

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 1st December 2023



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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

It is the beginning of Winter and, as the nights continue to draw in and the weather gets colder, we are delighted to bring some brightness to our days with our Christmas celebrations.



Christmas is a special time of year and we have lots happening to celebrate the festive season across the school. Please check out the dates for your diary and the Christmas Celebrations letter, which has all the key dates you need to be aware of.

Rehearsals are in full swing for our Christmas performances; with children busy learning their lines and songs, and we are looking forward to watching the performances of our children.

I would like to say a big well done to our Year 6 pupils as last week most of them took part in the North Somerset Bikeability. We were so proud of the way they all represented themselves and the school.

I hope you will be able to start enjoying the festive season and I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Christmas events.



Mrs Samantha Hodder, Principal

Presentations of Learning

We wish to clarify the format of our end of term Presentations of Learning this academic year.

At the beginning of each term, parents will receive a summary of the year groups enquiry question and an outline of the activities to support the learning across the term.

At the end of each term, they will present their learning in one of three ways:

- A formal presentation that parents can come along and watch.
- By sharing their books with parents.
- A presentation of their learning to another year group.

Year 5/6 are due to hold their formal presentation to parents on Tuesday 5th, while Year 3/4 will share their books with parents on Monday 11th. A big well done to EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2 who will share their learning with each other.

Parents have two opportunities each year to come into school to share their child's learning, we hope you enjoy seeing how they are all developing.

Admissions Consultation

The Academy is consulting on its Admissions Policy for 2025 and the proposed policy can be found on our website here [DRAFT UVA Admissions Policy Sept 2025-26](#)

You are invited to provide any comments for consideration on the proposed arrangements by 5pm on Friday, 19th January 2024. Final arrangements will be determined by 28th February 2024 and will appear on the school website by 15th March 2024.

Any comments or objections can be made during the stated period to Elizabeth Tincknell, Head of Governance for the Cabot Learning Federation. The email address for correspondence is Governance@clf.uk or in writing to Elizabeth Tincknell, Federation House, King's Oak Academy, Brook Road, Bristol, BS15 4JT.



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Christmas Jumper Day

We are very excited to be holding our Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children on Friday 8th December. A recommended donation of £1 can be made in cash on the day.



Christmas Cards

As an Eco-School we would prefer children not to exchange Christmas cards this year and do their bit for the environment.

Your help in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch will take place on Wednesday 13th December.

We are pleased to confirm that once again the Christmas lunch will be offered free of charge for all children throughout the school.

Parents of children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 that wish their child to have a Christmas lunch **must book** via ParentPay (www.parentpay.co.uk). This will show as a charge but will be credited before the end of term. Bookings will need to be made on ParentPay by **Wednesday 6th December at the latest**. After this date no further bookings can be made and your child will need to bring in a packed lunch on 13th.

All children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 qualify for Universal Infant Free School Meals, therefore we will automatically book **every** child in these year groups for a Christmas lunch. If your child does **NOT** want this meal, please email the school office office@uva.clf.uk with your child's name and class by Wednesday 6th December to opt out.

Children not having the Christmas lunch **must** bring a packed lunch on this day, there will be no alternative options available.

Term Time Leave Reminder

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. Therefore, other than in exceptional circumstances, it is unlikely that any leave will be authorised by the Principal. However any request should be put in writing, and wherever possible at least four weeks' notice should be provided.

We have had a number of instances when forms are submitted the day before the leave or not submitted at all. To safeguard our children we need to know here our children are if they do not attend school without a reason being given each and every day.

Term Time Leave Request Forms are available from the school office, please contact the school office team on 01934 626769 or email us at office@uva.clf.uk

Alternatively, visit our website www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk

Family emergencies need careful consideration. It may not always be appropriate, or in the best interests of the child, to miss school for emergencies which are being dealt with by adult family members.

Textile Recycling

Thank you for your clothing donations for the PTFA textile recycling this week.

We raised a further £50 towards PTFA funds.



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PE Kits

Please can we remind parents that PE kit needs to be in school every day.

We have had several instances where this is not the case, particularly in Years 5 and 6.



Children in Need

Thank you so much to everyone for your generosity in donating to this worthy cause.

The final amount raised was an incredible £474.00!



Christmas Events

On Thursday 30th November, a letter detailing all our Christmas events, was sent to parents. The letter can be accessed using the following link: <https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/wp-admin/post.php?post=25229&action=edit&classic-editor>

This covers the EYFS/Year 1 Nativity, Year 2 Service, Christmas Bazaar, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Lunch ordering instructions and Christmas Parties.

There is so much going on - please don't miss a thing!!



Dates for the Diary

December

Friday 1st	Christmas Bazaar at 3.00pm in the School Hall PTFA Pre-loved Uniform & Christmas Jumper Sale at the Christmas Bazaar
Monday 4th	PTFA Secret Santa Week begins
Tuesday 5th	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity at 9.15am - Tickets required Year 5/6 Presentation of Learning at 2:45pm - 3.10pm , School Hall—Tickets required
Wednesday 6th	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity at 9.15am - Tickets required Choir Performing at Winter Gardens - Parents to book tickets - 5pm showing
Thursday 7th	Sputnik Class Swimming Year 2 Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church at 2.00pm Choir - Performing at Friendship Club - 2.15 - 3.15pm PTFA Wreath making in the Hall - 7pm - 9pm
Friday 8th	Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children
Monday 11th	Choir - Performing at Pop up Café in Victory Hall (selected pupils) EYFS & Year 1 Christmas Party
Tuesday 12th	Choir - Performing at Weston Hospice (selected pupils) Year 2 Christmas Party
Wednesday 13th	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 14th	Year 3/4 Christmas Party
Friday 15th	Year 5/6 Christmas Party

END OF TERM 2

January

Tuesday 1st	INSET Day - Academy closed to pupils
Wednesday 2nd	Start of Term 3

