

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 6th March 2026

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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week we were extremely privileged to take 25 children to the Young Voices concert at the NEC in Birmingham. This is a singing festival like no other; with over 5,000 school children singing together to an audience of 10,000 parents. With special guest singers & dancers it was a truly phenomenal event. Well done to the Young Voices choir, you sang your hearts out and we were very proud of you all.

This week was Reading Week, where we focussed on our love of books and reading. We have seen some impressive 'Story Hat' entries from the children, well done to all for getting involved. Our winners will be announced next week!

Our EYFS, Year 1, Year 2 children and staff enjoyed a lovely evening on Wednesday sharing bedtime stories in their pyjamas, onesies and dressing gowns!

Our reading celebrations will culminate with our popular book fair on Mon 16th & Tues 17th March, which raises funds to buy new books for our library. Please note we will not be able to accept cash payments on the day, card payments only.

With Summer approaching, I would ask parents to please take notice of the piece below which highlights the importance of not taking children out of school for holidays. Attendance is crucial to building a love of learning and friendships.

I hope all our families have a lovely & restful weekend.

Samantha Hodder,
Principal

Principal: Mrs Samantha Hodder

Tel: 01934 626769

Email: office@uva.clf.uk

Website: www.uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk

Red Nose Day

To help celebrate and raise funds for this worthy cause children are invited to wear a red accessory such as red socks, a red hairband etc. to school on Friday 20th March. Normal school uniform is required.

Donations CANNOT be made in cash.
Donations can be made via MCAS.

Toys in school

Please can we remind parents that toys from home should not be brought into school. We are seeing an increasing number of toys brought in by the children, especially fidget toys.

If a child has a toy or fidget toy that is not approved by the school, we will remove it and ask parents collect it from the school office at the end of the day.

We have toys available in school should a child need one.

Term Time Holidays

Holiday season is upon us and we do understand the temptation to take your child out of school during term time but we ask that you avoid doing so.

Attending school every day helps children maximise their learning in the classroom and enjoy the benefits of their entire educational experience.

We ask parents to request permission for any leave of absence in advance, and to carefully consider if the absence is absolutely necessary. Any requests must be in writing and, wherever possible, at least four weeks' notice should be provided. We may ask to meet with you to discuss your request.

Our term time leave request form can be accessed using the link below:

<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/wp-content/uploads/CLF-Term-Time-Leave-Request-Form.pdf>

Parents are reminded that unauthorised absence may result in the receipt of a Penalty Notice and/or, in certain circumstances, being liable to prosecution. We also request that you are honest with us, even if this might mean a penalty notice. Ensuring children attend school every available day, on time, is a key parental responsibility and your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.



Working in partnership with



Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

It's hard to believe we're already approaching the final term for our Year 6 children. We'd love to make it a really special and memorable one, so plans are beginning for hoodies, celebrations and some end of year activities. Mrs Hodder has kindly agreed that Year 6 children can have a leaver hoodie, with the important principle that every child receives one, unless they choose not to, regardless of circumstances.

Hoodies cost approximately £20 each and our aim is to cover this through voluntary contributions and fundraising, so that everyone is included.

To confirm numbers and sizes, please complete the order form, if not done so already, using the link below.

Please do this by Friday 20th March 2026.

<https://forms.office.com/e/1hf4h7jzfw>

If you are unsure of sizing and would like your child to try a hoodie on for size before ordering, please pop into the school office where sample sizes are available.

Children should receive their hoodie during SATs week, in time for the Year 6 residential trip. Please refer to the letter below for further details of how you can make a contribution to the hoodies.

<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/letters/year-6-2025-26-leavers-information/>

Blakehay Theatre Opportunity

We are delighted our PTFA have established links with the Blakehay Theatre who have very kindly offered to help us fundraise. All of our families are invited to join the Blakehay Theatre on 5th April for 'The Great Baldini's Family Magic Show.'

'The Great Baldini is a magical legend – a relic of the music halls and a theatrical performer of the old school. Alongside Baldwin, his faithful magical dog, Baldini takes audiences on a wildly funny journey through the world of magic – from his very first magic set to the astonishing tricks and daring escapes that made him a legend.

Hilariously silly and gloriously theatrical, it builds to a grand finale that must be seen to be believed.

A joyous magical romp for the whole family, guaranteed to have children (and parents) roaring with laughter.'

Proceeds from the event will help raise funds for the Year 6 Leavers activities.

Tickets & details can be found at:

<https://www.blakehay.org.uk/event-details/the-great-baldinis-family-magic-show>

We hope to see lots of our families there!

Rags2Riches4Schools

We are taking part in the Rags2Riches4Schools clothing collection to help raise funds for our school. Families are invited to bring in good-quality unwanted clothes, shoes, and textiles on the collection day of **Tuesday 17th March 2026**.

Every bag donated helps raise money for the school while also supporting recycling and reducing waste. Please see image below of the items they collect – please remember no school uniform.

Thank you for your support!



Our school is raising money by collecting reusable clothes.

Please help us by donating your unwanted reusable clothes and accessories.
Donated items become affordable clothing and accessories.

WE ACCEPT CLEAN, GOOD QUALITY, DRY, REUSABLE CLOTHING

- ✓ Adults, Childrens & Babies Clothing
- ✓ Jewellery and Accessories
- ✓ Paired Shoes and Footwear
- ✓ Belts and Handbags

A full list of reusable items is listed on our website
www.rags2riches4schools.co.uk

WE DO NOT ACCEPT

POOR QUALITY ITEMS SUCH AS DIRTY, WET, RIPPED OR SOILED CLOTHES.

PILLOWS, DUVETS, CURTAINS, BOOKS CDs OR ANY UNIFORM

NK Group

Our school uniform supplier, NK Sports, has recently changed location, it's new premises are just round the corner from the previous location.

The new address is:
218 High Street, Worle, Weston-super-Mare, BS22 6JE.

Free Ticket to WSM AFC Football

To celebrate Weston-super-Mare AFC's partnership with 'Her Game Too' for International Women's Day, they're offering FREE tickets to first-time fans!

Join them at:
Weston-super-Mare AFC
vs
Hampton & Richmond Borough FC
on

Saturday 14 March 2026

3:00pm Kick-Off

If you've never been to a match at Weston-Super-Mare AFC before, this is the perfect chance to soak up the atmosphere and support your local club!

Claim your free ticket here:

www.hergametoo.co.uk/wsm-first-time-fans

Online Awareness Sessions

Free online training for parents - could you tell if your child was being exploited?

Avon and Somerset Police are offering free online awareness sessions for parents across Somerset to help you understand the growing risks of child exploitation - and how to spot the signs early.

Join one of our upcoming sessions led by Child Exploitation Prevention Officer, Andri Nicolaou.

During the session, you'll learn about:

- The different forms of child exploitation
- How offenders groom and exploit children online and offline
- Key warning signs that a child may be at risk
- Practical steps you can take to help keep your child safe
- What to do and who to contact if you have concerns

Upcoming dates:

- 18th March, 7:00pm - 8:30pm
- 30th March, 10:30am - 12:00pm

These sessions are free, online, and open to all parents and carers.

[Click this link to book your place](#)

MCAS Push Notifications & Announcement

As many of you are aware, we use MCAS for all text and email communications with parents. We would encourage all parents/carers (both parents) to download the MCAS app and turn on 'Push Notifications'. This will allow you to see every message we send to you, both texts and emails, & ensure you receive an instant notification of a message. You will also be able to access historical messages within your MCAS app.

Without having push notifications activated within the app, emails and texts will be sent to a parent's email inbox and text box.

Parents using the MCAS app will have noticed we have introduced using 'Announcements' (found on the Dashboard). This allows us to display messages and reminders about upcoming events. We also have the facility to 'push' these reminders out to parents to alert them. However, these will only go to those parents with the MCAS app & push notifications enabled.

Please note, if you have already set up your MCAS app and did not enable push notifications during this process you will need to delete the app and reinstall it to activate them.

Announcements More

INSET Day - Fri 6th March Uphill Village Academy on 05th March 2026

A reminder that tomorrow is an INSET day, the school is closed to pupils. We will be back on Monday 9th March.

World Book Day this Thursday (5th) Uphill Village Academy on 03rd March 2026

Its World Book Day on Thursday - get your outfit ready!
Please remember to bring in the book your character is from or your favourite reading book.

Attachments: [Last Minute WBD Costume ideas NS Libraries.pdf](#)
[World Book Day 2026.pdf](#)

The screenshot shown above is of the Announcements tile on the web based version of MCAS, which can be accessed via a laptop, computer or iPad. This may look different on the MCAS app.

If you have any questions or require assistance with setting up your child's MCAS account please do not hesitate to contact a member of the academy office team.

Mobile Phones

We are seeing a number of mobile phones being brought into school by children who do not walk to &/or from school & are dropped in & collected by their parents each morning & afternoon.

Can we remind parents that if your child is being brought to and from school by an adult (including to breakfast and after school clubs) they do not require their mobile phone to be in school.

We are really keen to keep mobile phones out of school, unless absolutely necessary, and would ask for your assistance with this matter.

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

MARCH

Friday 6th

INSET DAY - School closed to pupils

Monday 9th - 13th

CLF Big Week of Maths

Monday 9th

Chandra Class Swimming (2)

Monday 16th - 27th

Big Wheel & Walk (2 weeks)

Monday 16th

Unicorn Class 'Problem with Plastic' Workshop, Bristol

Tuesday 17th

Chandra Class Swimming (3)

Wednesday 18th

Year 2 trip to SS Great Britain

Monday 23rd

EYFS National Measurements

Tuesday 24th

Year 5 Walk to Broadoak Academy to watch 'The Wizard of Oz'

Wednesday 25th

Chandra Class Swimming (4)

Wednesday 25th

Dance Festival Performance @ The Playhouse Theatre (selected children)

Thursday 26th

Year 2 Presentation of Learning @ 2:30pm

Monday 30th

Parents Evenings @ 3:30pm - 7:00pm

Parents Evenings @ 3:30pm - 7:00pm

Year 3/4 Parent Book Look @ 2.45pm

APRIL

Wednesday 1st

EYFS/Year 1 Parent Book Look at 2.45pm

Thursday 2nd

Easter Activities

Friday 3rd April

LAST DAY OF TERM 4

GOOD FRIDAY BANK HOLIDAY - School closed

Monday 20th

Easter Holidays

START OF TERM 5

UPCOMING BANK HOLIDAYS
Friday 3rd April
Monday 4th May

