



# ULEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Happy New Year everyone!

You may recall seeing this in previous January newsletters; the last newsletter being 2023. I feel that this truly represents the meaning of a new year and new beginnings. On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January, our first worship of the year began with the introduction of Janus.

## January and the Roman God of Beginnings and Transitions

**Janus**- is the God with two faces, one looking onwards and the other one backwards. **Janus** was the Roman God of doors, choices, beginnings and endings.

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to the Spring term 2025. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a good rest and, like Janus, the transition in to the new year has provided an opportunity to reflect on 2024 and look forward to all that 2025 may bring.

The staff and I would like to express our thanks and appreciation for such lovely Christmas gifts and appreciative words!





Here is to a very happy, kind and successful 2025!



**They are like trees that grow beside a stream that bear fruit at the right time and whose leaves do not dry up. They succeed in all they do. Psalm 1:3**

## VALUE FOR THIS TERM

Our value for this term is 'Justice'. The children will be thinking about and reflecting on:

-  Treating each other fairly
-  Making Wise Decisions
-  Seeing God's Love in Action
-  Keeping God's Rules.

To support the value of justice at home, you can find the home/school value activities on the school website

<https://www.uleyprimary.co.uk/about-us/church-links/collective-worship/>

## TALK ABOUT JUSTICE TOGETHER...

**Justice** means more than making things 'fair'.

In order for people to live together well in a **just** community, it is important to have rules or laws that everybody sticks to. Imagine if there were no rules for people driving cars on the road!

As a family you may want to talk about:

- why it is important to have rules and laws
- rules or laws that you don't think are **just** (or fair)
- family rules that you think are important

### Curriculum Spring Term 2025

We always start a new term with a focus on routines, expectations and values (Friendship, Trust, Compassion and Wisdom). The children will have the opportunity to re-intergrate back in to school through our Live, Learn Flourish week.

Next week the children will participate in some assessments (reading, maths and writing). The children know that this is for them to demonstrate their knowledge (to be the best they can be) and to identify next steps.

Class letters and homework webs will follow shortly.

### Safer Internet Day 2025

Safer Internet Day 2025 will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025, with celebrations and learning based around the theme ‘**Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online**’

### Clubs for Spring Term

Young’s Voices Club will be finishing soon with the grand finale of the visit to Birmingham for an amazing performance. Cross Country Club has been extended as there are 2 races left – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February. Cross Country Clubs will be on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January, Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

We are busy planning clubs for the summer term. More information will follow after half term.

### Smart Watches and Mobile Phones

We cannot dispute that technology is a wonderful thing when used safely and correctly and we recognise that smart watches and mobile phones make great gifts.

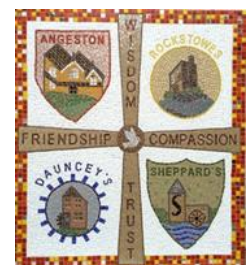
Although we encourage children to wear watches in school to be able to tell the time, we request that the children do not wear a ‘smart’ watch, or any watch that has the same functionality as a mobile phone such as camera, video, messaging etc. to school, this includes before and after school club.

Please may I remind parents that mobile phones are not permitted in school. The only exception is when it has been agreed that a child is permitted to walk to and from school (Year 5 and 6s), and the parent feels that they should have one for contact in an emergency. A walking to and from school letter for Years 5 and 6 has been sent out.

### Team Points Autumn 2024

Here is the total amount of team points for the autumn term and what a lot of team points there are! That is a lot of positive reinforcement. Well done to Angeston. The children have chosen to have a non-school uniform day which has been arranged for **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January**. Well done to Dauncey’s, Rockstowes and Sheppard’s too – great team work!

<b>Dauncey’s</b> 3976	<b>Sheppard’s</b> 4094
<b>Angeston</b> 4336	<b>Rockstowes</b> 3477



### School Closures

Making the decision to close a school is quite a challenge as there are so many factors to consider. In the event of a closure, the decision will be as early as possible, this could be early in the morning to allow for additional information such as monitoring of the area, updated weather forecasts and information from the Local Authority.

In the event that the school has to close, such as snow, the procedures are:

- You will receive a text message
- A message will be posted on the Gloucestershire County Council website so please check: <http://ww3.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closedschools/>
- A message will be posted on the school website

The Remote Learning Policy can be found on the school website.

### **Parent's Cyber Safety Presentation delivered by PC Simon Williams**

PC Simon Williams has been invited to Uley School to assist us in ensuring our children are the safest they can possibly be in this ever changing world of online safety.



Gloucestershire Constabulary are excited to offer a comprehensive presentation designed specifically for parents, providing them with the tools and insights to keep their children safe online. The session lasts approximately 1hr 15 minutes and contains topics such as:

- Understanding Online Risks – Identify the various dangers your children may encounter online, including cyberbullying, predators and harmful content.
- Social Media and Apps safety – Learn best practices for social media and applications. How to configure privacy settings and protect your child's information.
- Parental Control Tools – Explore tools and settings to monitor and control your child's online activities.
- Encouraging Open Communications – Gain tips on fostering honest conversations about internet use and creating a supportive environment.

Please come and join us in school on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 9.15am**. It would be really helpful to know the numbers attending. Please could you let us know either in the playground or send an email by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Contact Details**

Please do not forget to let us know of any changes in contact details or your new address if you have moved house.

The requirement is for schools to have 2 emergency contacts for each child. Please let us know any changes to any contacts details and update us with additional emergency contacts.

If you are unsure who is on your emergency contact list or how many, please come and ask.

### **Communication**

At Uley School the staff believe in good communication. We are always visible and available in the morning albeit briefly but time to give messages or to request a time to talk, and we are available more so at the end of the day. As a staff we cannot stress enough how much better it is to have a face to face conversation rather than receiving an email. If there is something you would like to talk about – your child's learning or health and wellbeing, areas of education or, if you are interested in volunteering, then please do come and ask.

Staff are happy to arrange to talk to you, should you:

- like an update on your child's progress other than Parent's Evenings
- like more information on how to support your child at home
- like to celebrate your child's achievements in and out of school
- have a worry
- have any questions about your child's education
- need clarification/reminders on information
- just want to come and say hi

### **Traditional Free School Meals**

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

#### **What are the qualifying criteria for Free School Meals?**

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Please come and speak to a member of staff if you think you may be entitled to Traditional Free School Meals. This is still applicable even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and are entitled to Universal Free School meals.

#### **Once a Week take a Peek – a reminder to check for head lice once a week**

Head lice are a normal part of childhood - surveys among primary school children have found that nearly 1 in 10 have head lice at any one time. If you're a parent you probably know what a hassle it is to treat head lice and just how frustrating it can be when your child comes home scratching their head yet again.

Whilst head lice are nothing more than a nuisance, it is important that children are checked on a weekly basis so that any head lice can be dealt with quickly and before they are allowed to spread.

<http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com/> have a look at this website which gives you lots of guidance on managing head lice.

### Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January** – Young Voices visit to Birmingham – see emails sent out  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January** – Class 4 swimming starts  
**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January** – Angeston non-uniform day  
**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January** – Cross Country race at Dursley Rugby Club. Meet at 9.30am  
**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January** – Parent’s Cyber Safety Presentation delivered by PC Simon Williams, 9.15am  
**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February** - Cross Country race at Dursley Rugby Club. Meet at 9.30am  
**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** – Internet Safety Day  
**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February** – Reception Live Learn Flourish worship 9.10am followed by an EYFS information session  
**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February** – Parents’ Evening - information will be sent out shortly  
**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** – CHIP Snack Shop  
**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** – End of Term 3  
**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February** – FUS Disco  
**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February** – INSET DAY – Staff only  
**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February** – Children return to school – Start of Term 4  
**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February** – Parents’ Evening  
**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Year 4 visit to Cam Juniors for In the Net – information sent out  
**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day  
**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March** – Red Nose Day  
**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** – Class 3 Live learn Flourish Worship, 9.10am  
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April** – CHIP Snack Shop  
**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April** – Easter Service at St Giles, 1.30pm  
**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April** – End of Term 4  
**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April** – Start of Term 5

Term dates can be found on the school website

### **Class 3**

Class 3 finished their geography unit by looking at local land use. We looked at Uley village and the surrounding areas for land uses then created a village out of Lego.



On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December  
Class 3 enjoyed our DT day!

We first practiced our peeling and cutting skills on potatoes before moving on to chop up peppers, onions and courgette's for our ratatouille. The ratatouille went down very well with none left over! (So a good one to make and feed the children, as they ate it all!)



In the afternoon they utilized their skills further by making and decorating some festive gingerbread. Thanks once again for all the kind donations received for the ratatouille.

### Class 4

As part of our 'Shang Dynasty' project Class 4 have been learning about taotie designs. We explored various casting techniques to make our own taoties, then painted them to look like 3000 year old bronze!



### Christmas 2024

