

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 1st March 2024

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Principal:

Mrs Samantha Hodder

Tel: 01934 626 769

Email: office@uva.clf.uk

Website: www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4, I hope you have had a restful half term break.

Next week is Reading Week, where we focus on our love of books and reading. We have seen some impressive 'Books in a Box' entries already and look forward to seeing many more. Please remember the deadline for entries is 9am on 7th March, when of course we will be celebrating World Book Day.

We are looking forward to sharing bedtime stories with our EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children at 5.30pm on 6th March. Children can wear their pyjamas, onesies and dressing gowns and bring along a Teddy Bear with you.

Our reading celebrations will then culminate with our popular book fayre on Mon 18th & Tues 19th, which raises funds to buy new books for our library. Please note we will not be able to accept cash payments on the day, card payments only.

With Summer approaching, I would ask parents to please take notice of the piece below which highlights the importance of not taking children out of school for holidays. Attendance is so important to help develop a love of learning and friendships, please help us to instil this in your child(ren).

I hope all our families have a lovely, restful weekend.

Samantha Hodder, Principal

Textile Recycling



Thank you to those parents who donated their unwanted textiles yesterday; you have helped to raise a fantastic **£101.65!**

Remember all monies raised go towards additional resources for your children, within our Academy, so we really appreciate this fundraising.

Request for Uniform

It is really helpful for us to have spares of uniform in school. If you have any items that you can donate we would really appreciate it. We are currently looking for boys grey trousers, girls grey skirts and navy or black joggers. If you have any cardigan or jumper donations, we can now only accept those with the new logo.

Holidays

Holiday season is upon us and we do understand the temptation to take your child out of school during term time but we ask that you avoid doing so. Attending school every day helps children maximise their learning in the classroom and enjoy the benefits of their entire educational experience. We ask parents to request permission for any leave of absence in advance, and to carefully consider if the absence is absolutely necessary. Any requests must be in writing and, wherever possible, at least **four weeks'** notice should be provided. We may ask to meet with you to discuss your request.

Our term time leave request form can be accessed using the link below.

<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/wp-content/uploads/CLF-Term-Time-Leave-Request-Form.-2020-21-1.pdf>

Parents are reminded that unauthorised absence may result in the receipt of a Penalty Notice and/or, in certain circumstances, being liable to prosecution.

Put simply, a holiday request of more than 4.5 days will result in a request to issue a Penalty Notice.

Ensuring children attend school every available day, on time, is a key parental responsibility and your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.



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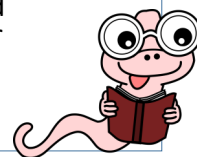


Forest School

We would like to remind parents that Forest School, which happens within the Year 3/4 classes, is organised by children being invited in small groups. Therefore, children in the same class will be invited at different times. We will send letters of invitation directly to the parents of the children who are due to attend. Please do not send your child with wellies etc when they are not invited as this causes confusion for the children.

Parent Readers

We would love to have more parents to read with the children. This is so valuable to the children's learning and they really enjoy it. The paperwork necessary for you to do this takes approximately six weeks to process, so if you are interested in coming into school during the summer terms to read with the children, please let us know as soon as possible.



Year 4 Bikeability

We are delighted to offer our Year 4 students the opportunity to take part in Level 1 Bikeability training. This will help develop the skills of balance, special/road awareness and, of course, cycling.

A letter was emailed to parents on Wednesday and we would please ask for you to give your permission promptly via ParentPay by Friday 8th March.



Mobile Phones

We are seeing a number of mobile phones being brought into school by children who do not walk to or from school. We remind parents that if your child is being brought to and from school, including to breakfast and after school clubs, then they do not need their phone in school. We are really keen to keep mobile phones out of school, unless absolutely necessary, and would ask for your assistance with this matter.

Red Nose Day

To help celebrate and raise funds for this worthy cause children are invited to wear a red top to school on Friday 15th March. Normal school trousers/skirts and school shoes should be worn.

Donations CANNOT be made in cash. Donations should be made on our dedicated Red Nose donations page via ParentPay, please follow this link;

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=13553>

Easter Parade

The PTFA will be hosting Easter Activities on Thursday 28th March.

There will be an Easter Bonnet Parade for KS1 so get creative and start making those beautiful bonnets.

There will also be an Egg hunt on the field.

Keep your eyes peeled for more information on how you can get involved with this EGGciting Event!



Dates for the Diary

Remember to check out the school website for lots of useful class information.

March

4th-8th

Reading Week

Wed 6th

EYFS & KS1 Bedtime Story Evening

Yr 5 Walk to Broadoak to watch The Addams Family

Thursday 7th

World Book Day - Come dressed as your favourite book character

Tuesday 12th

Year 2 SS Great Britain Trip

Wednesday 13th

Parents Evening (Face to face)

Thursday 14th

Parents Evening (Video call)

Friday 15th

Red Nose Day Comic Relief

Upcoming Bank Holidays

Friday 29th March

Monday 6th May



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Reading Week is when we celebrate the love of reading!

Starting on 4th March, there will be a range of reading activities throughout the week to promote books and reading.

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 7th March 2024 and would like children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. We do not want people to feel that money needs to be spent to become a character from a book, home assembled costumes are fine! You will receive a £1 book token that can be used at the book fair which will be held after school on Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th March 2024.

Last year, we were amazed by your story in a jar creations and would like to invite your child to take part in our Book in a Box competition. Remember to bring in your Book in the Box by 9am on Thursday 7th. Your child is encouraged to think of a favourite book and create a scene from the book using a box. Teachers will take a photo of your creation and the chosen book before putting them on display. To help with this, please bring the book into class with the box.

There will be one winner of a £5 book token in each year group.



On Wednesday 6th March, we are inviting EYFS/ KS1 children to a story time session at 5:30pm in school with their parents. They can wear pyjamas/dressing gowns/onesies and bring a warm drink of hot chocolate along with them.

We would also like to share a link to FREE audiobooks for all readers, available for World Book Day. Audiobooks are a brilliant way of enjoying stories, whether you're reading together as a family, or taking some time to listen alone. <https://www.worldbookday.com/world-of-stories/>

Thank you for your continued support.

Reading Week 2024

Date	Activity	Details
Half-Term	Competition	'Book in a Box' competition
Wednesday 28 th February	Launch of reading week in KS1/KS2 assembly	Assembly for World Book Day, held the week before World Book week.
Wednesday 6 th March	Bedtime Stories	EYFS and KS1 children are invited to a bedtime story evening at school. This will be at 5:30pm and children can join each "area" in the school for a short story every 10 minutes. They can wear pyjamas/dressing gowns/onesies and bring a teddy along with them.
Thursday 7 th March	Teacher swap!	Teachers will visit another class to read a story for 15minutes.
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	All children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character for the day. Please do not go and buy a special outfit, home-made outfits are perfectly adequate. Please can they also bring their favourite book to school to share with others.
Friday 8 th March	Stop and Read Day	The children will need their reading book in school today. At different times during the day, the bell will ring and the children and adults in school will stop what they are doing and read for 5-10 minutes.
Monday 18 th and Tuesday 19 th March	Book Fayre	We will be hosting a book fayre in the hall straight after school. There will be an opportunity to purchase all the latest books. All proceeds will go towards purchasing new reading books for the library and for guided reading.