

# Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 3rd December 2021



Follow us on Twitter for regular updates – [@uphillvillage](https://twitter.com/uphillvillage)

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

Well Christmas has arrived! Christmas is a special time of year and we are delighted to be able to celebrate the festive season across the school.



We have our fabulous Christmas tree in the hall which has been wonderfully decorated by our caretaker, Robin. Rehearsals are in full swing for our Christmas performances; with children busy learning their lines and songs. We are following guidance from our local Public Health Team to enable as many Christmas activities to go ahead as safely as possible. This unfortunately means we have to restrict audience numbers, which I understand is disappointing for many of you. However, I hope you understand the need to minimise the spread of Covid-19 as we approach the Christmas holidays.

Alongside our Christmas performances & events, please take a look at the PTFA newsletter, via the link on page 2, to join in with their Christmas activities.

I really hope you enjoy all the performances of your fabulous and talented children; we are very proud of them.

Mrs Samantha Hodder  
Principal

## Christmas Post Box

The Christmas Card Postbox is back this year!

Children can bring in Christmas cards for their friends and our team of Year 6 'post workers' will deliver them to the classes until the end of term.

A huge plea; Christmas card envelopes should be clearly labelled with the child's names & class. This helps enormously making sure the cards are delivered correctly.



## Children in Need

Wow! Thank you to everyone for their generosity in donating to this worthy cause.

The final fundraising total was an amazing £484.00!

Brilliant!



## Join the Fabulous Team at Uphill Village Academy

We are currently looking for outstanding people to join our friendly and supportive team at Uphill Village Academy. Are you interested in restarting your career or have you retired and feel you still have more to give to our community? Then please let us know.

We have vacancies for play workers within our After School Club (3pm-6pm) and for Lunchtime Team members. We have a number of vacancies and, with flexible working patterns, this is an ideal opportunity if you are looking to work within our school. Applications will be considered for either or both roles.

If you are interested, please follow the link below and select Uphill Village Academy from the drop-down list of academies. Have a look and get in touch, we are happy to help with any queries you may have.

<https://clf.uk/career-opportunities/>



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## Covid-19 Precautions



We are working really hard to keep everyone safe during our festive celebrations and to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

To help with this can we ask that parents/carers return to wearing face masks within the playground areas at drop off and collection times.

When attending any of our Christmas activities please remember social distancing measures should be adhered to at all times, face coverings must be worn unless medically exempt and we would recommend adults take a lateral flow test before attending. Please leave the school site promptly when an event has finished and please be considerate to others.

### Year 2 Christmas Service

Our Year 2 children will be performing their Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church, in Uphill Village.

Due to the size of the space, we are delighted to offer a maximum of two tickets per child to those who have booked. Tickets will be sent home in children's bookbags on Friday; please keep them safely, you will need them to gain access to the church.

We are so excited to be able to hold this event. Children should wear full school uniform as normal but your child can bring along a party hat/headband if they have one.

After the concert, we will walk the children back to school and they can be collected from the school gate at the usual time of 3.10pm. We will not be able to release any children early from the church.

### EYFS & Year 1 Nativity

Rehearsals are in full swing for our production of 'Donkey for Sale' and the children are working really hard learning lines and songs.

All performances start at 9.15am on the following dates:

Tuesday 7th Dec - Rainbow Class parents

Wednesday 8th Dec - Sunshine Class parents

Thursday 9th Dec - Saturn Class parents

Following morning drop off, please wait in the front playground for admission.

Unfortunately, due to the size of the hall, only one adult per child is able to attend and only those adults who have pre-booked will be admitted. We will be filming the performance and sharing this on Tapestry.

## Christmas Chocolate Hunt

The PTFA will be holding a Christmas Chocolate Treasure Hunt in place of the Bazaar on Friday 10th December.

In order to limit large gatherings there is a staggered timetable for year groups. Please collect your child from outside their classroom at the scheduled start time (detailed below) before making your way to the rear playground/field for the hunt. Entry is £1 with everyone guaranteed a chocolate prize. Entry MUST be purchased in advance online. Parents are asked to leave promptly after the hunt to minimise contact with others and in readiness for the next group of participants.

EYFS/Yr 1 - 2.30pm    Year 2 - 2.45pm

Year 3/4 - 3.00pm    Year 5/6 - 3.15pm

## Christmas Jumper Day

Next Friday, we will be supporting 'Save the Children' with Christmas Jumper Day.

Children should wear a Christmas jumper instead of their school jumper for a suggested donation of a £1. Buckets will be available at both entrance gates on the morning of Friday 10th December for your donations.



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## Christmas Parties

We are looking forward to our class Christmas parties scheduled for the last week of term. Thank you to our PTFA who are kindly arranging delivery of party boxes for each class.

The parties will be held on the afternoons of:

EYFS & Year 1 - Monday 13th

Year 2 - Tuesday 14th

Year 3/4 - Thursday 16th

Year 5/6 - Friday 17th

Children should come to school dressed in their party clothes on their party day. Please remember clothes should be practical for a school day, please NO fancy dress, onesies, pyjamas or long dresses.

**Please remember there will be no P.E lessons in the final week of term.**

If you would like to donate towards the party food boxes, please follow the link to the PTFA newsletter.

[Christmas – Uphill Primary PTFA](#)

## Secret Santa



Secret Santa is a lovely activity for the children to be involved in; it teaches them the joy of giving a gift at Christmas.

Children get to pick, from a selection of gifts, a present, free of charge, for one adult in their household. An additional gift can be purchased for a £2 donation.

Children get to choose the gift, label it and bring it home to put under the Christmas tree ready to surprise you on Christmas morning!

This wonderful event, organised by the PTFA, will take place in classes during the last week of term.

For further information or to make donation please use the link below.

[Christmas – Uphill Primary PTFA](#)

## PTFA Raffle

Help support your PTFA by purchasing a ticket for the PTFA 2021 Christmas Raffle.

1st Prize: Christmas Hamper, 2nd Prize: Handmade Christmas Cake, 3rd Prize: Christmas Wreath from Beau & Bloom. There are additional runner-up prizes up for grabs too!

Tickets can be purchased online and your ticket numbers will be emailed to you.

Online ticket sales are charged a commission so the price for one ticket is £1.20 and a book of 5 costs £6.

**The draw will take place on 10th December** and winners will be notified by email. You can buy your tickets using the link below.

[Christmas – Uphill Primary PTFA](#)



## Mobile phones update

If a Year 6 child is walking home, unaccompanied, we understand that a mobile phone is a necessary part of today's life. However, we believe there are few other reasons for your child to bring a mobile phone into school.

From Monday 6th, those Year 6 children that bring a mobile phone will need to hand it in to the office team at the beginning of the day and collect it at the end. The mobile phone lockers will no longer be able to be used by children.

Please can we ask parents to reiterate to their child the importance of handing their phone in to the office for safety reasons and that children refrain from bringing them to school unless absolutely necessary.



## Christmas Dinner



Christmas dinner for all children will take place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. We are pleased to confirm that once again the Christmas lunch will be offered free of charge for all children throughout the school.

Children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 must book their Christmas lunch via ParentPay ([www.parentpay.co.uk](http://www.parentpay.co.uk)) Bookings will need to be made by **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December**. After this date no further bookings can be made; without a booking your child must bring a packed lunch as no other options are available.

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](mailto:office@uva.clf.uk) with your child's name and class by Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

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

## 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/>

### December

Tuesday 7th	Year 6 Height & Weight Measurements EYFS/Year 1 Nativity @ 9.15am - Rainbow Parents Voyager Class Swimming Year 2 Christmas Service @ St Nicholas Church 2.00pm
Wednesday 8th	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity @ 9.15am - Sunshine Parents
Thursday 9th	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity @ 9.15am - Saturn Parents
Friday 10th	Christmas Jumper Day suggested donation £1 for Save the Children PTFA Christmas Chocolate Hunt 2.30pm - 3.15pm
Monday 13th	PTFA Secret Santa Week EYFS/Year 1 Christmas party @ 1.30pm
Tuesday 14th	Year 2 Christmas Party @ 1.30pm
Wednesday 15th	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 16th	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party @ 1.30pm
Friday 17th	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Party @ 1.30pm

**INSET Days - School Closed to Pupils**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**END OF TERM 2 - Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!**

### January

Tuesday 4th	<b>INSET DAY - School closed to pupils</b>
Tuesday 5th	<b>START OF TERM 3</b>



# Community News

## Uphill Advent Window Trail 2021

**How to enjoy the Uphill Advent Window Trail**

Like a traditional advent calendar a window in the village will be 'opened' each night throughout December.

Our kind volunteers will illuminate their windows from 5-9pm on the date indicated, the windows will then stay on display each night until 1st January. So by Christmas Eve there will be 24 decorated windows around the village to explore.

This trail is created for everyone young and old in the village to enjoy. Put your hats and coats on for a chance to get out for an evening stroll, and enjoy the windows this Christmas.

Little elves can you spot all 24?

### Uphill Advent Window Trail 2021

1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	23 Thornbury Road
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	16 Thornbury Drive
3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	14 Wingard Close
4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7 St Auyben Avenue
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	32 Laurel Drive
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	34 Laurel Drive
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	18 Laurel Drive
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	14 Laurel Drive
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	15 Laurel Drive
10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3 Willow Close
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	56 Uphill Road South
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10 Sandcroft Avenue
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	13 Sandcroft Avenue
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	15 Sandcroft Avenue
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7 Sandcroft Avenue
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	23 New Church Road
17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	25 Old Church Road
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	66 Old Church Road
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	15 St. Nicholas Road
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10 St. Nicholas Road
21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	8 St. Nicholas Road
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	14 Westfield Close
23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	8 Links Road
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	The Dolphin

If you have enjoyed the Uphill Advent Window Trail please donate to: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/uphilladvent2021>



Following the success of last year's Christmas Advent Window Trail, the Uphill Village community have created it again this year!

Sites around Uphill Village will light up their windows with a Christmas display for passers-by to enjoy.

Please take the opportunity to have an evening stroll and find a window each night from 1st-24th December.

**Looking to work with young people ages 10 to 14, 1st Uphill scouts is looking for volunteers**

[www.1stuphillscouts.org.uk/](http://www.1stuphillscouts.org.uk/)  
[facebook.com/1stUphill](https://www.facebook.com/1stUphill)

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You don't need to be Bear Grylls to join us. You don't need to have been a Scout when you were younger. You don't even need to know how to put up a tent.

Whatever your skillset, lend a hand for as little or as much time as you can spare, and we promise you'll get more out than you put in.

We provide the training. You show up, get stuck in, and make new memories for life.

Interested?  
 Email: [Cameron.Doye@Scouts.org.uk](mailto:Cameron.Doye@Scouts.org.uk)  
 or Call: 07961 809212



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