

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 16th December 2022



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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

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; they are very much appreciated.

I look forward to welcoming our children back to school on Wednesday 4th January 2023 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, crackers and our Principal, Mrs Hodder serving the sprouts!

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.

Please be aware that on our first day back after the Christmas break, Wednesday 4th January, the menu will be changed and the meal offer will be meatballs and pasta instead of the usual roast dinner. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

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 16th

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

January

Tuesday 3rd

INSET DAY - School closed to pupils

Wednesday 4th

START OF TERM 3

Monday 9th

Extra-Curricular Clubs & Music lessons start this week

Monday - Wednesday - EYFS/Year 1 Walk around the village

Tuesday 10th

Young Voices 2023 Concert (selected pupils)

Thursday 12th

Voyager Class Swimming



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What have we been up to this term?

EYFS & Year 1 - Rainbow, Sunshine & Saturn Classes

EYFS and Year 1 have been hard at work. They have made real progress with their learning and phonics. Well done and keep up the good work!

At the beginning of term 1, they enjoyed a lovely walk around Uphill as geographers. The children looked out for physical & human features in Uphill and spotted so many things, they really enjoyed this fieldwork and exploring the local area.



Last week we were so pleased to see so many parents at our Christmas play, 'The Nativity'.



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



Next term, EYFS/Year 1 move onto their next enquiry question, 'How has Uphill changed over time?'

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

Year 2 - Pluto & Jupiter Classes

Year 2 have learned so much this term!

They have completed their enquiry question 'Where in the World Are We?'; learning about the geographical features of Uphill, Weston and the surrounding area and comparing this with Shanghai, China! Their learning culminated in a walk up the hill to spot the landmarks of Weston-super-Mare.



Both classes have been really active in PE and have worked hard at practicing their balance skills on a range of apparatus. They also took part in a Target Practice Festival with Somerset Sports, where the children completed five activities to be placed in a league table with other North Somerset schools. Everyone rose to the challenge and had great fun.



For their presentation of learning, at the end of the term, the children invited year 3 & 4 pupils to see their work and enjoyed sharing their knowledge.

For Christmas, our Year 2 children performed their Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church. There were songs and readings and Christmas hats galore! They were brilliant! It was great to see so many parents and families come along to watch them perform.

It was a wonderful afternoon, thank you Year 2.



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

Year 3 & 4 - Sputnik, Chandra & Voyager Classes



This term's enquiry question was 'Who was the Greatest Monarch of the Tudor Age?' and our year 3&4 children were treated to a very special visitor for their WOW day. A courtier, named Jed, who had travelled through time to 2022 from the court of Henry VIII!



Imagine their surprise when he popped out of the P.E. cupboard! He taught them all about Henry VIII, his wives & his amazing life. The experience really brought their learning to life.



We think it is really important to ensure our children can discuss and analyse their learning at the end of each term. It was great to see so many of our parents and carers come along to see all the hard work they have put into their learning this term.



Well done on a fabulous term year 3/4

Year 5 & 6 - Pegasus, Orion & Unicorn Classes



Well it's been a busy couple of terms for year 5 & 6. They have been investigating their enquiry question 'Where is our Place in Space?'; learning about the solar system, the space race and completing work as writers, based on the book 'Cosmic'.



Parents were treated to an informative presentation of learning.



The year 6 children have completed Bikeability training; learning how to ride their bikes safely on the road. All the children who took part listened sensibly and maturely and successfully received their level 2 certificate.

The year 6 Prefects have risen to the challenge of taking on important duties such as librarians, lunchtime play co-ordinators and Council Crew leaders. It is a pleasure to see them grow in both maturity and ability as they become more confident in these duties. Well done Year 6.

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.

Some of our House & Vice Captains represented our academy at the Uphill Village service on the hill alongside members of the local community.

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



Forest School

Children in years 3 & 4 have enjoyed spending time in Forest school this term with Mrs Matthews and Mrs James. The activities really help to build children's awareness of their environment and how they are connected to it. It also helps children to develop a social conscience, by teaching them how to care for and protect the natural world.



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Rolls-Royce



Christmas Events

The Christmas Story

Rev Madeley, from St Nicholas Church in Uphill visited school to host an assembly explaining the Christmas story to the children and launching our Christmas celebrations. Thank you Reverend Madeley for your time and support.



Christmas Jumper Day in support of Save the Children

The whole school enjoyed Christmas Jumper Day last Friday, in support of Save the Children. Everyone looked very festive and it was lovely to see so many different jumpers. We raised an amazing £169.00 for Save the Children! Thank you for your generosity and support for this worthy cause.



Our School Choir

Mrs Tinker was delighted to be able to showcase the school choir within the local community this year.

They performed at the Manor House Residential Home, Weston Hospice and Uphill's Pop-up Café at the Victory Hall. The children sang beautifully and were a credit to our academy.



The Christmas Bazaar

The weather held out and, although it was chilly, we all enjoyed a great afternoon! Our KS2 children opened the event with some wonderful carol singing, followed by a winter-themed contemporary routine performed by our Dance Club. I'm sure you will agree, they were all brilliant!



The Chocolate Treasure Hunt proved very popular, Father Christmas made a surprise appearance, and lots of chocolate and cakes were consumed by all! It was so lovely to welcome so many parents into school to enjoy the event with their children.

Thank you all for your generous support and well done to our wonderful PTFA for organising the event, an amazing £1,150 was raised!

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 and Tesco for their generous donation of party food for each class.

PTFA Secret Santa

Shh... it's a secret! 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.

Thanks to the PTFA for their organisation and providing a wide selection of gifts.



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UPHILL VILLAGE ACADEMY AWARDS DECEMBER 2022



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 their class for the term and a certificate to keep.

Congratulations to the following pupils who thoroughly deserve their awards:

Key Stage 1 Awards

Ray Pegram - Ellie Pringle

English - Riley Dyke

Maths - George Hall

Science - Daniel Kuriata

Arts - Bertie Glanville-Gittins

Music - Evie Bright

P.E - Finley Curley

Citizenship - Martha Taylor

Key Stage 2 Awards

Tom Tait - Zahra Ciftci

English - Mabel Holyday

Maths - Jody Metawea

Science - Bobby Blackburn

Arts - Charlie Hay

Music - Ellis Lindsay

P.E - Christian Lewis

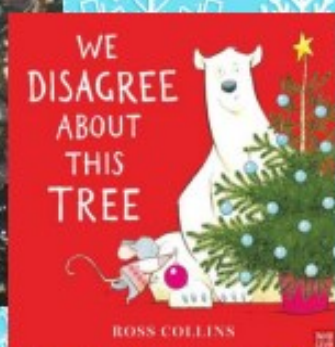
Citizenship - Cara Hobden

Dot Woods Award - Rosalind
Daughtrey



Christmas-themed Reading Recommendations

Uphill's librarians in Unicorn have book recommendations for all ages. These festive stories would make great stocking fillers or books to enjoy from your library over the Christmas period. Happy holidays!

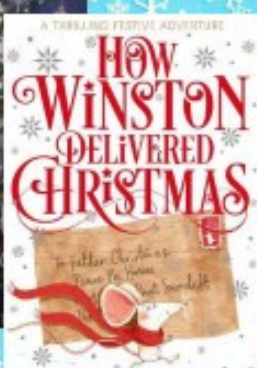
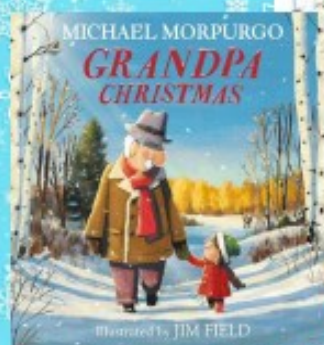


Reception recommendation:

We Disagree About This Tree is from the "There's a bear on my chair" series. It is a funny story about a friendship between a polar bear and a mouse. They have different views on decorating the Christmas tree.
- Sebastian

Year 1 recommendation:

Grandpa Christmas is written by a well-known author, Michael Morpurgo. This story is a Christmas story with a meaningful, heartfelt message for anyone who cares about our planet. This would make a great bedtime story for 4-6 year olds. - Megan



Year 2 recommendation:

I recommend **How Winton Delivered Christmas** to you if you love an adventure. Winston the mouse found a letter in the post-box sent to Satna that did not make it to him. So Winston sets out to deliver it himself! - Elijah

Year 3 recommendation:

The Christmas Pig is about Jack and his favourite teddy DP. Unfortunately, he lost him on Christmas eve in a terrible accident. His replacement teddy, CP, is not quite the same so he sets on a mission to find DP! It is a lovely and funny story to enjoy over the Christmas holidays. - Rosalind



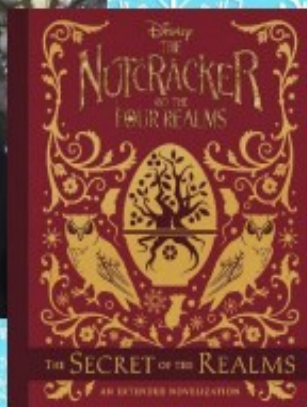
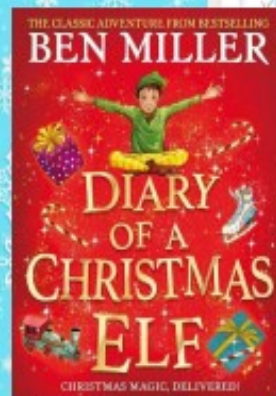


Year 4 recommendation:

I recommend the **Christmasaurus** for dinolovers because it combines Christmas and dinosaurs. A boy called William and Christmasaurus have a magical adventure together. It's a rhyming wonder, I would say. I have already read it twice! - Gracie

Year 5 recommendation:

I recommend the **Diary Of A Christmas Elf** for year 5 children. It's a book written in the style of a diary in the perspective of Tog (the main character). It is both a funny and heart-warming book about the true meaning of giving gifts. - Grace



Year 6 recommendation:

The Nutcracker And The Four Realms has many plot twists and turns. The main character, Clara, stumbles into another world and finds herself at war with four realms: the realm of snowflakes, the real of flowers, the realm of candy and the realm of amusements. Beware, it is quite spooky... - Charlie

Other books we recommend this winter...

