

# Uphill Village Academy

Newsletter 18th March 2022

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## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy start to term 4. We have celebrated our reading week and I hope parents enjoyed watching our whole school poetry video on YouTube. If you haven't already, please use the link at the bottom of my message to view this.

Our Year 2 children have had a fabulous day trip to the SS Great Britain in Bristol, where they have learned about the Victorians and the great Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

I was so pleased to meet some of our EYFS parents who came along to the Phonics and Coffee Q&A session on Thursday. It was so good to meet so many of you, I hope you found the session useful. I look forward to meeting our Year 1 parents at their phonics session next week.

We took part in the first ever CLF Big Day of Maths, completing a number of maths focussed problems and games. It was great fun and there was some fabulous learning.

Please make sure you check out the website and the 'dates for the diary' section to make sure you don't miss upcoming events.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend

Mrs Samantha Hodder, Principal

Poetry Video; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFr02m1QZ44&list=PLOLPZd6C33m3uF4R5OPmeyUvdAfLA>

## Late Arrival at School

Recently, we have had a number of children arriving late for school (at or after 8.45am)

The gates (both front & side) open at 8.30am and close at 8.45am promptly. Please ensure your child is in school BEFORE 8.45am. Registers are taken at 8.45am. Children arriving after this time will be marked 'late'.

Children begin their learning as soon as they enter their classroom so any lateness directly impacts on this and on other children's learning. Please be aware the Education Welfare Officer will be visiting the school soon to speak to parents whose children arrive late to school.

## Term Time Leave Requests

After so much disruption to children's education over recent years, it is vital that schools and families continue to work together to ensure they attend school regularly. Attending school every day helps children maximise their learning in the classroom and enjoy the benefits of their educational experience. It really does make a difference.

We would therefore like to remind parents that the academy will not authorise any leave of absence in term time unless satisfied the reason for the absence is exceptional. The absence should be for the shortest time possible; if an absence is agreed, the Principal will decide how many days of absence will be authorised.

We ask parents to request permission for leave of absence in advance, and to only request absence if time off school is absolutely necessary. Any requests should be put in writing, on the correct form, and wherever possible at least four weeks' notice should be provided. Forms are available from the academy website. We may ask to meet with you to discuss your request.

Please do not take your child out of school without requesting leave. This absence will be recorded in the registers differently to a request that has not been authorised and carries harsher penalties. Parents are reminded that unauthorised absence may result in a request for the issuing of a fixed Penalty Notice or may be liable to prosecution.



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## Red Nose Day Donations

To help celebrate and raise funds for this worthy cause a lot of our children wore a red top to school today. It was lovely to see the whole school looking so bright and colourful.

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

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=6262>

## Parents Evening

Parents Evenings will be held on Wednesday 30th, in person, and Thursday 31st March, via video call. We will be using the School Cloud Parents Evening booking system to book appointments and to access the video calls.

Parents will be able to book appointments from Sunday 20th March at 10:00am until Wednesday 23rd March at 10:00am. We would encourage all parents to take the opportunity to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss their progress.

## School Uniform & P.E Kits

From term 5 (Monday 25th April) we will be reintroducing full school uniform on every day and children will change for P.E lessons in school.

### Our P.E kit is as follows:

- Navy or Black shorts
- Navy or Black joggers (to be worn over shorts in cold weather only)
- Plain white T-shirt (no logos or colours)
- Navy or Black plain hoodie (no logos, stripes or colours)
- White or Black trainers or daps

All items should be brought into school in a drawstring P.E bag and should be labelled with your child's name.

### Our School Uniform is as follows:

- Grey or Black school trousers or skirt ( no leggings or joggers)
- Plain white polo shirt
- Blue logo school sweatshirt or cardigan
- White or Black socks or tights (no colours or stripes/patterns)
- Black, polished school shoes (no trainers)
- Girls may wear a blue checked school dress in the summer

- No jewellery, hair accessories, make up or nail polish.
- Long hair MUST be tied and secured off the face using a hair band
- No extreme hair cuts, including tram lines.

Our uniform is important to us and is an element that sets the tone and values of the school. We will be enforcing the uniform and P.E kit presentation after 25th April. It is an expectation that children will adhere to full school uniform and will arrive well presented at school.

## Toys in school

Over recent weeks, we have seen a significant increase in the number of small toys, toys, fiddle toys etc. being brought to school by children. This has led to a number of losses or breakages of these items and obviously distress to the children involved.

Please can we ask that parents ensure children do not bring ANY toys, comforters, fiddle toys etc. into school unless pre agreed with the class teacher, learning mentor or SENCo.

Please be aware any toys found will be confiscated and held in the school office until the end of the school day.

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated in this matter.



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## Easter Activities - Friday 8th April

We are really pleased to announce that our PTFA are supporting us in a number of fund raising events to help celebrate Easter this year with the children and our families.

On Friday 8th April, parents are invited to join us from 2.30pm on the school field (weather dependant) to watch our EYFS & KS1 Easter Bonnet Parade, If your child is in one of these year groups then please start making your bonnets!

Bonnets/hats should be brought into school on the morning of Friday 8th and the parade will take place in the afternoon, at approximately 2.45pm. on the school field . We are looking forward to enjoying the parade and the brilliant array of bonnets!!

Children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) are invited to enter the Easter competition to 'Decorate an Egg' (hard boiled please!) Get creative - what can you decorate your egg as?? Egg designs should be brought into school on the morning of Friday 8th April, not before please.

At the end of the day (3.15pm) our fabulous PTFA will be holding an Easter Egg hunt on the field, full details for how to enter will be in the next newsletter. The PTFA will also be holding an online Easter Raffle to take part in too- with a giant cuddly Easter bunny to win!

We hope as many parents will join us in celebrating the end of term and a happy Easter holiday.



## Sustrans Big Walk & Wheel



Last year, you may remember us taking part in the Sustrans Big Pedal with the aim of encouraging us all to get active on our journeys to and from school.

Well, this year it is back and it has a new name 'Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel'. It is the UK's largest inter-school walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling challenge. It aims to inspire hundreds of thousands of pupils to get active on the school run. This year's challenge will take place from Monday 21 March to 1 April 2022.

Please encourage your child(ren) to think about how you could walk, scoot or cycle to school over the next two weeks - the weather is supposed to be good for it!

During the two-week challenge, schools will compete to record the greatest number of pupils walking, scooting and cycling to school, whilst learning about the benefits of active travel along the way.

## Menu Change

Tuesdays of 'Week Two' of the Spring/Summer menu is currently pulled pork & mash.

This unfortunately has proved to be an unpopular choice with the children. Given this we have decided to change this choice to sausage and mash. We hope this will prove more popular!

## Trophy Return

If your child was awarded a trophy at the Christmas Celebration Assembly in December, please ensure it is returned to school by next Friday (25th March), in readiness for our Easter Celebration Assembly. This does not apply to the Tom Tait Award.

Many thanks in anticipation.

# Term Dates & INSET Days 2022-2023

Please find below the term dates and proposed INSET days for the academic year 2022-2023. Please be aware the INSET days may be subject to change.

## Term 1

Thursday 1st September	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
Friday 2nd September	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
<b>Monday 5th September</b>	<b>START OF TERM 1</b>
Thursday 20th October	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
<b>Friday 21st October</b>	INSET Day (school closed to pupils) - <b>END of TERM 1</b>

## Term 2

<b>Monday 31st October</b>	<b>START OF TERM 2</b>
<b>Friday 16th December</b>	<b>END OF TERM 2</b>

## Term 3

Tuesday 3rd January	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
<b>Wednesday 4th January</b>	<b>START OF TERM 3</b>
<b>Friday 10th February</b>	<b>END OF TERM 3</b>

## Term 4

Monday 20th February	INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)
<b>Tuesday 21st February</b>	<b>START OF TERM 4</b>
<b>Friday 31st March</b>	<b>END OF TERM 4</b>

## Term 5

<b>Monday 17th April</b>	<b>START OF TERM 5</b>
Monday 1st May	Bank Holiday (school closed to pupils)
<b>Friday 26th May</b>	<b>END OF TERM 5</b>

## Term 6

<b>Monday 5th June</b>	<b>START OF TERM 6</b>
Friday 7th July	INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)
<b>Friday 21st July</b>	<b>END OF TERM 6</b>

We would expect parents to ensure any holidays are booked during the school holiday dates as listed above. It is not acceptable to book family holidays within term time and requests will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. For further details please see our Attendance Policy, available on the website [www.uphillvillageacademy.co.uk](http://www.uphillvillageacademy.co.uk)

## 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/>

### March

Tuesday 22nd	Year 1 Phonics session at 8.55am-9.20am
Friday 25th	PTFA Meeting & Social 7.00pm @ Weston Cricket Club. All welcome
Monday 28th	EYFS Year 1 & 2 Scholastic Book Fayre - School Hall from 3.15pm-3.45pm
Tuesday 29th	Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 Scholastic Book Fayre - School Hall from 3.15pm-3.45pm
Tuesday 29th	Dance Festival (selected children)
Wednesday 30th	Parents Evening - in person appointments 3.30pm-7pm
Thursday 31st	Parents Evening - video call appointments 3.30pm-7pm CLF Eco Conference (selected children)

### April

Monday 4th	No Extra-Curricular Clubs this week
Tuesday 5th	Yr 6 Charterhouse Parent Meeting @ 5pm
Thursday 7th	Year 3/4 Raise the Roof Singing Festival
Friday 8th	Easter Activities
<b>Friday 8th</b>	<b>END OF TERM 4</b>
<b>Monday 25th</b>	<b>START OF TERM 4</b>

**INSET Days - School Closed to Pupils**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July

### May

Monday 2nd	Bank Holiday (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 3rd	Young Voices 2022 concert (selected children) Year 4 Bikeability training
Wednesday 4th	Year 4 Bikeability training
Monday 9th	Monday-Thursday; Year 6 SAT's week
Monday 16th	Monday-Friday; Year 6 Charterhouse Residential trip
Tuesday 24th	Year 4 Folly Farm Residential Trip Parent Meeting
Thursday 26th	Class & Year 6 Photographs
<b>Friday 27th</b>	<b>END OF TERM</b>