

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 12th September 2025

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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents & Carers

What a delight it has been to welcome our children back for the new academic year. The whole school community have settled really well and its fantastic to hear the classrooms alive with the sound of busy children.

Thank you to all the parents in Year 2, 3 and 5 that came to Meet The Teacher this week, it was lovely to see so many of you there.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new EYFS children and their families. We have been incredibly impressed with the way they have settled into the new routines. I am looking forward to seeing them full time from next week.

There are lots of visitors, trips and walks planned for the forthcoming year for every year group.

Remember to check the class pages on our website for weekly updates from each year group.

Have a great weekend & I look forward to seeing all of our children next week.

Mrs Sam Hodder, Principal

**WELCOME
BACK TO SCHOOL**

School Meal Update

A reminder for children who have moved from Year 2 to Year 3 will no longer qualify for Universal Infant Free School Meals and meals should be paid for via the MyChildAtSchool app (MCAS).

In KS2 (Years 3,4,5,& 6) school meals must be paid for in advance. Parents should ensure there are sufficient funds in their MCAS account BEFORE their child requests a lunch.

A copy of our menu can be found on our website.

We are working with our caterers, Aspens, to ensure our menu meets the needs of our families.

Attendance Expectations

We are really pleased with the level of attendance since our return from the Summer break. We know that this reflects the value our families put on their child's education, it is vital that schools and families continue to work together to ensure they attend school regularly. We are looking forward to working with all our existing and new families in this new academic year, to support best attendance and learning.

At Uphill Village Academy, we want and expect our children to attend school every day, unless they are really not well enough to. We believe that children who attend school regularly are more likely to feel settled in school, maintain friendships, keep up with their learning and gain the greatest benefit from their education. Attending school on time every day also helps them form good habits, which can stay with them throughout their educational journey and on into the workplace.

We have issued detailed guidance on our attendance expectations via email to all our families. Remember, we are here to support and we hope we can all work together so every child reaches their true potential.

EYFS Coffee Morning

We are delighted to be able to invite our new EYFS parents to join Mrs Hodder, Principal, and Mrs Sims, EYFS Lead, for a coffee morning on Thursday 25th September.

All parents/carers of children within the EYFS cohort are welcome to join us, straight after drop off at 9am until 9.30am, in the school hall where coffee will be available. Please come along and meet with other parents and members of our PTFA.

Mrs Hodder & Mrs Sims will join parents at 9:00am to briefly talk about our Academy and the expectations and events for the coming year.

If you can't make the session, don't worry there will be another chance to ask any questions at your child's Parents Evening in October.



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Online Safety Regular Update

Welcome to our new online safety section. In this section, we will share some of the latest information and advice to help keep children safe online.

Lots of useful information can be found on the Safer Internet website:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk>



If you have any concerns regarding online safety, please contact your child's teacher or a member of the leadership team so that we can work together to support and protect your children.

Uniform

A big thank you to everyone for being so well presented with their uniform since we have returned to school.

There have still been a few issues we would like to remind parents of.

All school shoes must be black and polishable. Children should not be wearing trainers and if a child wears boots, these should be changed for shoes on arrival at school.

Socks should be black, white or grey, no colours. Hair that is longer than face length should be tied back at all times. Hair should have a hair band to keep it off the face. No large bows please.

Keep up the good work!

Term Time Leave Requests & Absence

Attending school every day throughout a term helps children maximise their learning in the classroom and enjoy the benefits of their educational experience. It really does make a difference. Keeping off school for even only one day a week can damage their learning.

We would therefore like to remind parents that the academy will NOT authorise any leave of absence in term time unless satisfied the reason for the absence is exceptional. The absence should be for the shortest time possible; if an absence is agreed, the Principal will decide how many days of absence will be authorised.

We ask parents to request permission for leave of absence in advance, and to only request absence if time off school is absolutely necessary. Any requests should be put in writing and wherever possible at least four weeks' notice should be provided. Forms and information are available from the academy website www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk We may ask to meet with you to discuss your request.

Please do not just take your child out of school without requesting leave. This absence will be recorded in the registers differently to a request that has not been authorised and carries harsher penalties. Parents are reminded that repeated unauthorised absences may result in a request for the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice or may be liable to prosecution.

Minor ailments should not be a reason for staying at home. If your child attends school when feeling slightly under the weather, do let a member of staff know and we will monitor them and contact you if we think they need to go home. If you aren't sure whether or not to send your child to school, please contact us in the school office and we will be happy to advise.

Please remember that we are here to help in any way we can. If you have any concerns about your child that you wish to discuss with us, please do get in touch. If we cannot help directly, we will work with you to help you find other support. We can only support your child best when they are in school.

Starting School - September 2026

North Somerset School Admissions are taking applications for September 2026 admissions for children born between 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022.

<https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/school-admissions/apply-school-place/applying-school-place>

or contact North Somerset Council School Admissions on 01934 888888.



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Year 6 – Secondary School Open Days

The application process for transfer to Secondary school in September 2026 is open and closes on 31st October 2025 at 11:59pm. A letter from School Admissions has been emailed to Year 6 parents detailing how to apply for Secondary School. If you require a further copy of this please contact the school office team.

Thursday 16th– Friday 19th September Open Mornings 9am–10am



These mornings will give you and your family the opportunity to tour our school and meet the staff and students. Contact 01934 422000 to book a space. Full details at www.broadoakacademy.clf.uk

Thursday 25th September | 4.30pm – 7.30pm



We would like to invite you to join us and experience for yourself daily life at Hans Price Academy. You will be able to meet our friendly and welcoming staff, and either be guided by our superb students or, should you prefer, take a walk around the Academy on your own. Full details www.hanspriceacademy.clf.uk

Thursday 19th September | 4.00pm – 7.00pm



Winterstoke Hundred Academy will hold its Open Evening on Thursday 19th September 2025. Full details of the open evening & tours dates please visit, www.winterstokehundredacademy.clf.uk

Dates for the Diary

SEPTEMBER

Monday 15th

EYFS – Full time

Thursday 18th

Sputnik Class Swimming (1)

Monday 22nd

2026 Intake – Prospective Parent Tour @ 9:30am

Tuesday 23rd

Sputnik Class Swimming (2)

Thursday 25th

2026 Intake – Prospective Parent Tour @ 9:30am

Monday 29th

EYFS Parent Coffee Meeting with Principal

Tuesday 30th

Sputnik Class Swimming (3)

2026 Intake – Prospective Parent Tour @ 9:30am

OCTOBER

Wednesday 1st

Sputnik & Chandra Museum Visit

Thursday 2nd

Voyager Museum Visit

Monday 6th

2026 Intake – Prospective Parent Tour @ 9:30am

Tuesday 7th

Sputnik Class Swimming (4)

2026 Intake – Prospective Parent Tour @ 9:30am

2026 Intake – Prospective Parent Open Evening @ 5:30pm

Monday 13th

Voyager Class Swimming (1)

Year 5/6 – Trip to Cheddar Gorge & Caves

Wednesday 15th

Parents Evening 3.30pm–7pm

Thursday 16th

Parents Evening 3.30pm–7pm

Thursday 16th

Flu Immunisations – Years R-6

Wednesday 22nd

LAST DAY OF TERM



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