

Uplands Junior School Newsletter

Merry Christmas



On behalf of everyone at Uplands I wish you all a lovely festive season and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support and see you in 2024! This is the final Newsletter in this format as we move to Microsoft Sway in January.



Uplands Junior School

Our next INSET day is on Friday 22nd December. Pupils finish for the Christmas holidays on December 21st at their normal times. School re-opens on **Monday 8th January 2024.**

Thank you for all the donations for Children in Need. We raised approximately £300.00

All monies raised from the Christmas enterprise shop this term will be invested back in to the children. In January we will carry out a pupil voice about how they would like their fundraising to be spent.



Our Facebook page continues to be well used with over 700 followers. We regularly share positive news from school and celebrate the experience your children receive at Uplands.

Anti-bullying week

In November as part of our Art of Brilliance ethos the Being Brilliant committee organised a Random Act of Kindness day. Every child was encouraged to say kind and positive things about other pupils in their class. We also had a kindness wall in our hall where children wrote down kind acts/deeds that they or others had done throughout the week. In the Summer term we will have an Art of Brilliance focus week-details of The Art of Brilliance can be found on our website.

Year groups were all given a different focus for their anti-bullying homework and the efforts this year were just incredible. 2 winners per class were selected and these pieces are on display in our dining room for everyone to see-they have also been shared on our Facebook page. Year 3 pupils focus was how to use our worry box, Year 4 looked at our Safeguarding team, Year 5 how to stay safe online and Year 6 presented work on Respect For All and its meaning. Well done to everyone!

Dogs: We are delighted to welcome 2 "Pets as therapy" dogs in to school every Tuesday afternoon accompanied by their handler Carol and supported by Mrs Rowely from school. The dogs work with selected children to support emotional well-being. This is a free service but we have made a donation to the charity as a "Thank you" from Uplands. In addition we are sponsoring a Guide dog puppy as a school for a year and will follow the training journey to becoming a full guide dog. Our Puppy is called "Crumble" and we will share updates with the pupils in assembly and via our Facebook page. You can find details on the Guide dogs website.

Autumn Term
2023

Edition 4

School phone number: 01902 558870

School e-mail: uplandsjuniorschool@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Class attendance from 1/09/23 to date

Please remember to call in on each day that your child is absent.

3HW:	96%
3SW:	96.1%
3AS:	98%
4GD:	96.5%
4OD:	97.5%
4IM:	97.2%
5HA:	95.1%
5RS:	95.2%
5FR:	95.3%
6NR:	95.4%
6FG:	95.78%
6SW:	94.9%

Whole school = 96.1%



Thank you to all the Year 5 classes for their excellent Remembrance day assemblies which were shared with parents.

Staff news

We welcome some new members of support staff to Uplands. Miss K Beech has joined us in Year 3 and Mrs A Chatle in Year 6. Both will also be working over lunchtime.

We have a new role of a “Lunchtime manager” in school which has been taken by Mrs Diamond. She oversees all aspects of the running of the lunchtime sessions in collaboration with myself and SLT.

Curriculum information

A reminder that our website has a wealth of information about what your child is learning over their 4 years at Uplands. On the homepage you will see a Curriculum tab which allows you to look at our overviews, termly topic plans, knowledge organisers, units of work for different subjects and skills progressions. We hope you find this informative. In addition you will see our Yearly “Experience logs” which we created to share the variety of opportunities given over your child’s time with us.



School lunch organisation

For information: year groups, class orders and register line ups are rotated on a daily basis so that the same groups are not always first or last in line. Caterlink have a policy that there must be 2 food choices left even at the end of service.

Year 4 Christmas assemblies

We were delighted to be able to hold our Year 4 Christmas assemblies this week. Each class re-told the traditional Christmas story through words, music and song and performed brilliantly to parents/carers.



Take One Picture

Every year in the Autumn term we hold a cultural week linked to the National Gallery’s project of “Take One Picture”. We select a painting from an artist that is reflective of our school diverse culture and use this as a basis for an art project. This year we selected “Party with musicians” by a Romanian artist called Theodore Aman. The week was supported by a themed Romanian lunch and an assembly prepared by one of our Y5 pupils and her parents.

Respect For All

Uplands is proud of its Mental Health offer to all children-this can be found on our website and shows how we promote and support positive mental health. We recognize that at times children need more than this universal offer and we may need to seek support from other agencies. We are delighted that we work with the Mental Health Support team (Reflexions) and their service. Information about this was sent home on World Mental Health day and can also be found on our website.



Diary dates

Monday 11th December: Group of Year 4 pupils to sing at “The Croft”

Wednesday 13th December: Christmas lunch (available to everyone– please pay in advance on the Gateway)

Monday 18th December: Group of Year 6 pupils to sing at St John’s church “Sing for Christmas”

Wednesday 20th December: Christmas party afternoon across school. Pupils may come to school in their “party” clothes/ Christmas jumpers etc. Children will need to bring in some snacks for their party (in addition to any packed lunch they bring)-these can be placed in a decorated lunch box which then is entered into a competition.

Thursday 21st December: Last day of term. Christmas movie afternoon in each class. Christmas jumpers may be worn. A snack may be brought in for movie afternoon. Break up at 3:15pm.

A reminder please for no nuts or nut products in party food boxes or for film afternoon snack.

Friday 22nd December: INSET day-school closed to pupils.

Spring term begins on **Monday 8th January at 8:45am**. Please note that learning begins at 8:45am with morning Maths and Reading before assembly.

Remaining INSET dates: Friday 22nd December, Friday 24th May 2024 and Monday 22nd July 2024.

Bikeability

During October over 50 of our Year 6 pupils completed their Level 2 Bikeability award and received certificates and badges. Year 4 will be given the opportunity to complete their Level 1 award in the Summer. Thank you to the Bikeability team for your work with us.

Parking

The local council have contacted us about parking as parents are struggling to get pushchairs along pathways that are being blocked by cars. Please can you park respectfully so that everyone is safe. Thank you so much.

Awards assembly outline

Every Friday in school we hold 2 Awards assemblies-1 for lower and 1 for upper school. In this time certificates are given by teachers for good work and behaviour with different pupil selected each week. Rights ambassadors and the Trick Box team also award certificates and prizes. We recognise the best attending class each week who are rewarded with 10 minutes extra play or ipad time. In addition we share and celebrate any out of school achievements for activities such as swimming, dance, football etc, Children are welcome to bring in certificates and trophies if they wish us to share them.

Please can we request that parents /carers ring in or leave a voicemail about pupil absence due to sickness. We receive a high volume of emails and some pupil absence emails are getting missed. Thank you so much.