

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 18th September 2026

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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 last week, it was lovely to see so many of you there. All parents should have received their 'Welcome to...' letters informing you about what is happening over this next term. We hope you liked your 'Meet the Teacher' flyer!

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.

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**

Principal: Mrs Samantha Hodder

Tel: 01934 626769

Email: office@uva.clf.uk

Website: www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk

Children's Possessions

At the end of the last academic year we had large amounts of 'lost' property left in school; mainly jumpers, coats & water bottles.

Unfortunately, very few of these items had names in & we were unable to reunite them with the owner.

Please ensure EVERY item of clothing/possessions is named, preferably using iron on, sew in &/or stick on labels. Please do NOT use initials when labelling items.

All items should be labelled including PE Kits, shoes, bags and water bottles.

We endeavour to reunite all lost items so please help us to ensure we can do this. easily.

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.

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 8th October.

All parents/carers of children within the EYFS cohort are welcome to join us, straight after drop off at 8.45am 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. We look forward to seeing you there.



Working in partnership with



Year 6 – Secondary School Open Days

The application process for transfer to Secondary school in September 2027 is open and closes on 31st October 2026 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.



The Open Evenings and mornings for Broad Oak have passed. However, if you are still interested in having a tour of the school, please contact the school directly on 01934 422000 to arrange.



Open Evening on Thursday 24th September | 4.30pm – 7.30pm

There are also Open Mornings on Monday 28th September – Friday 9th October between 8.45am and 9.30am, no booking required.



The Open Evening for Winterstoke Hundred has now passed, however there are still some morning tours taking place. For further details please visit, www.winterstokehundredacademy.clf.uk

Starting School – September 2027

North Somerset School Admissions are taking applications for September 2027 admissions for children born between 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023.

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

or contact North Somerset Council Admissions on 01934 888888.

Academy Parent Councillor Vacancy

We have an exciting opportunity to join our Academy Council as a Parent Councillor! If you are passionate about our academy and want to make a difference, we encourage you to put your name forward for election. Full details have been emailed to all parents today. If you wish to stand for election please complete the online form by 12noon on 30th September 2026.

ChildCare Vouchers

Many of our parents pay for After School Club & Breakfast Club with childcare vouchers. If you wish any assistance on using Childcare Vouchers, please contact the office team on office@uva.clf.uk

When using vouchers, here are a few reminders;

- Please ensure you request monies from your childcare voucher scheme at least 10 days before the wrap around care booking window opens. We cannot credit accounts using emails from parents; we must have received confirmation of your 'voucher' from your provider.
- Childcare vouchers are a tax free benefit, therefore we are unable to refund these monies held in your child's MCAS account directly back to a parent. Refunds can only be paid back to the provider to ensure the correct tax is paid.
- We cannot transfer balances held on MCAS accounts in After School Club or Breakfast Club to trips, dinners or any purchases. This money can only be used for childcare.

KS2 School Meal Reminder

Children who have moved up to Year 3 no longer qualify for Universal Infant Free School Meals.

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.

Behaviour Policy Review

We have reviewed & updated our Behaviour Policy. The updated policy now contains more detail on the procedures we follow when dealing with behaviour in & around school.

The policy will be available for parents to review until Friday 25th September via [Behaviour Policy](#). If you have any comments, please email office@uva.clf.uk



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Half Marathon Fundraiser

As many of you will be aware, at the beginning of the year Archie, a beloved pupil, sadly passed away. In memory of Archie, Miss Stenner, one of our class teachers, will be running a half marathon in October to fundraise for the charity supported by Archies family. If you would like to donate to help her fundraise please do so by using the link below;
<https://gofund.me/5c70646ff>
 Thank you.

Parking

A polite reminder to parents to park considerately to our neighbours when dropping and collecting your children from school. We are continuing to receive complaints from neighbours that parents are parking across drive ways and on yellow lines. We would like to thank parents who continue to park outside of the village and make the short walk to school where possible. Your support and consideration are very much appreciated.

Food Allergies

We have children within our school that have severe food allergies. We are a nut aware school & request parents do NOT use any nut based products in lunchboxes or snacks. This includes chocolate spread containing nuts (Nutella), Nutella biscuits or cereal bars containing nuts. Please remind your children they must not share food from their lunch box.

BookTrust - Great Books Guide

The Book Trust have shared its latest recommendations for great books for children of all ages, covering a wide range of subjects:
[Great Books Guide | BookTrust](#)



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;
www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/classpages

SEPTEMBER

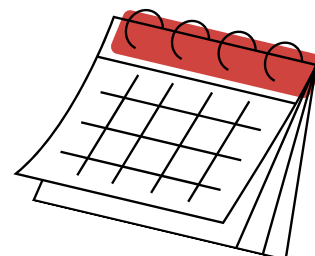
Monday 21st EYFS Intake - Full Time
 Voyager Swimming (2)
Tuesday 22nd 2027 EYFS Intake Prospective Parent Tour at 9.30am
Thursday 24th 2027 EYFS Intake Prospective Parent Tour at 9.30am
Monday 28th Voyager Swimming (3)
Tuesday 29th 2027 EYFS Intake Prospective Parent Tour at 9.30am

OCTOBER

Monday 5th Voyager Swimming (4)
Wednesday 7th 2027 EYFS Intake Prospective Parent Tour at 9.30am
Monday 12th Voyager Swimming (5)
Tuesday 13th 2027 EYFS Intake Prospective Parent Tour at 9.30am
Wednesday 14th Parents Evening 3.30pm - 7pm
Thursday 15th Parents Evening 3.30pm - 7pm
Monday 19th Year 3/ 4 Trip to 'The Matthew'
Wednesday 21st Year 2 RNLI Visit
Thursday 22nd **LAST DAY OF TERM**
Friday 23rd **INSET DAY**
INSET DAY

NOVEMBER

Monday 2nd **START OF TERM 2**



SAVE THE DATES

Year 4 Residential to St Briavels will take place on Thursday 22nd - Friday 23rd April.
Year 6 Residential to Barton Hall will take place on Weds 26th - Friday 28th May.
 Further information will be sent out about both trips in due course.