

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 28th January 2022

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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may already be aware, we have recently had an increase in positive Covid-19 cases in school. This has affected specific classes and, following guidance from North Somerset health protection team, parents of these classes have been asked to undertake daily LFD tests on their child (ren) for a period of 7 days. We are continuing to monitor case levels and work with the health protection team to prevent the spread of infection within school.

I would like to thank you all for your support with this and for adhering to current guidance, particularly around isolation, testing and reporting of results. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any concerns or questions.

There has been lots going over the last two weeks! Our Year 5/6 classes visited Caerleon in Wales in support of their Romans learning. Year 3/4 classes took part in a talk with a nurse from Weston General Hospital, supporting their science learning and our Year 5/6 classes had an assembly delivered by Kooth, the online mental health platform.

Please check our website and my Twitter feed, for some great photos & all the news on what has been happening in school. Have a good weekend.

Mrs Samantha Hodder, Principal



Big Garden Birdwatch

We are really excited to be supporting the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch.

Next week, each class will be getting involved with the World's Largest Wildlife Survey.

Next Friday, children will have the opportunity to observe, count and record the different species of birds that visit our field.

We are really looking forward to seeing the results and sharing them with the RSPB.

Attendance Policy

We have a new Attendance Policy that will be available on our website from next week. We would recommend parents/carers take some time to read the policy to understand how the academy manages children's attendance and parents/carers responsibilities surrounding their child's attendance in school. In the last newsletter we shared our expectations regarding term time leave which we encourage families to refer to again. Other key pieces of information from the policy are:

- We expect our children to achieve at least 97% attendance throughout the year. Parents/Carers of those children who fall below this level (excluding covid absence) will be informed of this on a regular basis. For those children with repeated attendance issues we will work with the family to provide support and plans to improve attendance.
- If a child needs to attend a medical appointment this should be arranged outside of school time. If the appointment is within school time parents must provide evidence in the form of an appointment card or letter. If no medical evidence is forthcoming, the absence will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.
- Children should arrive on time to school. We do understand that on occasions things happen and children arrive late, however this should not be a regular occurrence. Children arriving late are recorded as so in the register and cases of continual lateness are referred to the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) for further action. Please ensure your child arrives promptly for school.



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The Marvellous Month of Reading

Learning to read is about listening and understanding as well as working out what's printed on the page. Through hearing stories, children are exposed to a wide range of words which helps them build their own vocabulary. Reading books stimulates a child's imagination and expands their understanding of the world. We at Uphill Village Academy are passionate about reading and with that in mind we are delighted to invite pupils (& their families) to join us in our Marvellous Month of Reading.....

Dates	Activity	Details
Half Term	Whole School Competition	Decorate a wooden spoon with clues as to what character/ book it is. Take a photo of the spoon with the book you have chosen.
Monday 28 th February	Launch of reading week	Assembly for Reading Week. Each class will learn a poem throughout the week to perform to the rest of the school
Tuesday 1st March	Bed time stories in your virtual classes	Children are invited to snuggle up at home and sign in to their Teams account to enjoy a bedtime story with their class teacher. This will be at 5:30pm for EYFS/KS1 and 6:00pm for KS2.
Wednesday 2nd March	Class Activities	Children will be completing activities that explore their poem and practising their performance. Performances will be recorded at the end of the week
Thursday 3rd March	Teacher swap!	Teachers will visit another class to read a story for 15minutes.
Thursday 3rd 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.
Thursday 3rd March	Stop and Read Day	On World Book Day, at different times during the day, the bell will ring and children and adults will stop what they are doing and read for 5-10 minutes. Make sure your child has their favourite book in school on this day!
KS1 - Monday 28th KS2 - Tuesday 29th March	Book Fair	We are delighted to still be able to offer the fantastic Scholastic Book Fair at the end of March. There will be an opportunity to purchase all the latest books and all proceeds will go towards purchasing new reading books for the academy. EYFS & KS1 will be held on Monday 28th & KS2 will be held on Tuesday 29th.
Throughout March	Authors writing workshops	Once a week, published authors from Puffin books will be providing writing workshops with our children in Years 2 and above. These workshops are a brilliant opportunity for our children and are provided free of charge.



Children's Mental Health Week

7 - 13 FEBRUARY 2022

This year Children's Mental Health Week is running from 7th to 13th February 2022.

At Uphill Village Academy we want to equip our children with the skills to look after themselves and each other.... that is why we take part in Children's Mental Health Week run by Place2be, to focus on the importance of children and young people's mental health.

The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is **Growing Together**.

We have lots of activities planned for the children during this week

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. From 7th Feb there will be ideas and ways that you can support your child(ren) with their mental health on the pastoral page of our website.

If you are concerned about your child's mental health, our learning mentors, Mrs de Scossa and Mrs Hetherington, are available for advice and support. Please contact them on learningmentor@uva.clf.uk or via the school office on 01934 626769 or office@uva.clf.uk. They will also be able to sign post to other organisations that offer help.

Safer Internet Day

Safer
Internet
Day 2022 | Tuesday
8 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. Safer Internet Day 2022 is on 8th February and will be celebrated with the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'.

Using tailored learning materials, tips and resources for all ages as well as for educators and families, Safer Internet Day challenges everyone to play their part in fostering supportive relationships and respectful communities online. From discussing the ways the internet can be used to communicate, to creating positive change in online groups when bullying behaviours arise, the Day empowers young people to be at the heart of creating a better internet.

We need to address these issues so that all young people understand what constitutes respectful behaviour online, and know what to do if they encounter hate or bullying directed at them or someone else.

We, as a school, will take part in a range of age appropriate activities to highlight the need to keep ourselves and others safe when using the internet.



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Rolls-Royce

PTFA News

Textile Recycling - Monday 7th February

Pack up your unwanted clothes into bags and leave them in the marked area on the grass verge of Ellesmere Road (by the large flower box) by 9.00am.

Back to the Noughtie's @ The Tropicana Saturday 5th March

Roller disco options from 1.30pm-7pm Evening Event 7.30pm til late

Join us for a night of music from the noughties

Tickets on sale now priced at £12 each

Tickets selling fast—don't miss out!

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/backtothenoughties/events/>

Community News

Weston Library

Please see below the list of activities for parents to share with their child(ren) that are currently running in Weston Library based in the Town Hall.

Story Time Tuesdays 2.00pm – 2.30 pm

Rhyme Time Thursday 9.30am - 10.00am & 10.30am – 11.00am

Story Time Saturday 10.00am – 10.30am

Lego Saturday 10.30 - 11.30

These events are free to attend but advanced booking is required.

Please email weston.library@n-somerset.gov.uk or call 01934 426010 to reserve a space.

Uphill Community Defibrillator Training

Uphill Village Society will be holding community defibrillator training on Thursday 10th February at 6.30pm in Uphill Village Victory Hall.

Tallowood Training Solutions will be demonstrating the use of defibrillators, explaining how the equipment works and the benefits in the community in saving lives in the treatment of sudden cardiac arrest.

Everybody is welcome, and no special skills are required.

If you have any queries, please contact Leigh Morris on 01934 628373 or by email secretary@uphillvillage.org.uk

Pupils Making us Proud

Phoebe, one of our Year 5 pupils, has been starring in this year's production of 'Scrooge' in the Bleadon Players pantomime, playing the part of Tiny Tim.

Phoebe has come on in leaps and bounds over the past 3 months of rehearsals, remembering all her words, getting all her cues right and projecting her voice for the whole hall to hear.

Well done Phoebe!

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/>

February

Tuesday 1st Chandra Class Swimming
Monday 7th PTFA Textile Recycling 8.00am - 9.00am
Tuesday 8th Chandra Class Swimming (last session)

Friday 18th END OF TERM 4

Monday 28th START OF TERM 4 - All extra-curricular clubs are on this week

March

Tuesday 1st Virtual Story Time via Teams - KS1; 5.30pm & KS2; 6.00pm
Thursday 3rd World Book Day - Dress your favourite book character
Wednesday 16th INSET DAY - School closed to pupils

INSET Days - School Closed to Pupils

Friday 8th July



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