

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 5th December 2025

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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 Christmas Celebrations page, which has all the key dates you need to be aware of.

Today we kicked off the festivities with our Christmas Wake & Shake led by Miss Arnall. It was wonderful to see the children having so much fun, marking a fantastic start to our holiday celebrations! We look forward to continuing the festivities at our Christmas Bazaar on Friday 12th December. A great way to start the festive season with stalls, games, raffle & much more. We hope you can join us as our KS2 children open the Bazaar with some carols.

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

Mrs Samantha Hodder,
Principal



Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper

Christmas Lunch will take place on Wednesday 17th 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 can replace their school logo jumper/cardigan for a Christmas/festive jumper on this day if they wish to.

Children in KS2 will have already booked their Christmas lunch via MCAS, thank you to parents for the prompt response to this.

Unfortunately, we are unable to take any further bookings.

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. Thank you to parents of those who have confirmed their child does not want a Christmas meal.

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

Presentation of Learning

It is time to share what we have been learning during term 1 & 2 with our end of term Presentations of Learning. At the beginning of each term, parents 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, each year group presents 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 will hold their book look to parents on Thursday 11th at 2.30pm, while Year 3/4 will hold their formal presentation with parents on Tuesday 16th at 9am.

EYFS & Year 1 will share their Nativity with parents next week and to Year 2 who will share their learning with EYFS & Year 1.

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.



Working in partnership with



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.

Long Hair

Despite reminders, we still have children attending school without a hair band to keep their hair off their face.

We issue hairbands but would like parents to help enforce this rule please.

Hair of shoulder length and longer **MUST** be tied off the face without exception.

Collection from Afterschool Club

A reminder that we offer four fixed collection times: 4pm, 5pm, 5.30pm & 6pm and children cannot be collected at any other time.

Please can we also remind parents that Afterschool Club closes at 5pm on a Friday.

We have reviewed our collection procedures to ensure these are as robust as possible and, with immediate effect, all children will be dismissed to their parent from the door. Children will not be permitted to leave the building without a parent and staff are not able to escort children out to the gate. Please enter the front playground and wait near the blue door (next to Rainbow Class) for children to be dismissed.

Please collect promptly.

Please refer to our letter sent on 3rd December for more details and to complete the Collection time form:

<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/letters/after-school-club-collections/>

Term Time Leave Requests

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 where 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, forms are available from 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.



PTFA Update

As always, our PTFA have been very busy! Their recent events such as the Sip & Paint night raised £229.92 and the very popular Wreath night raised an incredible £930!
We are so thankful to everything the PTFA do to help raise money for our school.
Please support the Christmas Bazaar they are organising next Friday!

MYSTERY BAGS

A reminder that the Mystery bags can be returned to school next week. The bags will then be available for children to buy at the Bazaar.

SECRET SANTA

The PTFA are pleased to offer children a chance to choose a gift for a loved one. All children will receive one gift, if you would like to purchase an additional gift, you can do this through the online shop. children will choose, wrap and bring their gifts home the last week of term.



CALENDARS

A reminder that the 2026 Calendars are now available to buy through the online shop:
<https://uphillprimaryptfa.org.uk/product-category/christmas/>



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**

DECEMBER

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)

Thursday 11th

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

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

Wednesday 17th

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

Thursday 18th

Christmas Lunch & Wear a Christmas Jumper Day

Year 6 National Measurement Checks

Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party

Friday 19th

Year 5 & 6 Christmas Party

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!

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 & 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.

EYFS/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 19th December (arrive in uniform & change)

