

# Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 6th December 2024



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

This Friday afternoon we are holding our Christmas Bazaar. 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 will be able to start enjoying the festive season and I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Christmas events.



Mrs Samantha Hodder, Principal

## Presentations 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.

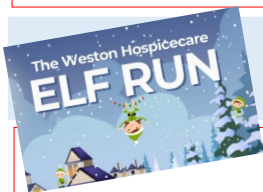
At the end of each term, each year group presents their learning in one of three ways:

- 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 formal presentation to parents on Thursday 12th, while Year 3/4 will share their books with parents on Friday 13th.

A big well done to EYFS & Year 1 for sharing their Nativity with parents 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.



## Elf Run in support of Weston HospiceCare

This year we are supporting our local charity, Weston Hospicecare, by taking part in our own Elf Run on Friday 13th December.

The Christmas Elf Run is an event that any pre school, nursery or school can take part in, raising vital funds for this local charity. Children can run, skip or jump a designated distance between 1st and 15th December. They are hoping to raise a total of £16,184.07 to pay for Christmas day at the Hospice.

Each class will be allocated a distance to 'run' around the track on Friday 13th December and we are asking for a small donation, in cash (coin or notes accepted!) to be donated to Weston Hospicecare.

Buckets will be available at the gates during drop off on Friday 13th—please give as generously as you can.

Children should wear normal school uniform, have a coat with them and can wear a Christmas/festive hat or hair band for the event.



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## Long Hair

Despite repeated reminders we still have children attending school without a hair band to keep their hair off their face. We issue hair bands but would like parents to help in enforcing this rule please.

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

## 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.

## Christmas Lunch & Wear a Christmas Jumper

Christmas Lunch will take place on Wednesday 13<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 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 ParentPay, thank you to parents for the prompt response to this. On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, this will show as a charge on ParentPay but will be credited before the end of term. 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. 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.

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

## Term Time Leave Reminder

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](mailto:office@uva.clf.uk)

Alternatively, forms are available from our website [www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk](http://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.



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## PE Kits

Please can we remind parents that PE kit needs to be in school every day.

We have had several instances where this is not the case, particularly in Years 5 and 6.



## Children in Need

Thank you so much to everyone for your generosity in donating to this worthy cause.

The final amount raised was an incredible £476.50!



## Christmas Events

On Wednesday 4th December, a letter detailing all our Christmas events, was sent to parents. The letter can be accessed using the following link: <https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/letters/christmas-celebrations-3/>



This covers the EYFS/Year 1 Nativity, Year 2 Service, Christmas Bazaar, Christmas Lunch, Christmas Parties & more...

There is so much going on - please don't miss a thing!!

## Dates for the Diary

### December

Friday 6th	Christmas Bazaar from 3:00pm-4:00pm in the rear playground
Monday 9th	Voyager Class Swimming (5) Choir Singing at Uphill Manor Care Home & Pop-Up Café
Tuesday 10th	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity at 9.15am - ticket only (2 per child)
Wednesday 11th	Year 2 Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church at 2.00pm
Thursday 12th	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity at 9.15am - ticket only (2 per child) Year 5/6 Presentation of Learning in the hall - ticket only (1 per child) at 2.30pm
Friday 13th	Elf Run in support of Weston Hospice Care Year 3/4 Presentation of Learning in classes (Parent Book Share) at 2.45pm
Monday 16th – 19th	PTFA Secret Santa
Monday 16th	EYFS/Year 1 Christmas party at 1.30pm
Tuesday 17th	Year 2 Christmas Party at 1.30pm
Wednesday 18th	Whole School Christmas Lunch - wear your Christmas Jumper!!
Thursday 19th	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party at 1.30pm
Friday 20th	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Party at 1.30pm

### END OF TERM 2

### January 2025

Monday 6th	INSET Day
Tuesday 7th	START OF TERM 3
Monday 13th	Sputnik Class Swimming (1)
Monday 16th	Young Voices Concert in Birmingham (selected children)

