



ULEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



October Already!

Time has certainly flown by since returning in September. This year we are focussing on embedding our 'ambitious' curriculum. If you would like any information on the school curriculum, please check the school website or come and arrange a chat.

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



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.

Lydia – for her thorough understanding of place value and that 1,000,000 is the same as $10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10$ and $100 \times 100 \times 100$!

All of the Reception children for settling into school routines and for being smashing 'tidy uppers'.

All of Class 3 for settling so well and already showing determination.

Misty for growing in confidence and becoming more independent

Xanthi for her extremely positive attitude to all learning.

Jack (Class 1) for always trying so hard in phonics.

Amara for her excellent work in RE and English.

Kayla for being so enthusiastic about all of her learning!

Sophie for working so hard all week with all of her work.

Imogen for learning from her mistakes in Maths.

Joe for using powerful language in his Kennings.

Stan for his excellent focus and extending his learning in Maths.

Louie for practicing his phonics at home and trying really hard.

Miyelle for her excellent scientific thinking and asking questions – do older people have fewer white cells?

Athena for her all round attitude to work and engagement in learning.

Sammy for using his topical language with confidence, ease and in the correct context.

Lewis for showing compassion to his peers and adults through the school.

Sophie and Ivy for showing compassion to the Reception children – playing nicely with them and showing them where things are.

Damian for showing compassion and patience to the new Year 3s.

Otie for her compassion towards new members of the class.

Miles for showing compassion to others when they are a little bit sad.

Stanley for understanding work of Mother Teresa and explain her compassion.

Elsa for always being super helpful.

Bailey for showing compassion to his peers.

Olivia for showing compassion towards another child, helping them with their work.

Myiah for always listening to instructions and carrying them out.

Rose for showing compassion during our worship.

Otie for seeing identifying when others need help and caring for others.

Runa for always following the school rules and showing the values.

Bethany for showing empathy and compassion in our Maafa topic.

Poppy for being a co-operative and understanding learning partner.

What a lot to celebrate! Well done everyone for being the best you can be!

Maths

The 99 Club

The 99 Club is a new scheme we have recently introduced at Uley Primary and has replaced Rainbow Maths. The 99 Club encourages pupils to improve their confidence with multiplication and division. If children get quicker at their recall of multiplication and division facts, they can use this knowledge to help them with more involved mathematical problems and tasks. They will start to feel that maths is easy!

Pupils will begin at the 11 club (except for the KS2 children, who will start on a level appropriate for them after being baselined by their teacher) and work their way up. There will be one opportunity per week, during one of their maths lessons, to answer all calculations at their current level unaided and within the allotted time of 5 minutes.

If all of the calculations are answered correctly for two 99 club sessions in a row, the child can move up to the next level. Remember, this is about confidence and speed, not stretching mathematical thinking. If a child gets some questions wrong or does not complete the set, they will bring their sheet home so that you can see which questions they are finding tricky, and you could do a little practise in the car or while making dinner!

As with all learning at Uley, we will use positive encouragement and the growth mindset approach to ensure that pupils see this as a fun challenge that we are taking on together. Please do have a chat with your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings are on **Wednesday 25th October and Thursday 9th November**. Time slots for each class will be allocated on the online book system. Appointments are for 10 minutes and are allocated on a first come first served basis and will be released soon.

This is a good opportunity for you to meet the staff, discuss your child's progress and ask questions about supporting your child's learning at home.

World Mental Health Day – Tuesday 10th October

Tuesday 10th October is World Mental Health Day and is about raising awareness of mental health and driving positive change for everyone's mental health.

To support Mental Health Day, we would like to support the local charity Sunflowers by **wearing something yellow and contributing £1 coins welcome**. Something yellow, this could be a yellow ribbon, yellow socks, yellow scarf etc.

Evidence suggests there are 5 steps you can take to improve your mental health and wellbeing. Trying these things could help you feel more positive and able to get the most out of life. Please see below for ideas to support mental health and wellbeing.

Updated School Policies

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

- Behaviour
- Behaviour principles
- Communication
- Safeguarding
- Safer recruitment
- Debt Policy
- Charging Policy

Internet Matters

Conversation Starters

One of the common questions from parents is, "How do I start a conversation about the internet with my child?"

Early and continuing conversations are important and should not be any different from any other normal conversation. To help parents, Internet Matters have put together some conversation starters and tips to help:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/guide-to-encourage-kids-to-share-their-digital-lives/>

YouTube Supervised Accounts

YouTube Supervised Experience is really easy to set up and gives parents much greater flexibility in managing the content their children are watching on YouTube.

Follow the link for 5 very simple videos showing parents how to set up and use Supervised Experience, YouTube Kids (which also has new settings). <https://www.esafety-adviser.com/youtube-parental-restrictions/>

Value for Term 1

The value for this term is COMPASSION

TALK ABOUT COMPASSION TOGETHER...

Compassion is about 'standing in someone else's shoes' when they are having a hard time. In other words, trying to understand how they might be feeling and doing our best to try to help.

Talk together about:

- how we can show **compassion** and kindness to one another at home
- recognising when friends at school need us to listen and act with **compassion**
- stories in the news demonstrating how strangers show **compassion** in times of natural disasters
- how nations show **compassion** to other nations at times of disaster or need by sending money or volunteers to help

We will be thinking about:

- how we can show compassion and kindness to one another at home
- recognising when friends at school need us to listen and act with compassion
- stories in the news demonstrating how strangers show compassion in times of natural disasters
- how nations show compassion to other nations at times of disaster or need by sending money or volunteers to help



FAMILY
FOCUS

Random Acts of Kindness

Kindness is often appreciated most when it is offered at unexpected times.

Choose one week this term for your family to have "a random acts of kindness" week, and do something kind for someone each day. Try to do it without telling people it was you!



www.randomactsofkindness.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

Why were you absent?



These absences would
NOT be authorised

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.

Harvest

Our harvest service will be held in St Giles Church on **Thursday 26th October at 9.45am**. We will be collecting for the Food Bank.

If each child could bring an item from the Food Bank shopping list during **week commencing 16th October** and we will ensure the items are delivered to them.

- Tinned corned beef
- Tinned rice pudding
- Tinned custard
- Jam, Marmite, Peanut Butter
- Biscuits
- Fruit Squash
- Washing up Liquid
- Laundry Detergent
- Toilet Rolls



The poster features the Stroud District Foodbank logo at the top left. The main title is 'HARVEST COLLECTION' in white on a green background, followed by 'COLLECTION POINT HERE' in large green letters. Below this is a 'SHOPPING LIST MOST NEEDED' with a list of items: Tinned Corned Beef, Tinned Rice Pudding, Tinned Custard, Jam, marmite, peanut butter, Biscuits, Fruit Squash, Washing up Liquid, Laundry Detergent, and Toilet Rolls. To the right is a 'DONATE NOW!' section with text encouraging donations of items or money to support people facing hardship. At the bottom, there is a row of wheat stalks and a green tractor icon. The footer includes the website <https://strouddistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/> and the Trussell Trust logo, noting it is a registered charity in England & Wales 1176306.

CHIP (Children in Partnership) Council:

We have a new CHIP Council, announced this week:

- 🌸 Ivy Class 1
- 🌸 Sophie Class 1

- 🌸 Amara Class 2
- 🌸 Otie Class 2

- 🌸 Joss Class 3
- 🌸 Ellie Class 3
- 🌸 Isla Class 3

- 🌸 Phoebe Class 4
- 🌸 Bethany Class 4

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

School Photographer

The photographer will be in school on Friday 24th November. 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

Week commencing **Monday 16th October** – Y6 Bikeability – information sent out

Tuesday 24th October – Flu Nasal Spray

Wednesday 25th October – Parents' Evening –

Thursday 20th October – Harvest Service – 9.45am St Giles

Thursday 26th October – End of Term 1

Friday 27th October – Staff INSET day

Monday 6th November – Start of Term 2

Thursday 9th November – Parent's Evening

Week commencing **Monday 13th November** – National Anti-bullying Week

Friday 17th November – Children in Need – more information to follow

Friday 24th November – School Photographer – information to follow

Friday 22nd December – End of Term 2

Monday 8th January 2024 – Start of Term 3

Term dates can be found on the school website

Fig 1. **The Five Ways to Wellbeing activities**



Connect... with the people around you - with family, friends and neighbours, at home, work, school or in your local community. Think of these as the cornerstones of your life and invest time in developing them. Building these connections will support and enrich you every day.



Be active... Swap your inactive pursuits with active ones. Go for a walk. Step outside. Play a game. Garden. Dance. Walk or cycle when making short journeys. Being active makes you feel good. Most importantly, discover a physical activity you enjoy and that suits your level of mobility and fitness.



Take notice... Be curious. Catch sight of the beautiful. Remark on the unusual. Notice the changing seasons. Savour the moment, whether you are walking to work, eating lunch or talking to friends. Be aware of the world around you and what you are feeling. Reflecting on your experiences will help you appreciate what matters to you.



Keep learning... Try something new; rediscover an old interest. Sign up for that course. Take on a different responsibility at work. Fix a bike. Learn to play an instrument or how to cook your favourite food. Set a challenge you will enjoy achieving. As well as being fun, learning new things will make you feel more confident.



Give... Do something nice for a friend or a stranger. Thank someone. Smile. Volunteer your time. Join a community group. Look out, as well as in. Seeing yourself, and your happiness, linked to the wider community can be incredibly rewarding and creates connections with the people around you.

Source: [Bit.ly/NHSWellbeing](https://bit.ly/NHSWellbeing)