

Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 7th March 2025

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Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4, I hope you have had a restful half term break.

This week was Reading Week, where we focussed on our love of books and reading. We have seen some impressive 'Story Masks' entries from the children, well done to our overall winner Florence in Chandra and our year group winners who were Roux in Saturn (EYFS/Year 1), Zara in Pluto (Year 2), Yara in Sputnik (Year 3/4) and Malachi in Unicorn (Year 5/6)!

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!

Today, children have enjoyed 'Stop and Read' where the bell has rang during different parts of the day and the children all stop what they are doing and read for 5-10 minutes, it's been great fun!

Our reading celebrations will culminate with our popular book fayre on Mon 17th & Tues 18th 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. Experiences on holiday do not compensate for the academic learning within a school. Remember, everyday is family time!

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

Samantha Hodder, Principal

Red Nose Day

To help celebrate and raise funds for this worthy cause children are invited to wear a red top to school on Friday 21st March. Normal school trousers/skirts and school shoes should be worn.

Donations CANNOT be made in cash. Donations can be made on our dedicated Red Nose donations page via ParentPay, please follow this link;

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=17775>

Easter Activities

The PTFA will be hosting Easter Activities on Friday 4th April.

In preparation for the EYFS/KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade we're letting parents know you have plenty of time to start making those beautiful bonnets.

Full details of this EGGciting Event to follow!

Soft 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 soft toys and fidget spinners.

We have toys available to the children in school should they need the use of these.

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.

Put simply, a holiday request of more than 4.5 days will result in a request to issue 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.



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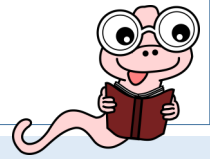


Forest School

We would like to remind parents that Forest School, which happens within the Year 3/4 classes, is organised by children being invited in small groups. Therefore, children in the same class will be invited at different times. We will send letters of invitation directly to the parents of the children who are due to attend. Please do not send your child with wellies etc when they are not invited as this causes confusion for the children.

Parent Readers

We would love to have more parents to read with the children. This is so valuable to the children's learning and they really enjoy it. The paperwork necessary for you to do this takes approximately six weeks to process, so if you are interested in coming into school during the summer terms to read with the children, please let us know as soon as possible.



Year 4 Bikeability

We are delighted to offer our Year 4 students the opportunity to take part in Level 1 Bikeability training. This will help develop the skills of balance, special/road awareness and, of course, cycling.



Letters will be sent home soon with full details; keep an eye out.

Please speak to your child and see if they would like to take part.

Mobile Phones

We are seeing a number of mobile phones being brought into school by children who do not walk to or from school. We remind parents that if your child is being brought to and from school, including to breakfast and after school clubs, then they do not need their phone 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

March

Wednesday 12th	Year 2 Trip to SS Great Britain
Friday 14th	Year 5 Visit to Broadoak Academy to watch 'Shrek - The Musical'
Monday 17th	Yrs 2-5 Girls Football Event @ Hans Price Academy (selected pupils)
Tuesday 18th	Book Fair for KS1 - 3.15am - 3.45am in school hall
Tuesday 18th	Book fair for KS2 3.15pm - 3.45pm in school hall
Friday 21st	Yr 3/4 Primary Big Sing @ Winter Gardens (collection at 2.35pm)
Mon 24th-Fri 28th	Red Nose Day
	Walk/Cycle/Scoot to School Week (week 1)
	NO extra curricular clubs this week
Tuesday 25th	Dance Festival Rehearsals @ Playhouse Theatre (collection at 3pm)
	Dance Festival Performance @ Playhouse Theatre. Arrival @ 6pm
Wednesday 26th	Parents Evening - Face to Face
Thursday 27th	Parents Evening - Video call
Friday 28th	Year 5/6 Book Look @ 2.45pm
Monday 31st-Fri 4th	Walk/Cycle/Scoot to School Week (week 2)

Upcoming Bank Holidays

Monday 21st April

Monday 5th May

April

Tuesday 1st	Year 5/6 Trip to Nettlecombe Centre
Thursday 3rd	Year 3/4 Presentation of Learning @ 2.30pm in school hall
	Year 5/6 Charterhouse Parent Meeting @ 5pm-6pm

Friday 4th

Easter Activities

END OF TERM 4

Tuesday 22nd

START OF TERM 5



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