

Uplands Junior School Newsletter

Thank you

I wish to thank everyone who sent in Harvest produce -this has now been sent to the Good Shepherd Centre to support vulnerable families in our city. We have received a letter of thanks from them. Well done to classes 3NJH who led the Harvest assembly for lower school. The two other classes in Year 3 will lead assemblies on Diwali and Easter. Year 5 classes will also be leading assemblies-this year's themes are Remembrance, Vaisakhi and Ramadan. Year 4 pupils have an opportunity to perform at Christmas and Year 6 in June just before they leave us.



Thank you also to everyone who was able to support us on the Macmillan coffee afternoon. Year 6 did a fabulous job of serving drinks and biscuits and raised some money for a very worthy cause. Thank you to our parents who came along to make tea and coffee-your help is greatly appreciated.

Poetry Recital



Over the Summer holidays every child in school was asked to learn a poem by heart which they then had the opportunity to recite in school. A winner was chosen from each year group and then entered into the local school network

competition which was hosted by Castlecroft. I am pleased to announce the year group winners as follows:

Year 3: Lois
Year 4: Freya
Year 5: Aaron
Year 6: Alex

The winners from Castlecroft, St Barts, Springdale, Woodfield and Warstones took part and winners were selected from each phase. All year group will receive a £10 voucher and a medal. I am delighted that Aaron in Year 5 won the overall trophy for upper key stage 2.

The Year 6 librarians for this academic year are: Tamanna, Gia, Jaskiran, Sharina, Maliha, Keira, Aminah, Maya, Dhiya



School council

Our school council members for

2019-2020 are:

Year 3: **Kelis, Alfie and Jack**

Year 4: **Evie, Filip and Amarveer**

Year 5: **Thomas, Jasmeet and Ruben**

Year 6: **Gia, Sophie and Emily**

The School council will be meeting with our caterers Chartwells in early October to discuss the new Winter menu and possible recycling opportunities.

**Autumn-
Term 2019
Edition 2**

School phone number: 01902 558870

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

New school garden area

Back in the summer term school applied for a grant to be used towards our new school garden space at the rear of the dining room. We were successful with our bid and will use the money to purchase fencing and seating as well as creating a new pond area. We aim to begin work on the area in the very near future and once completed will be both a teaching area and a quiet space for mental well-being.



Mental health award

Uplands has been awarded a Mental Health in Schools award-Bronze level- in recognition of our work on improving the emotional well being of both pupils and staff. We are very proud of this and look forward to receiving our award to display in our entrance area. We are very close to achieving Silver and will continue to work on developing our provision over this academic year. As part of this we have welcomed back our Relax Kids coach who is leading some sessions in all Year 3 classes as well as a lunchtime club for Year 4. We also plan to hold a further Art of Brilliance workshop for Year 5 who will then lead on cascading key messages across school. Mental well being will regularly be discussed in PSHE lessons and in assemblies and a Healthy Minds display board is centrally located in the dining room.

Reading loyalty cards

Children have been given a reading loyalty card to put in their reading journals. Each time a child completes a reading activity their teacher will sign or stamp the card. Once the card is full pupils can pick from our prize box. We hope that this will encourage children to carry out reading journal activities to the best of their abilities.

Adopt an animal

Uplands has used some of the profit from the Enterprise shop to adopt an animal at Dudley Zoo. We have chosen a howler monkey as this links to the Rainforest topic studied by Year 3 in the summer term. All adoption money goes towards the animal, their welfare and their environment. It also purchases a small personalized plaque that will appear on the animal enclosure showing that we are the adopters. Adoption supports the necessary work for endangered species and conservation.

Whole class instrument teaching

Year 4 pupils have started on a new programme of Whole class instrument teaching (WCIT). This is a new project for us here at Uplands whereby every child in Year 4 will receive 36 lessons as a class over the year led by a member of staff from the Music school. Our chosen instrument is the ukulele and all pupils get to borrow one for the duration of the programme and take them home. There will be some performance opportunities at a later date. We will gather feedback from both parents and pupils on the project later in the year.



I have been notified that there is a new Blue Peter Music badge that pupils can apply for online-it would be great if some of our fabulous musicians in school applied for one.

Please remember to update us if any of your contact details change during the school year. Up to date mobile numbers are needed for our texting service. Thank you

Y6 Transfer to secondary school

Y6 Parents should have received information from the LA with regards to the transfer process which has to be completed online. If you have not received information or you need help, please call in to our school office and we will do our best to support you. The deadline for completing the form is **October 31st 2019**.

Uplands Junior School has its own Facebook page. We regularly post information about what is happening in school and celebrate our successes. Please "like" us and enjoy reading all about us-many parents have commented very positively about the page.



Respect For All

**Rights Respecting School Award and new
Ambassadors for 2019-2020**



As part of our school's aims to promote a happy and successful school, we are continuing our commitment to being a "Rights Respecting School". This is an award which is given to schools on behalf of UNICEF and in June 2018 we received the Silver award-the only Wolverhampton school to have achieved this.

The "Rights Respecting Schools" award will help our pupils to grow into confident, caring and responsible young citizens both in school and within the wider community. By learning about their rights pupils also learn about the importance of respecting the rights of others.

We are currently working towards the Gold award and the following pupils have been selected to be part of the new steering group:

Year 3: Mason, Lottie and Amelia

Year 4: Amelie, Oscar, Hassaan

Year 5: Oliver, Jaya, Mekhi

Year 6: Effie, Esme, Wisdom

Diary dates: (The website Noticeboard is regularly updated with upcoming dates)

Monday 14th October: Being Brilliant week (details to follow)

Thursday 17th October: Fancy dress disco
(6:15-7:15 for Years 3 and 4, 7:30-8:30 for Years 5 and 6)

Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd October: Open evening for all year groups-appointments required

Wednesday 23rd October: 3GD Diwali class assembly-parents of 3GD welcome to attend-9am

Thursday 24th October: Chartwells Diwali lunch
Children break up for half term 3:15pm

Friday 26th October: INSET day on curriculum revisions -school closed to children

Monday 4th November: Children return from half term.

Tuesday 5th November: Chartwells Bonfire lunch
Reading workshop for Yr3 parents

Thursday 7th November: 5NH Remembrance class assembly-parents of 5NH welcome to attend-9am

Monday 11th November: Anti-bullying week across school

Tuesday 12th November: Year 6 First Aid workshop

Monday 18th November: Assessment week across school

Thursday 21st November: Year 6 visit to Black Country Museum

Thursday 28th/Friday 29th November: Year 4 visit to En-ginuity

Tuesday 3rd/Wednesday 4th December: Year 4 Christmas carol concert evenings (details to follow)

Friday 6th December: INSET day-school closed to children-curriculum revisions for Summer term

Wb Monday 9th December: Christmas party week (details to follow)

Wednesday 11th December: Chartwells Christmas lunch

Thursday 19th December: Christmas fair during the afternoon (details to follow)

Friday 20th December: End of term 3:15pm

**Attendance
% since 1.09.19**

3NJH 98.4%

3SW 98.5%

3GD 98.2%

4AS 98.6%

4KW 98.2%

4OD 96.4%

5NH 98.5%

5BW 99.2%

5KD 98.4%

6LR 97.7%

6FG 98.1%

6NR 98.6%

**Whole school attendance at
8/10/2019**



School breaks up for the half term holiday on Thursday 24th October as Friday 25th October is an INSET day . Staff will be reviewing all Spring term curriculum plans on this day. Children will return on Monday 4th November at 8:50am

Please can I request that large hair bows are not worn for school and that any hair accessories are not bright colours. Thank you

A grandparent from Year 4 has very kindly made a selection of hair bows to be sold in school with proceeds going to the minibus fund. They are priced at £2 each

Procedure for raising concerns

If you have an issue or arising concern that you wish to discuss with us please follow the procedure described below.

- In the first instance you will need to contact school to make an appointment with your child's class teacher (or Maths teacher in Year 6 depending on the nature of the concern). Many concerns will be resolved and dealt with at this stage
- If a resolution has not been reached or the problem persists then a further appointment will need to be made with a member of the Senior Leadership Team (Mrs Webster-Smith, Mrs Walker, Mrs Shakesheave or Mrs Roberts). It is very rare that staff are available if you just call into school so please ring or come in to make an appointment. We ask that issues are raised politely and respectfully and we will always respond promptly to resolve them.
- Please do not raise issues or concerns via e-mail. We would prefer you to telephone us or make a face to face appointment.

Please note that staff are not available in a morning after 8:40am as they are on duty, preparing for lessons or getting ready to lead assembly.

We would ask parents to adhere to our Respect For All policy towards all staff.

We have a number of clubs running this term:

Young voices choir (Tuesday after school Yr5 and 6)

Dance club (Thursday after school Year 3)

Recorder club (Both beginners and intermediate -Thursdays after school-all years)

Soccer 2000 Football clubs (one evening per week per year group)

Premier sports breakfast clubs (please follow link on our website)

Netball (Thursdays after school-Year 6)

Badminton (Wednesdays after school-all years-led by Premier sports)

Digital Ambassadors for 2019-2020

These are the pupils from Year 5 who will be working with our Coordinator Miss Davies to promote E-safety across school:

Lucy H, Harrison J, Rhia P, Dylan M, Jyla P, Imogen P, Owen T, Shaan S, Aniyah C, Jaelyn G, Taarini K and William H

Uplands celebrated World Mental Health day on Thursday 10th October. Children could wear bright yellow, orange or gold if they wished and there was a whole school assembly to promote positive mental health and well-being. All pupils took home a booklet which included details of all we do at school to promote good mental health.

Being Brilliant Committee

This year we have decided to form a Being Brilliant committee to promote and embed the principles of The Art of Brilliance. They will be organising a variety of in-school events over the year starting with a Being Brilliant week. Information regarding this has been sent home in a separate letter. The committee is formed of pupils from Years 5 and 6 who wrote letters of application to be considered for the role:

Sebastian, Helena, Amirah, Maliha, Navraj and Kiran

Please can I remind you about parking considerately in the local community as I have received a number of complaints since the start of term. Please do not block resident driveways or park on the footpath at the front of school which blocks pushchair and wheelchair access.

The school car park is for staff only at all times of the day. If a taxi is picking up your child please ask them not to pull on to the car park.

We have also received concerns regarding cars slowing or stopping on the main road to collect children. A number of parents have raised concerns about parking at the back gate with cars mounting the pavement. Please consider everyone's safety when parking or driving.

If you see something that you consider unsafe we have been advised to request that parents telephone non emergency police on 101. I know a number of parents (plus school staff) are concerned that someone will be struck by a car.

Thank you