

Uplands Junior School Newsletter

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the new term-I trust you all had an enjoyable Christmas break with family and friends. On behalf of all the staff I wish to thank you for all of the cards, gifts and Christmas messages that came into school. The end of last term was extremely busy with parties, Yr4 performances, musical concerts, Christmas fair and sporting activities. Thank you for all your support that allows so many exciting experiences to take place for your children.

Diary dates

Friday 11th January: Relax Kids begins for Year 3

Thursday 17th January: 4NH Visit the Fire Station

Friday 18th January: 4AS Visit the Fire Station

Wednesday 23rd January: Year 5 Festival of Sport

Friday 25th January: 4KW Visit the Fire Station

Tuesday 29th January: Bag 2 School collection day

Wednesday 30th January: Year 4 Festival of Sport / PTA
7:15pm

Monday 11th February: Year 5 Visit to Safeside

Tuesday/Wednesday 12th/13th February: Parents evenings
across the whole school

Thursday 14th February: Photograph day in school/
Science Fair (pm)/ Pupils break up for half term

Friday 15th February: INSET day-school closed to pupils-

Monday 25th February: Return to school

Tuesday 26th February: Reading information meeting for
Year 3 parents (details to follow)

Thursday 28th February: Year 3 visit to Birmingham Art
Gallery-Greek workshops

Friday 8th March: World Book day dress up (our dress up day
is on the Friday to avoid any clashing with PE lessons and changing out of
costumes!)



Advance notice:

**SATS week for Year 6
2019 is week begin-
ning May 13th-it is
vital that pupils are in
school for this week so
please do not book any
appointments or
events.**

Thank you

Our next Parents Evenings
will be held on February
12th and 13th. We are going
to trial holding the event for
the whole school on the
same 2 evenings as opposed
to separate weeks for upper
and lower school as in the
past. This will mean that you
will need to list all of your
children on one slip when
requesting your appointment
times and return it with your
eldest child. We are working
towards an online booking
system for the Autumn term
2019.

Spring
Term 2019
Edition 1

School phone number: 01902 558870

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

A polite reminder that our school car park is for the use of staff and invited visitors only at all times of the school day including before and after school clubs. Sadly just before Christmas several members of staff received verbal abuse when they approached owners of cars parked on our car park which was most upsetting. In addition I also received several unpleasant complaints from local residents who were unable to get out of their drives due to cars parked across them. Please can you respect local residents when parking your vehicle so we can avoid any further unpleasantness.

Thank you.

Times Tables Rock Stars is proving very popular with our pupils. If your child is not yet using it, please encourage them to take a look. The software has recently been updated to take into account the recently published guidance regarding the statutory test that will come in to place for Year 4 in 2020. Our present Year 3 pupils will be the first cohort to undertake this new Government test.



A few reminders please

Please can all headbands, hair ties, ribbons etc be in school colours or plain black, white or brown. No bright colours or sequins please unless it is a non-uniform day.

PE kits

Polite reminder: Children should wear blue/black shorts and house colour top (with no writing or brands). Please refrain from brightly coloured sports clothing.

Please can all children have full P.E kits in school at all times during the term.

Watches

No apple/smart watches or fitness trackers are to be worn for school please. Any child who brings a mobile phone to school must hand it in to the office first thing in the morning for safekeeping.

Medicines

A reminder that no medication can be given to a child in school unless it has been prescribed by a doctor for at least 4 times a day. A consent form must be completed at the main office and all medication handed in please

Please can any changes to end of the day arrangements be phoned into school before 2pm please.

Singing Playgrounds

In December Uplands became a Singing Playgrounds school. This is an exciting project which focuses on building a child-led singing culture within schools. It recognises the link between singing and well-being, and encourages the children to have fun playing, sharing, creating and adapting singing games. At the heart of the project is a group of Song Leaders selected from each year group across school, who participated in the training day in December. This equipped them with the necessary leadership skills to lead children in singing on the playground. They will be supported by teachers who have been trained to enable them in their role. One day per week will be a Singing Playgrounds day, where Song Leaders will lead singing activities and introduce new songs and games. As the weeks progress we hope to develop an everyday culture of singing at Uplands and to create an inclusive, fun programme of singing activities which inspires and encourages all children to take part.



Respect For All

Extreme Reading photo competition winners

Thank you to everyone who entered the photo competition for reading in an “extreme” place. We have a fabulous display of all the entries in our library. 3 winners were selected from each year group and they were as follows:

Year 3: Louis (1st), Olivia (2nd) and Kareem (3rd)

Year 4: Olivia (1st), Amber (2nd) and Jasmin (3rd)

Year 5: Tom and Charlie (1st), Bertie (2nd) and Gia (3rd)

Year 6: Billy (1st), Grace (2nd) and Anya (3rd)

Thank you so much for all your support with fundraising activities at the end of last term. The Christmas Fair was a huge success – monies will be counted later this week. In addition we once again had a fabulous response to our Christmas card sales. Thank you to all the parents who helped to organise these events and those who supported-I am most grateful.

Page 2 Stage

Last term many of our pupils took part in the Wolverhampton Page to Stage writing competition. After reading over 200 entries, the judges made their decisions and I am delighted to say that Uplands have overall winners in both the Year 3/4 category and the Year 5/6 category. These 2 lucky children will have their stories turned into a performance to be shown in February. In addition Uplands had a further 6 pupils who were highly commended and will have their stories published in a book. Well done to everyone who took part.



There are a number of renewed and revised policies that can be found on our website including: Behaviour, Health and Safety, Medical Conditions, Attendance procedures and very soon a revised separated Parent policy will be added. Our website is regularly updated with up-coming events, dates and information.

Attendance % since 1.09.18

3NJH 98.3%

3KD 98.1%

3GD 97.0%

4AS 97.4%

4KW 97.0%

4NH 97.7%

5FG 97.1%

5NR 97.6%

5OD 98.0%

6LR 96.4%

6BG 96.8%

6SW 96.6%

**Whole school attendance at
10/1/2019**



**Class 3 NJH won the best
attending class for the
Autumn term.**

**The winners of our 2
termly attendance raffles
were Sapphire in Year 6
and Helena in Year 4. They
each received a £10 gift
voucher. All children with
a termly attendance of over
97% are entered into the
attendance raffle. There
will be another chance to
win just prior to Easter.**

**A copy of our Attendance
monitoring procedures can
be found on our website**

OutRight for UNICEF

We have been learning about some of the causes and effects of air pollution as part of UNICEF's OutRight campaign. Everyone in the school has written a postcard to Michael Gove MP (the Environment Secretary) outlining our concerns and hopes for a future with cleaner air; after all every child has the right to a clean environment *Article 24*. Back in October we positioned a diffusion tube to measure the air quality outside school on Finchfield Road. After 3 weeks we sent the tube to UNICEF to analyse in their labs. We are still awaiting the results but already have plans to share these within the community and hope to involve local MP Eleanor Smith, who supported us last year in our campaign, as well as the Express and Star. Many thanks for the wonderful homework that was completed on this topic. We really enjoyed looking through these and chose some of our favourites to receive certificates in assembly. We shared John Pickering's animated video with UNICEF and they want to use it for some exciting projects in 2019, including an exhibition in Parliament. You can see John's film on the Rights Respecting Page of our website. One of the most exciting outcomes of our campaign has been hearing about how pupils, families and staff are making small changes to improve the air quality in our local area and we want to bring together and display these 'personal pledges' very soon to inspire even more changes.

Maliha, Sharina, Jaweriah and Gia. (Rights Respecting Ambassadors)

Right of the Month

The Rights Ambassadors want us to really get to know about all of the rights and have come up with the idea of having a different right to focus on each month. For January, we have decided to focus on *Article 1: Everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the convention.* This right will be displayed around school and discussed in whole school/ class assemblies. We would be grateful if the right of the month could be discussed at home as well. It may be useful to discuss whether every child in Wolverhampton, England or the world actually does enjoy all of their rights to be healthy, safe and to reach their potential.



