



# ULEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

### **October!**

We are fast approaching the half term break already! Time has certainly flown by. This term we have been working on the implementation of our curriculum design. We have implemented our new phonic scheme 'Unlocking Letters and Sounds' and 'Curriculum Maestro' mixed age curriculum from Cornerstones in addition to other schemes of work that we already use.

#### Curriculum Maestro:

- Science
- Art
- Design Technology
- History
- Geography

#### Other schemes include:

- Maths – White Rose Curriculum linked with Curriculum Maestro
- English – Units of work linked to Curriculum Maestro or texts linked to the topic
- PSHE – SCARF Curriculum Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, Friendship
- R.E. – The Gloucestershire agreed syllabus and the Church of England's 'Understanding Christianity'
- Music – Charanga Music
- P.E. – Complete P.E.
- French – Twinkl
- Computing – Purple Mash
- Coding – Purple Mash

This means that all of our subjects are planned with rigour and are coherently sequenced and therefore resulting in the pupils not having gaps in their learning. This does mean that we have to be quite rigid with our curriculum delivery.

The autumn term is being spent with subject leaders capturing what the curriculum looks like for their subject and we will begin to post this information on the school website. We have shared the new curriculum with the school governors and are currently planning a way to involve parents.

### **LIVE LEARN FLOURISH**

Each week, the children are presented with a Fabulous Flourisher award or an award linked to our focus value, but also any of our school values.

Jowan for following instructions and making everyone smile.

Lydia for a super attitude and mindset in maths.

Oliver P for demonstrating our rules for brilliant balances.

Sammy for excellent material science knowledge.

Joseph S for teaching me something I didn't already know about science.

Arina for working so hard in maths all week.

Sophia for being an outstanding role model and always ready to learn and giving 100%

Brady for working really hard in writing.



Hazel for her explanation of how to make a ceramic mug.  
Rex S for working so hard on his autobiography.  
Jesse for taking on board all our help and working extremely hard.  
Millie for her contributions to life in our 1950s discussions.  
Athena for showing compassion towards Arina in her first few weeks at school.  
Jorja for showing generosity to others in their learning.  
Lucas for his generosity of spirit and being really kind and helpful in class.  
Arthur for showing generosity of spirit and friendship.  
Willow for showing generosity to her peers; sharing equipment.  
Ellodie for showing her spark with the class and generously sharing her happiness.  
Joseph D for his generosity of spirit.  
Class 2 for working well in group discussions.  
Maizie for showing generosity by helping others with their work.  
Henry for being generous with his time.  
Martyna for taking time to listen to others' ideas.

Well done everyone for being the best you can be!

### **A Message from Graham Wilkes, Chair of Governors**

The Governing Board met for the first time this academic year on September 14<sup>th</sup>. This was a Full Governing Board meeting where we finalised committees and got an important update on the year ahead. I am very excited to tell you all that the team at Uley have undergone some transformation that will really make a big difference to the education of our children. An example of this is the new Phonics Programme and some new material, my favourite so far is "Meet Jim" The Jellyfish full of Goo!

One of our jobs is to question, ratify and to test school policies. We reviewed six policies at this meeting; one of which was our school Communication Policy. This is available on the school website and gives clear signposting to the communication standards, expectations and the way in which good communication happens. The latest addition to the policy was utilising our school values to define our aims of good communication.

#### **Friendship**

Work in partnership for a common purpose - the children.  
An awareness of polite, respectful and appropriate communication.

#### **Compassion**

A mutual and sympathetic understanding of knowing what both parties are trying to achieve.

#### **Trust**

To have open and honest conversations with an ethos of problem solving.

#### **Wisdom**

Help and support is out there. School may not have all the answers and if we don't, we will work with families to find out.

Both parents and school come with a wealth of experience and knowledge – let's share it.

I look forward to sharing more with you over the year from our visits to the school.

Our Communications Policy can be found here: - [uley-communications-policy-sept-22.pdf \(d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net\)](https://u3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net)

### Updated School Policies

Here are some policies that have been reviewed and updated. These can be found on the school website:

- Behaviour
- Behaviour principles
- Attendance
- Communication
- Safeguarding
- Safer recruitment
- Absconding

### Parents' Evenings

You should have all received correspondence about Parents' Evening. It is really good to see that the slots were snapped up so quickly! We can extend the number of slots, so please don't panic if you are seeing no slots available. We are really looking forward to returning to face to face meetings.

### Ukraine Crisis Appeal

At our end of year school production back in the summer term we raised £50 for the Ukraine Crisis Appeal. Thank you.

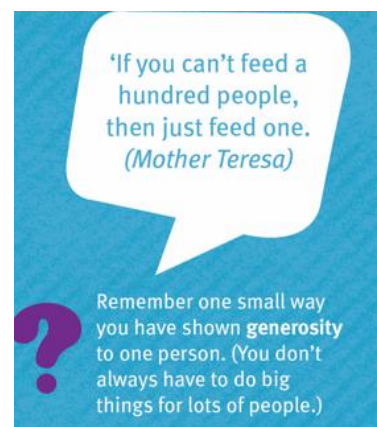
### Dietary Requirements

Don't forget to let us know your dietary requirements. Caterlink are very good at supporting medical dietary needs and request that information is captured on the form – please follow the link. <https://caterlinkltd.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Allergy-and-intolerance-form-July-2018.pdf>

### Value for Term 1

Generosity is our value for this term. Over the course of the term the children and adults will be thinking about:

- ✿ Loving others as we love ourselves through the story of Johnny Appleseed
- ✿ Giving sacrificially through the story The Generous Widow
- ✿ Giving cheerfully through some drama Freddie's Sponsored Ride
- ✿ Caring for creation through a poem by David Harmer
- ✿ Giving our time through listening to a true story



Home / School values is a resources to further embed our value of generosity at home.

Activity sheets can be found on the school website: [1556200098.pdf \(d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net\)](https://www.schoolwebsite.com/1556200098.pdf)



### Friends of Uley School update

FUS organise fundraising activities and events throughout the year, often involving the wider community, to support the education of children at Uley Primary.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 4<sup>th</sup> October and our new committee is:

- Chair – Becki Drewett (Mum of Rose Class 2 and Stan and Ivy Class 1)
- Vice-chair – Becky Rymer (Mum of Merryn Class 3)
- Treasurer – Pete Jagger (Dad of Athena Class 1)
- Secretary – Kate Kemmett (Mum of George Class 4)

The willow dome on the school field is in desperate need of a haircut! We will be pruning it back on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October from 2pm – could you lend a hand too? No tools or skills required, but you may wish to bring some gloves/eye protection/secateurs.

We will be offering teas, coffees and cakes at the back of the church at the **Harvest Festival** on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October, and we will be splitting the proceeds with Stroud District Foodbank. Donations of cakes and biscuits will be much appreciated, please bring into school in the morning.

Don't forget we have a donation bin in the school foyer for **second hand uniform donations**, and if you'd like to buy any uniform over the holidays, check our [website](#) for current stock.

Thank you for your support!

Email [hello@friendsofuleyschool.org](mailto:hello@friendsofuleyschool.org) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [www.friendsofuleyschool.org](http://www.friendsofuleyschool.org)

### Promoting Good Attendance

Being at school is a very important part of any young person's life.

It enables them to learn, to make friends, to gain important knowledge and to develop a variety of skills which will prepare them for adult life. School and parents are partners in making this a success.

### Absence Procedures

If a child is unfit for school; parents should contact the school by 9.00am on the first day, in person, by email or by telephone and repeat this each consecutive day until they return.

Absences will not be authorised without this procedure. It is school policy to contact parents of children who are absent that have not notified school by 9.15am. This safeguarding procedure ensures all our children are accounted for.



### **Taking Time out of School**

There is an expectation that parents should not take pupils out of school during term time. Schools are required to ensure that children only miss school if it is absolutely unavoidable because of the detrimental effect that this has on pupils' attainment and therefore their future life chances.

Parents should be aware that the law does not grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time. The Department for Education allows a Headteacher the discretion to consider authorising a leave of absence in term time only in "exceptional circumstances".

Exceptional leave being defined as:

- Rare
- Significant
- Unavoidable
- Short

New Government guidance 'Working Together to Improve School Attendance' was released in September 2022. We will be working closely with the Local Authority to reduce the number of holiday requests that we receive.

### **Whisper Button**

The safety and well-being of our pupils is something that our school strives hard to ensure we continue to work hard to provide ways to help you tell us if you or your children have any problems or worries which we as a school need to know about such as bullying.

Reporting issues is a very effective way to enable us to deal with risks before they escalate into harm and we already have several ways in which you can do this. That goes a long way in helping us create the safe and reliable environment for your children that you expect our school to be.

We understand too that coming into school to tell us about these issues can sometimes be tricky. It may be a subject that you need to bring to our attention without wanting to identify yourself, but feel we need to know, particularly if it involves children's safety.

On our school website you will find the **Whisper** button, an anonymous reporting service for pupils, families and local community that allows you to send a message to a confidential school email account where staff experienced in responding to issues will receive it.

#### **How does it work?**



Clicking on the **Whisper** button on our school site will take you to an online form where you can leave your message. You can choose to send it anonymously or, if you want us to get back to you, you can leave your contact details. **Whisper** does not collect any information to identify a sender unless they choose to leave it.

#### **Why do we think this is important?**

- We believe Whisper is an invaluable tool to have as a school for a variety of reasons. For example, young people can often find it very difficult to report issues at school especially, when they feel like they are 'telling' on a friend. Offering an anonymous route may empower them to raise concerns they may not have felt able to raise before.
- We know that reporting can raise awareness of an issue across the school and things can change because of that, through discussion and education. Reporting someone who is

bullying, for example, can very often focus attention on that person and is sometimes enough to change their behaviour.

- Whilst your report may not always get the solution you want to see, reporting bad behaviours can often stop them from happening to others. If people know their unacceptable behaviour will be reported, they are less likely to do it and this can have a positive effect across the whole school.

### **Coronavirus**

As the season for illnesses approaches, we now continue to manage Coronavirus similar to that of other illness such as flu and colds. This means frequent handwashing, good ventilation and keeping surfaces clean. We aim to minimise the risk of all illness. If you do not feel well enough to go to work or school and do your normal activities, you should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people in an attempt to stop the spread.

You can go back to your normal activities if you feel well enough to do so and do not have a high temperature.

There is no expectation for the adults or children in schools to be testing for Coronavirus (other than those where it is recommended by their GP).

### **Harvest**

Our harvest service will be held in St Giles Church on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 1.45pm. We will be collecting for the Food Bank. If each child could bring an item from the Food Bank shopping list below during week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> October and we will ensure the items are delivered to them.

#### **SHOPPING LIST - SEPTEMBER 22**

- **TINNED MEAT**
- **TINNED FISH**
- **PASTA SAUCES**
- **COOKING OIL**
- **LAUNDRY LIQUID**

PLEASE DO NOT DONATE

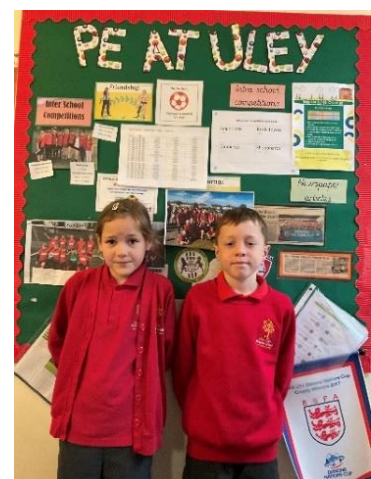
- PASTA
- TEA
- OUT OF DATE, DAMAGED OR OPENED ITEMS
- FOOD THAT NEEDS TO BE REFRIGERATED OR FROZEN

### **Dogs**

As much as we love animals, we politely request that all dogs are kept on leads and kept outside the school grounds for health and safety reasons. Thank you.

### **Forest Green Rovers**

We have two FGR ambassadors. We welcome Sylvie and Miles as our FGR ambassadors for this year. We look forward to hearing news about any matches that take place and any other FGR related topics.



### **CHIP (Children in Partnership) Council:**

We have a new CHIP Council, announced this week:

Monty Class 1

Kayla Class 2

Sammy Class 2

Rex H Class 2

Scarlett Class 3

Tess Class 3

Imogen Class 3

Joseph D Class 4

Isla Class 4

Violet CI Class 4

We cannot wait to get the children involved in school business.

### **School Photographer**

The photographer will be in school on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November. We are aiming for a typical photoshoot involving siblings etc. More information will follow.

### **Birthdays at Uley School**

A birthday is a really special day and we can't get away from the fact that birthdays can fall on a school day, but at Uley we would like to do all we can to help celebrate. If your child's birthday falls on a school day please come and speak to us if you are thinking about bringing in treats as there may be special diets to consider, or as an alternative, stickers can go down very well too.

Handing out children's party invitations in school can be quite a responsibility for us as this can happen quite a lot over the year and at times it can upset those that don't receive an invite or, if invitations are put in the children's book bags, they are then not discovered until after the event. We are more than happy to put them in book bags but please do check them! An alternative would be to hand out invitations to the children in the playground before/after school. We are able to support by introducing parents and children before or after school.

### **Dates for your Diary**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October** - Willow dome pruning, helpers welcome

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October** – Parents' Evening – face to face – 4.30 – 7pm

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – Harvest Service – 1.45pm at St Giles Church

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – End of Term 1

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October** – Staff INSET day

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October** – Start of Term 2

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – Parents' Evening – face to face – 3.40 – 5/5.30pm

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November** – School Photographer – more information to follow

Week commencing **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November** – National Anti-bullying Week

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November** – Children in Need – more information to follow

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November** - Children in Need cake sale and tidying school garden from 1pm, helpers welcome

**December** – iSingPop!! Lots of singing with a performance along with a nativity. Dates TBC confirmed soon.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December** - FUS Christmas fair 6pm-8pm

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – End of term Carol Service, 1.45pm at St Giles Church

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – End of Term 2

Term dates can be found on the school website