



USL Primary News

Term 1 School Newsletter 1 : 18th September 2017

SCHOOL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A list of important dates will be coming out soon. The few events coming up will be the Harvest Festivals:-

9am Monday 9th October - KS2 Harvest Festival

9am Thursday 12th October - KS1 Harvest Festival

9am Monday 16th October - Reception Classes Harvest Festival

SPORTS NEWS

Football Report

On Thursday, the boys' football A team went to Elmbridge to play in the first round of the knock out cup. Our first game was against Castle Hill and we played superbly, securing a 3-0 win with goals from Rio, Will and Jonas. The second game was much tighter but we eventually went ahead through Ethan. A mix up in defence saw us concede a penalty and despite a great dive, Ellis could not keep it out and so the game finished 1-1. Our third game was a close one against Brockworth but we won 2-1 with two good goals from Riley-Jak. Our last game was against Elmbridge. The first goal crept over the line to make it 1-0. The team played superbly and despite conceding two goals, scored 4! All 4 goals came from Captain Will, who scored two scorches from outside the box into the top left hand corner of the goal, meaning that this game finished 4-2. With 3 wins and 1 draw, the team sailed through to the next round as group winners. Well done to all of the boys involved in their first A team game of the season. Will, Jonas, Ellis, Riley-Jak, Ethan, Rio, Lewis, Reece and Lewis.

NOTICES & REMINDERS

Menu This Week

Week 3 of the menu

Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome back everyone! My name is Mark Allen and it gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as the new headteacher of Upton St Leonards CE Primary School. I feel very privileged to have been appointed by the governors. Everyone has made me feel very welcome and I have thoroughly enjoyed my first two weeks at the school. I hope many of you will be able to attend the 'Headteacher's Welcome Meeting' we have scheduled for Thursday 12th October at 5pm. We have sent a 'Welcome Letter' home today which contains further details about this meeting which will take place before the *Curriculum Information Evening* for our Reception parents.

Welcome Back to School!

Welcome back to school for the new year, and a special welcome to all the new members of our school community. Last week we welcomed our new Reception children in YRC and YRL.

We have 3 other new members of staff: Miss Daly (Inclusion Lead), Mrs Ward (Y5 Teacher) and Mrs Partington (Pastoral Support). We are delighted to have them on our team and hope they will be very happy with us.

Letters Home

Communication between school and home is really important to us at Upton St Leonards and you may have noticed that we are now publishing letters on our website. Most letters which we send home will be added to the website; under the tab 'Letters Home'. We will also add reminders of letters sent out in the weekly newsletter which will now be sent out on Mondays so we can include all of the week in our news updates.

Upton Lates

As many of you are aware, we are delighted to be able to offer our after school club facility to the extended time of 6pm. We now have full use of the school hall, teaching kitchen, library and snug room as well as our wonderful school grounds outside. Upton Lates has changed quite considerably and the team has implemented many more games and activities for the children after school, including badminton and table tennis. There is still the opportunity for children to have quiet time, sit in the library and relax or curl up with a book or go to the snug room and watch a DVD after their long day at school. Booking forms are now available from the club or the school office as well as on the school website. Please remember that Upton Lates provides children with a snack at after school club and not a full meal. The snack will usually consist of a sandwich, yoghurt, fruit and crudities. Children should be collected via the school library door as they are now.

Upton Earlies

There are places available in Upton Earlies, our breakfast club. This club is popular with children and parents/carers as the club offers breakfast from 7.45am – 8.10am or a drop off child care facility from 8.10am at a minimal cost. The club provides the children with the opportunity to meet with their friends, play games and do art and crafts. It's also a great way to ensure that the children arrive on time for school. Booking forms are available from the school office and the school website.

Forest School



Our Year 1 children start their Forest School sessions this week. They had a fabulous time doing Forest Schools when in Reception and they are all really looking forward to doing some outside learning.

This Term's Value

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Friendship

Ideas for discussing at home accompany this newsletter and is also on our school website.

School Photos

Tempest Photographers are coming in next Tuesday. If you have not returned your slip to the office regarding group photos of siblings and would like a group photo taken, please do so by Monday at the latest.

Data Collection Sheets

The data collection sheets should now have come home. Please can you check, sign and return them to the office asap.

PGL 2018

The 3rd instalment of £60 for the Year 6 PGL trip was due on Friday, 8th September. If you haven't already done so we would be grateful if you could make your payment.

School Bin

The school clothes bin is now open for business in the car park. We can accept clothes, shoes, textiles like curtains or towels, but not pillows or duvets. Please ensure all items are in bags. The money raised is used by the Friends towards supporting the school and your children in many ways such as purchasing new playground equipment, leavers' dictionaries, book bags and water bottles for new reception children, and money for each class to spend as needed. We are very grateful for all your help. We empty the clothes bin at least once a month and are always amazed by your generosity. Thanks.

Letters Home so far this term

Free School Meal Funding
Cross Country Trials and Clubs – Years 2,3,4,5,6
Invitation to Chess Club
After School Club Football – Years 2,3,4
After School Club Tennis – Year 6
Boys Football Club Letter – Gloucester AFC
Welcome Letter from New Head Teacher

Blue Peter Badge

Congratulation to Charlotte on receiving a Blue Peter Badge for encouraging someone else to take up a sport.

Important Dates

We shall be sending out a list of important dates for the school year very shortly. However, it may be useful for those of you with children in Year 6 to know now that next years' National Curriculum Tests (SATs) will take place during the week commencing Monday 14th May, and the assessments for Year 2 will take place throughout May (absence will not be authorised during this period).

Nuts in school



We have children in the school who have a nut allergy and would suffer a severe reaction if they came into contact with nut products. It would be really helpful, therefore, if you could please avoid using nut products in the children's packed lunches and playtime snacks. It is very difficult to avoid nut products completely, as so many foods contain nut traces, but if you could avoid using foods such as peanut butter, nut biscuits and bars, and whole nuts, we would be extremely grateful. We do not use nuts in school-initiated activities and will continue to remind children that they should not share food with others at break or lunchtime. Please reinforce this message with your own child.

Transfer to Secondary School

Year 6 should have received letters giving information about applying for secondary school. Important dates are:

September – October – Schools/academies open days/evenings – please check each school's website for times and dates.

From **4th September** to **31st October 2017** online secondary school transfer and middle to high school application facility open.

Saturday **16th September 2017** - Grammar entrance test day

By Thursday **12th October 2017** - Grammar test results sent to parents

Tuesday **31st October 2017** - Closing date for all applications

Thursday **1st March 2018** - Allocation Day

Friday **8th March 2018** - Closing date to return reply form accepting the school/academy place allocated or request reconsideration

After Friday **30th March 2018** – Outcome of waiting list requests

Friday **6th April 2018** - Closing date for return of reply forms

May - July 2018 - Appeals

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Upton St Leonards PTA are having their first meeting at The Kings Head this evening from 8pm; they would really welcome parents, carers or friends of the school to go along to meet, to find out all about the PTA, what they do and how beneficial the association is to the school.

If anyone wants to have a chat with someone before just popping along they can call Jo Reeves on 07766651306.

Grapes & Cherry Tomatoes – risk of choking

The Schools Meals Advisory Service have provided the following information and advice: This guidance relates to Early Years/Reception children who are the most likely to be 'at risk'. Grapes and cherry tomatoes can be particularly problematic. They are round, slightly malleable, easy to swallow whole and just the right size to block the airway. Grapes and cherry tomatoes should be cut into halves. Grapes ideally cut lengthways. The school follows this advice. We would ask parents of young children to do this if sending in these types of snack for their child. Incidents of this nature are very rare; all risks cannot be eliminated but following this guidance will help to reduce the risk of it happening.