



USL Primary News

Term 6 School Newsletter 38 : 21st July 2017

SCHOOL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please note school will resume for pupils in Years 1 – 6 on Wednesday 6th September.

SPORTS NEWS

Football News

Safia Neocleous is a member of the Glos City football club and recently won the Players Player Runner up trophy and Special Contribution trophy. Her team are also the Under 10s Futsal County winners. Well done!

HOUSE POINT BADGES

Well done to the following children, who have been awarded their house point badges: **Ash** – Alex McLean (50), Harvey Wade (50), J.J. Brown (50), Hannah Bannister (50), Emily Cornell (100), Ruby Foster (150), Max Caine (100), Harrison Eagle (100), Jolie Roberts (50), Oliver Warner (50), Maisie Lloyd (50), Lacie Baber-Smith (50), Sophie Blackmore (50), Brook Marks-Warwood (100), Daniel Leighton (50), Gemma Lee (50). **Beech** – Ronan Freeman (50), Florence Haile (50), Jewel George (50), Sienna-Lei Ashworth (50), Radley Ray Thomas (50), Alfie Dent (100), Beulah Freeman (100), Jackson Hill (100), Kyla Clutterbuck (100), Connie Handscombe (100), Matthew Delaney (100), Harvey Jenkins (50), Hamish Muir (100), Lauren Dent (100), William Lock (50), Keira Chandler (50), Aashna Seeburrin (100), Thomas Byron (200), Alex Taylor (50), Aimee White (50). **Elm** – Ava Rackley (50), Elizabeth Nation (50), Aleksy Kulesz (50), Toby Gray (50), Maddy Dupree (150), Thomas Ewers (50), Olivia Barber (100), Luke Williams (50), Ben Stoneman (50), Lewis Flynn (50), Mina Uppal (50), Molly Allen (200), Alicia Swatton (50), Mina Uppal (50). **Oak** – Brooke Peattie

Thank You and Goodbye!

I cannot really believe this is my last newsletter! After 36 years in teaching, with 23 years of those as a head, I am finally signing off. What a privilege it has been to work with so many wonderful children, members of staff, governors, parents and carers over those years. Things have changed so much since 1981 when I was a young teacher in a middle school in Kidderminster. We didn't have Ofsted, or a national curriculum, there were no teaching assistants and my computer (I was the only teacher in the whole school to have one) had 8K of memory and weighed over 10Kgs! Something that hasn't changed though, is the passion that colleagues have for their role and the belief that teaching is the most important job there is. Our school is a very special place and the 11 ½ years I have spent here have been rewarding and fulfilling in so many ways. We have worked hard to ensure that your children have a broad, balanced and creative curriculum, despite the efforts of the government to narrow it and reduce it to something that can be measured. We have been determined to build those 'foundations for a love of life and a love of learning' and to give the children opportunities to develop personally, artistically, emotionally, spiritually and in sport – as well as academically. I am very proud of our staff at Upton. They put children's needs first and show huge commitment. As a result, as well as our Year 6 children leaving us as fine examples of our values in practice, we have achieved really strong academic results throughout the school. Statutory assessments at the end of Reception, in Year 1 (phonics), Year 2 (SATs) and Year 6 (SATs) have all been really pleasing this year. I know that the staff will continue to work hard for your children in the future.

Thank you for the messages, cards and gifts I have received. It has been quite an overwhelming week. On Tuesday evening, the staff arranged a lovely celebration in the Haven. As we gathered there, the bells of our parish church were being rung with a special quarter peal, which was hugely moving. On Wednesday, Mrs Cordall led a wonderful assembly based on the theme of 'Love', and I was presented with gifts, including some the children had made themselves. The small choir sang for me and then the whole school joined in a special song. What an experience!

Thank you to the staff and governors for their hard work and support, not only over this year, but also over the past 11 ½ years. My special thanks go to Mrs Cordall, my amazing deputy, who has worked incredibly hard and supported me in so many ways, and also to Beth Gill, Chair of Governors, who has devoted time, energy and love to the school.

I am leaving to enjoy some time pursuing favourite hobbies – music, birdwatching, painting and running. I shall be continuing my work as a SIAMS inspector for Gloucester Diocese and also doing some work for Gloucestershire local authority, so I won't be losing touch with schools altogether. It will be very different and I will miss Upton enormously, but it is time to move on.

I have been explaining to the children about the African concept of 'Ubuntu', which is all about connectedness. 'I am who I am, because you are who you are'. We have explored this in worship and I know that some of them have been thinking about it a lot. I hope they will remember this idea, and will also remember what I have told them all constantly:

(50), Jesse Morris (50), George Dibbs (50), Heidi James (100), Sienna Goodman (100), Owen Lugg (50), Freddie Sharpe (50), Todd Woodland (50), Tom Phillips (50), Rosie Sutton (100), Josh Perkins (50), Tom Podmore (50), Molly Allen (200), Ethan George (200), Lily Dibbs (150).

NOTICES & REMINDERS

Menu after the holidays

Week 1 of the menu

LOCAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

USL Annual Flower Show

We have entry forms in the office if your child would like to enter the USL Flower Show which takes place on Saturday, 9th September.

“in our school, we love each other”.

In September, Mr Allen will join the school as your new head teacher This is really exciting for Upton. He is currently head of a church school in Worcestershire, whose motto is Living Our Values Every Day. LOVE. Couldn't be better!

Goodbye, everyone, and good luck!



Staff News

This week we also said goodbye to Mrs Ayland, Mrs Fudge, Miss Jones, Mrs Hill, Mrs Locke and Mrs Herridge. Mrs Ayland leaves after 16 years of dedicated service to our work with children with special needs. She has worked tirelessly with families and has been a great supporter of our church school ethos. We wish her a very happy retirement. Mrs Fudge has recently been covering the teachers' PPA time, although she began her work here as a full time class teacher back in September 2000. She will be spending more time with her family, and we wish her every happiness. Miss Jones is taking some time away from teaching to go travelling. The school will miss her determination and hard work enormously, and we wish her bon voyage! Mrs Hill has covered PPA time throughout the school and has also supported our music and our Latin teaching. Mrs Locke is another long-serving member of staff, having been a teaching assistant here for 13 years. She has shown great compassion and care for our youngest children, and we wish her success and fulfilment in her work in the family business. Mrs Herridge is also leaving the reception year, having been offered an exciting post in a brand new school – good luck! Congratulations too to Mr and Mrs Smith on the birth of their son, Theo, last Friday.

Staff Vacancy

We are seeking new members to join our dedicated team of Midday Supervisors to work with the infant and junior children at lunchtimes. This is a very rewarding role and applicants should have a desire to engage with the children to enhance their overall lunch time experience, encourage structured play and support our healthy eating values. Please see Mrs Morris for details of what to expect in the role. Members of our current MDSA team would also be very happy to talk to interested applicants. Please visit our website www.upton-st-leonards.co.uk for an application pack. This post is offered at 6.25 hours p/w (12.15pm – 1.30pm) term time only.

Summer Concerts 2017

On Tuesday and yesterday, our school instrumental ensembles, school choirs and instrumentalists took part in our summer concerts. These were wonderful occasions and the children performed with great enthusiasm. Well done to all the children for their outstanding contributions and many thanks to Mrs Hill for her work supporting our violin players, to Mrs Cordall for her work with the infant choir and to Mrs Ayland for inspiring our recorder players.

Year 6

Our Year 6 children have had a wonderful last week. On Thursday, they performed 'Porridge', which was a brilliant production involving great acting and singing. Congratulations to everyone who took part, and many thanks to the staff team who worked so hard to make the play such a success.

Last night, the Year 6 and Year 5 children enjoyed an evening at Hatton Court for the Leavers' Disco. They had a lovely time, and their behaviour was excellent – just as we expected. Thank you to the PTA for organising this, and to the members of staff who went along to help.

This morning, they took part in the Leavers' Assembly, sharing memories of their time at Upton and looking at some photos taken when they were in Reception. They were presented with dictionaries by the PTA and school pens.

The winners of the Tandy Trophies are Jessica Duncton and Luke Rimen. This is an award given for being a good sportsperson – not only showing skill but, more importantly, displaying generosity and fairness in victory and defeat.

Our Year 6 children are off to the following secondary schools and we wish them every success and happiness.

Barnwood Park Arts – 8, Chosen Hill School – 2, Churchdown Academy – 21, Cirencester Deer Park – 1, Gloucester Academy – 1, The Crypt School – 4, High School for Girls – 1, Millbrook Academy – 5, Newent Community School – 4, Ribston Hall – 2, Stroud High School – 1, St Peters High School – 10. We look forward to hearing about their future achievements, so keep in touch and come back to see us!

Piano Success

Well done to William Dodd on achieving a good pass in his Grade 2 ABRSM piano exam. Well done too to Vienna Thomas passing her pre prep piano exam.

Chess News

Sophie Wiggett went to the Northern Gigafinal in Manchester at the weekend and is now the U8 Girls Champion. Out of 6 rounds she won 5. Well done Sophie!

Brownie Award

Well done Ruby-Leigh Martin on gaining a Brownie award recently.

Charity Sporting Dinner

We are really excited about hosting this year's charity fundraising dinner for the Lord Taverns here at school, this will be the first black tie event we have hosted and Mrs Morris would like to thank our lunch time team for their support for this event particularly Mrs (Chef) Kirby who will be organising the banquet, Mr Kent, our Site Manager and Mr Allen (Y2A) for offering their help too ensuring that parking is meticulously organised.

Special thanks to go to Mr and Mrs Freeman, Parents here at Upton who is a volunteer for the Rapid Relief Team for supplying bottled water for the dinner this evening and for taking time to attend the Cricket today to provide refreshments on behalf of the Lord Taverners Charity.



Thank you

Mrs Morris would like to extend her thanks to all parents and carers who have actively engaged in school life this year, particularly with her mad cap ideas like the Circus, which was a huge success as was the Y2 Parent/Carer lunch. There are lots more ideas to roll out next year too.

100% Attendance

The following children have been at school every day this year: Jamie Adams, Phoebe Atkins, Jake Clark, Charlie Davies, Emily Daw, Lauren Dent, Sophie Harrington, Callum Hickman, Tommy Hyde, Heidi James, Holly James, Riley Jeens-Hunt, Alfie Kirby, Lani Kirby, Grace Kyle, Charlie Leighton, Maisie Lloyd, Alyssa Lyes, Tia Myers, Amelia Patefield-Smith, Josh Perkins, Elizabeth Snee, Jessica Sutton, Jay Tapper, William Tucker, Daniel Wyburn, Aubrey Wynter. Well done! They each received a gift voucher in assembly today. A special well done to Jamie Adams and Jake Clark in Year 6 for their fantastic attendance throughout their school years, they each received a family cinema ticket in the Leavers Assembly this morning.

Attendance



Last week's class with the highest attendance was YRC and they were added to the termly draw for prizes!

The end of term highest attendance draw took place today in assembly, the winners for the Summer term were **Y5J**, they collected their prizes, chosen and awarded by Mrs Childs our Attendance Officer. The children were presented with an Upton St Leonards pencil case, a pencil and a ruler!

Well done!

Thank you

Thank you to all children, parents and staff – it has been a busy year!
Have a lovely summer holiday!