DAY (school closed)
INSET DAY (school closed)
END OF TERM 1

TERM 2

Monday 2nd November
Monday 16th November
Friday 18th December

START OF TERM 2
INSET DAY (school closed)
END OF TERM 2

TERM 3

Monday 4th January
Tuesday 5th January
Thursday 11th February
Friday 12th February

INSET DAY (school closed)
START OF TERM 3
Last Day of Term 3
INSET DAY (School closed)
END OF TERM 3

TERM 4

Monday 22nd February
Thursday 25th March

START OF TERM 4
END OF TERM 4

TERM 5

Monday 12th April
Monday 3rd May
Friday 28th May

START OF TERM 5
Bank Holiday (school closed)
END OF TERM 5

TERM 6

Monday 7th June
Friday 2nd July
Friday 23rd July

START OF TERM 6
INSET DAY (school closed)
END OF TERM 6

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



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 who miss days at school.

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 will support them as both teenagers & adults.

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.



Working in partnership with



What have we been up to this term?

EYFS & Year 1 Classes

EYFS enjoyed exploring the book 'Colour Monster'. We discussed different emotions and thought about the times when we might experience these emotions. We used mirrors to show different emotions and then linked emotions to music through painting!

As mathematicians, Year 1 have been comparing numbers to 50 and identifying one more and one less within 50. EYFS have been making '7 sandwiches', exploring different ways to make 7 with numicon, using two pieces of 7 as the bread!

As Geographers we have learnt about the features of the four countries of the UK. We have enjoyed walks around Uphill village and found examples of physical and human features. We then discussed what we saw and created maps of Uphill. We thought about what the buildings would look like from a birds eye view and created symbols for different features of Uphill.

As musicians, we used tuned instruments to create our own melodies in groups. We learnt the notes C D and E!

As Scientists we have discussed how the season has changed from winter to spring and used our Spring Checklist to spot signs of spring around the school.



Year 2 Classes

As Mathematicians we have been learning how to add 2 digit numbers and developing our division skills, dividing counters and writing number sentences using the divide symbol.

As Scientists, Year 2 have been learning all about the human body and health. We have learnt how germs spread between people and how to keep ourselves clean. We have talked about the importance of a healthy diet, exercising and vaccines. We have explored the different bones in our skeleton and learnt what happens to food once we swallow it.

As writers we have enjoyed a new book, Oliver Twist, and retold our stories using descriptive language to describe characters. We have found out all about Florence Nightingale and used the information to write a biography.

As Historians we enjoyed a Victorian Wow day, dressing up in Victorian clothing and finding out what it was like being at school in Victorian times... they were very strict! We have enjoyed creating a timeline of key events in the Victorian Era and enjoyed a Victorian Walk around Uphill.

The highlight of Term 4 had to be our trip to the SS Great Britain. We loved learning about Brunel, exploring the ship and dressing up!



What have we been up to this term?

Year 3 & 4 Classes

As Writers we have enjoyed reading "The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane". We have learnt about the features of diary entries and used rich descriptive language to produce engaging pieces of writing. We have also practiced our formal debate language and written persuasive letters.

As Mathematicians we have been looking at fractions and digital roots within times tables. During the CLF Big Day of Maths we used spaghetti and clay to construct 3D shapes.

As Scientists we have been learning the scientific names for the bones in our bodies and why x-rays are so useful. We have learned about our muscles and how they are fueled by the oxygen in our blood and discussed how to keep our bodies strong and healthy.

As Computer Scientists we have been exploring programming, learning to create and test a simple programme, and investigated branching tree databases.

As Geographers we have been discovering our place in Europe, exploring atlases and learning how to use a compass. We have also learnt about the International Date Line and the Greenwich Meridian.

As Athletes we had the opportunity to show our team skills and determination when we enjoyed an afternoon of Kurling!



Year 5 & 6 Classes

As Historians we have been researching the Roman Empire and the legacies the Romans have left behind. We enjoyed presenting our knowledge of Ancient Rome to parents in the hall.

As Writers we have been focusing on our narrative writing skills and have produced narrative writing based on the book "Roman Quests: Escape from Rome" and the short film "The Girls and the Fox".

As Scientists we have been exploring matter and have used different processes to separate materials. We have learned about the differences between elements, compounds and mixtures and started to look at chemical formula.

As Philosophers, we have been learning about the five pillars of Islam, the second largest religion in the world.

As Artists, we have been using stencils to print images and have completed some observational sketches of leaves. We have also researched the artist Claude Monet and created our own versions of his famous paintings.

As Athletes, we have been learning to play tennis and developing our ball skills and balances.

Year 6 have been hard at work, focusing on their practice and revision for SATs next term, with many children achieving personal bests. Fantastic work, keep it up!



What have we been up to this term?

Dance Festival

We are so proud of our dancers from Years 2 & 3, 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 all - well done!



Young Voices

Another fantastic year singing with 5000 school children 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 part of this event and we are already looking forward to next year!



Fire, Ambulance & Police Visits!

The children in EYFS/Year 1 have enjoyed visits from a number of emergency services this term and have been able to get up close to a fire engine, ambulance and police car. They really enjoyed meeting the fire crew, paramedics and PCSOs, to find out all about their work, what they do and the equipment they use!

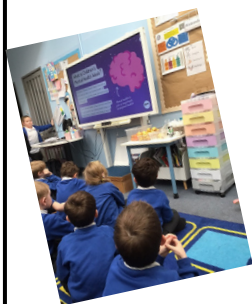
Hot Chocolate Friday

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!

Mental Health Week!

The theme this year was 'belonging'. Throughout the week we took part in lots of activities, thinking about how we belong, how we can help people feel that they belong and how we look after our mental health.



Wizard of Oz

Our Year 5 children were very fortunate to be invited to watch the Broadoak Academy production of The Wizard of Oz recently. 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!



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.



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.

We received some wonderful entries for the Story Hats competition.

All the entries were so good, we were really impressed with the effort that went in to making them.

Thank you and well done to all who entered.



Easter Bonnet Parade

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.

Spring Term Awards 2026

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

English

Maths

Science

Arts

Music

P.E

Citizenship

Mariah L

Dalton A

Jacx H

Albie P

Henry B

Myla G

Teddy A

Evelyn P

Key Stage 2 Awards

Tom Tait Award

English

Maths

Science

Arts

Music

P.E

Citizenship

The Dot Woods Award

Popsey B

Freya S-B

Reggie R

Arthur S

Evelyn R

Scarlett W

Gracie-Mae A

Ieuan H

Lillie-Marie C

Dates for your Diaries

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;
www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/classpages

APRIL

Thursday 2nd
Friday 3rd

LAST DAY OF TERM 4
GOOD FRIDAY BANK HOLIDAY - School closed
Easter Holidays

Monday 20th
Monday 27th
Tuesday 28th
Wednesday 29th

START OF TERM 5
Saturn Class trip to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm
Sunshine Class trip to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm
Rainbow Class trip to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm

MAY

Monday 4th
Monday 11th - 14th
Wednesday 20th - 22nd
Friday 22nd

BANK HOLIDAY - School closed
KS2 SATs Exams
Year 6 Residential to Charterhouse
END OF TERM 5

JUNE

Monday 1st
Thursday 25th

START OF TERM 6
Sports Day - more details to follow

JULY

Wednesday 1st
Friday 3rd
Monday 6th
Thursday 16th - 17th
Monday 20th
Monday 20th
Tuesday 21st

Class Photographs with Tulip Photography
INSET DAY - School closed
Year 2 Archery
Year 4 Residential
Leavers Activities
Leavers Party 6pm **(Please note change of date)**
END OF TERM 6

UPCOMING BANK HOLIDAYS

Friday 3rd April
Monday 4th May

