

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 21st November 2025

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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents & Carers,
Last week was Anti Bullying Week. As part of this week, as a Kindness School, we celebrated with a World Kindness assembly, kindness activities in classrooms and other events to support this year's Anti Bullying theme, 'The Power of Good'. I hope your child has been able to tell you about what they have learnt.

I would like to say thank you to our EYFS parents for providing such fabulous feedback on our EYFS transition. As you would expect there are always ways we can improve our transition process and we will be taking some time to review the feedback carefully and make the necessary changes to improve our children's start in school.

We are well on our way to Christmas, with Christmas songs and preparations happening across the academy. We love this special time of year, we have lots going on.

Please check out our special Christmas page giving details of events happening this December. Also make sure you check the dates for your diary section to ensure you don't miss anything.

I wish you all a lovely weekend

Mrs Samantha Hodder

Principal

Road Closure

We have received notification from Bristol Water regarding road closures starting on Monday, December 1st, lasting for up to three working days.

Please keep in mind that this may impact the roads leading to the school on those dates, so be sure to allow ample time to arrive punctually.

Yr5/6 Book Look - Date Change

Can Year 5/6 parents please note that due to the scheduling of the PTFA Christmas Bazaar, the 'Book Look' will now take place on Thursday 11th December at 2:30pm. Parents are welcome to visit between 2:30 & 3:00pm to look at their child's work this term.

Late Arrivals & School Absences

We have had an increasing number of late arrivals at school over the last few weeks. We are aware of the large volume of roadworks in and around the village and would ask parents to take this into consideration when dropping their child at school. Please leave plenty of time for the school run to ensure your child arrives before the gates close at 8:45am.

Do remember that if your child is absent from school parents MUST notify us by 9:00am by telephoning the absence line 01934 626769 option 2.

Leave your child's name, class, reason for absence & when you think they will return to school. We do make welfare calls to parents to gain further information or clarify the reasons for an absence or to offer support for a child returning to school.

Your help in clearly reporting your child's absence in a timely manner is very much appreciated and saves our staff a huge amount of time.

Attendance at school is really important for a child's development & learning; the core skills of building relationships, operating in a 'society', improving knowledge and gaining new experiences that cannot be found at home are the building blocks to a healthy, happy child.

So far this year we have 173 days of lost education due to term time holidays, this is without illness and medical appointments. We would ask all parents considering taking their child(ren) out of school for a holiday to reconsider and support us to support & educate your child(ren).



Working in partnership with



PTFA - Textile Recycling

We are taking part in the Rags2Riches4Schools clothing collection to raise funds for our school and help families around the world access affordable clothing. Please bring your donations to school on the morning of Monday 24th November 2025.

The collection place will be next to the flower planter outside the school, on Ellesmere Road.

Weston Carnival

On behalf of the Weston Carnival Committee many thanks for raising funds to help enable Weston Carnival to take place. We raised a wonderful total of £63. Thank you to everyone who donated!

Children In Need

Last week we took part in the Children in Need fundraising day.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to this very worthy cause via MCAS. We have raised a fabulous £389!



Uniform Expectations

Presentation is important and we expect children to attend school wearing the correct uniform. This includes wearing appropriate footwear.

Polishable school shoes are expected to be worn. Trainers are NOT allowed unless they are fully black (no logos or other colours). With the onset of Winter, boots can be worn but school shoes should be brought into school to change into on arrival. Ankle boots are allowed but ONLY in plain black & should not have buckles or embellishments.

The weather has turned colder and we still have a number of children arriving at school without coats. Please ensure your child has a coat in school every day; we will not allow them to go out at break & lunchtimes without coats in the cold weather.

Hair, longer than shoulder length, must be tied off the face at all times. Please ensure your child has hair bands with them at school to tie their hair back.

If you are struggling financially with the purchasing of school uniform, please speak to the pastoral team in confidence.

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

NOVEMBER

Monday 24th Boys Football Event - Invited children only
Voyager Class Swimming (4)

DECEMBER

Thursday 4th Prospective Parent Tour for September 2026 Intake at 9.30am

Friday 5th KS1 Multi Sports Festival - Invited children only
Xmas Wake & Shake - Chocolate Donations for Bazaar

Monday 8th Year 2 Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church at 1.45pm

Wednesday 10th EYFS/Year 1 Nativity at 9.15am - ticket only (2 per child)

Year 5 WEMA Christmas Event at The Winter Gardens. Collection at 6pm

Thursday 11th EYFS/Year 1 Nativity at 9.15am - ticket only (2 per child)

Year 5 & 6 Parent Book Look at 2.30pm

Friday 12th PTFA Christmas Bazaar from 2:45pm

Monday 15th EYFS & Year 1 Christmas Party

Tuesday 16th Year 2 Christmas Party

Year 3 & 4 Presentation of Learning to Parents at 9:00am-9:30am

Wednesday 17th Christmas Lunch

Thursday 18th Year 6 National Measurement Checks

Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party

Year 5 & 6 Christmas Party

Friday 19th **LAST DAY OF TERM 2**

JANUARY

Monday 5th **INSET DAY - School closed to children**

Tuesday 6th **FIRST DAY OF TERM for children**



**Merry
Christmas!**

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Christmas is a busy time! Check out what's happening

Christmas Wake & Shake - Friday 5th December



We will be holding a 'Christmas Wake & Shake' session when the children will partake in some fun exercises to start their day, wearing a Christmas hat or hairband if they have one! We are asking for children to bring in a donation of chocolate for the Tombola at the PTFA Christmas Bazaar on this day. Any chocolate bar(s) will be great and much appreciated. Collection tubs for chocolate donations will be in the front playground on the morning of Friday 5th December.

Year 2 Christmas Service - Monday 8th December

The Year 2 Christmas Service will be held at St Nicholas Church on Monday 8th December at 1.45pm. Audience numbers will be limited to 2 adults per child but tickets are not required. After the service the children will walk back to school and can be collected from the front playground at the usual time of 3.15pm. Click this link for further details
<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/letters/year-2-christmas-service-st-nicholas-church/>



EYFS/Year 1 Christmas Nativity - Wed 10th & Thurs 11th December at 9:15am

Rehearsals are in full swing for the EYFS/Year1 production of 'Donkey for Sale'. There will be two performances, Wednesday 10th December & Thursday 11th December both starting at 9.15am. Parents can book 2 tickets per child for either performance. Click the link below for more details.

<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/letters/eyfs-year1-nativity/>



PTFA Christmas Bazaar - Friday 12th December

On Friday 12th December we will be hosting the PTFA Christmas Bazaar from 2:45pm. The KS2 children will open the bazaar with their fabulous carol singing. There will be a few craft stalls, game stalls, a raffle and the ever popular chocolate tombola! Please check out the PTFA newsletter for details of donation dates.



Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 17th December

Christmas Lunch will take place on Wednesday 17th December. We are delighted to confirm that once again our Christmas lunch will be offered free of charge for all children throughout the school.

Children can wear a Christmas/Festive jumper if they wish to. Full details on booking & the Christmas menu can be found here:
<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/letters/christmas-lunch/>



Christmas Parties

Many thanks to our wonderful PTFA who are providing the party food and drink for our Christmas parties. EYFS & KS1 (Year R, 1 & 2) children can come to school dressed in their party clothes on their party day. KS2 (Year 3, 4, 5 & 6) children should arrive at school in uniform and bring party clothes in a named bag to change into after lunch.

Please remember, NO long dresses, fancy dress, pyjamas or onesies please. Sensible shoes must still be worn; no slip on shoes or open toe sandals.

Year 1 - Monday 15th December (party clothes all day)

Year 2 - Tuesday 16th December (party clothes all day)

Year 3/4 - Thursday 18th December (arrive in uniform & change)

Year 5/6 - Friday 20th December (arrive in uniform & change)

