



ULEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



19th July 2022

Live, Learn, Flourish

I cross the bridge
And leave behind,
The world I know so well.

What lies there across the bridge?
If only that I knew.
A land of possibilities.
Where all my dreams come true?

Every bridge I cross in life,
Will take me to new ground.
Old things will be left behind,
But new things will be found.

The final letter of the academic year always makes me stop to reflect on the busy year that has passed. We started the year excited and hopeful that we could move on from the Coronavirus restrictions in school. We cautiously and gradually made headway with re-opening. We were getting in to the swing of school life when, just before Christmas, it started again and the dreaded restrictions returned. The Spring terms were the most challenging of the year, with unwell staff and children. Our cases rising and falling and the uncertainty about what cases were going to be like week by week or even day by day, made the term very difficult! We tried to keep the disruption as minimal as possible and we managed to remain open for the duration, whilst schools around us were having to close classes. A difficult term was finished off by a visit from Ofsted. The Easter break was most welcomed!

The Summer term and the 'opening up' was a joyous feeling as we began to bring a whole school community back together and re-introduce typical school life. Long may this continue! We are looking forward to getting our school back into a routine once again and doing all the things that make Uley School, Uley School. We do have a few changes, mainly curriculum and staff changes, but with changes, good things will be found.

A couple of years ago I wrote about 'We achieve so much because we all work together; something that continues to grow from strength to strength'. The pandemic has caused disruption and may have impacted upon relationships amongst the community but now is the time to re-grow and to re-strengthen.

The first part of the new academic year 2022 will be a another busy one as we settle in new staff and existing staff in to new roles, and children settle into their new year groups and their new classes. We will be implementing our new phonics scheme (Unlocking letters and Sounds) and launching our new curriculum. We are all really looking forward in achieving so much by working together again.

The children have been incredible at managing the disruption to school life not only over the past year, but since March 2020. I am astonished as to how well they have changed and adapted. As a staff, we have also had to think on our feet and to be two steps ahead of what could happen next, whilst making education a priority, keeping everybody safe and continuing to manage the demands that a school brings.

The past year (or two) has been a journey for everyone and I do hope that we can continue to re-build on the last few weeks with little or even no interruption!

Here come the thank yous:

We celebrate the achievements of every child at Uley School. The staff at Uley are so proud of each and every child's achievements and successes throughout the year. The symbols on our Uley tree and our Live, Learn and Flourish, really reflect the ethos and vision of our school.

The CHIP Council - Thank you for your dedication and commitment to Uley School. Your views and contributions are very much valued and you have been so patient through all the disruption too.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the hard-working and dedicated staff for their remarkable contribution this year. This team consists of the before and after school team, midday supervisors, Mrs Cornelius, teaching assistants, teaching staff, peripatetic music teachers, IT support and of course Lin our super dooper cleaner/caretaker. Every person in this team plays a very important part in the life of the school, to ensure the children of Uley School are cared for, nurtured, educated and safe. It is a pleasure to lead and work with such a great team who go over and above to ensure the very best for each and every child. OFSTED pointed out three areas that stood out CHILDREN, TEAM and ETHOS.

I would also like to thank all parents, carers and families for your support. Whether it is supporting your child's learning, helping with swimming, helping at school events, assisting on trips, helping at clubs, helping at the school fete; your help and support is appreciated and valued. I look forward to working with you in the new academic year.

A big thank you to Friends of Uley School for all their hard work raising funds to provide resources and experiences for our children at Uley and having to do this through ongoing disruption too – thank you!

Thank you to the Governors of Uley School for having the children's best interests at heart and for ensuring that our ethos and vision is always a focus to ensure that children Live, Learn and Flourish.

I would like to wish all children who are leaving us at the end of this academic year all the very best on their journey. I hope they cross lots of bridges and find new and exciting ground, and when old things are left behind, they look back at their these times and smile with happy memories. I am proud of them all and wish them good luck in the future.

We say farewell to Mrs. Royle and Mrs. Grace. I wish them all the very best on their new journeys. They have been amazing and will be missed.

For those Year 1 to Year 6 children returning in September, we looking forward to seeing you all at **8.40am on Wednesday 7th September 2022**. We also look forward to greeting our new Reception in Group A on Thursday 8th September and Group B on Friday 9th September.

I look forward to seeing our children in their smart Uley Primary School uniform and ready to embrace the challenges of a new academic year.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer holiday, when we get there.

End of Term Service

Our end of term service is a whole school event and is on **Thursday 21st July at 1.45pm**. We will be celebrating with our Live, Learn, Flourish awards and saying goodbye to our Year 6 leavers and members of staff.

After the service, we will return everyone safely to school where you will be able to collect your children in readiness for the summer holiday.

Don't forget, there is no Fun Club after school on Thursday!



LIVE LEARN FLOURISH

Oliver (Class 1) for always being polite when ordering a school dinner.

Sophia for always approaching school life with an open and honest attitude.

Charlie for being honest and truthful about making choices.

Violet (Class 3) for being honest about eating sweets at snack time – Violet! And not on a fruitless Friday!

Jorja for always telling the truth and being honest.

Brianny for being honest about needing help and support when learning her lines for the performance.

Xanthi for always being honest and fair.

Lucas for always being honest about needing a read.

Jack (Class 1) for always being trustworthy and careful around the class butterflies.

Arthur being truthful about the money he owed to the Class 3 shop.

Aayan for being trustworthy when playing rounders and for being supportive of his team.

Jaycee for always keeping the school values.

Ellie (Class 4) for working extremely hard with her Greek Myth in English.

Florence (Class 1) for trying really hard with her handwriting – long ladder letters.

William for striving to become more independent.

Jack (Class 2) for his contributions to guided reading.

Henry for super initiative and being an all-round superstar.

Hazel for her use of phonics in her writing.

Joss for her excellent oral storytelling about the Bog Baby.

Eve, Lily & Sara for their fantastic theme park presentation.

Evie T (Class 1) for continually trying her best with her Rainbow Maths.

Darrell for making an improved effort with all his learning over the past few weeks.

Brodey for asking sensible questions when discussing questions on friendship and relationships.

Joseph S (Class 3) for being a versatile and amazing team player in the school production.

Joseph D (Class 3) for being flexible and adaptable during the school production.

Toby F (Class 2) for his Bog Baby collage and art work.

Damian for his engagement in reading and enthusiasm for finding authors he enjoys.

Phoebe for her positive attitude to her learning at both school and home.

Safeguarding Children over the Summer Holidays

We have been speaking with the children about the importance of staying safe over the summer holidays and they have been reminded of the tools they can use should they need some help and support:

- Speak to a parent / member of the family
- Child line phone number 0800 1111
- NSPCC Childline website - <https://www.childline.org.uk/>
- Use the Whisper Toolkit – found on the homepage of the school website

For Parents / Carers:

- There is a lot of information on the school website - <https://www.uleyprimary.co.uk/the-curriculum/internet-safety/>

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Safeguarding children is everybody's responsibility.

Out of school hours contact numbers:

If you are worried or concerned about anyone under 18 who you think is being abused or neglected, or that a child and their family need help and support, please contact The MASH (Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub) on **01452 426565** or email at childrenshelpdesk@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Contact hours: 9am - 5pm.

If you have concerns about the immediate safety of the child or you believe a serious criminal offence has been committed please contact the Police at any time on 101.

In an emergency, always dial 999

Parking Again

I have been asked again to request that parking in and around school is considerate to others at drop off and pick up times.

Priorities for the next Academic Year

As I have mentioned above, we are in the process of purchasing a new phonic scheme and we are having staff training early in September. To ensure consistency to our scheme and how you can support your child's phonic knowledge, we will be sharing information with you – watch this space.

We are also bringing together our long term plan for the school curriculum. Subject leaders have been working on subjects through the summer term and we will be sharing more information during the autumn term as to what this looks like.

We have our online assessment system and we are working to ensure that this matches our new curriculum; a focus continuing into the autumn also.

Improve our school attendance and punctuality is also something that needs a bit of a focus. This will also need to be a priority next year.

Science

Thank you to Leema Rahman for bringing in some science resources from Rednock.

The children had a wonderful time looking at fleas under the microscope! Everybody, including the staff, were amazed at the detail!

We look forward to working closely with Rednock to support the children's science curriculum.

'It looked a bit like a dinosaur!' George H, Year 3.

'I thought it was quite amazing to see the detail through the microscope.' Katy, Year 2.

'It was fascinating. I haven't used a microscope before.' Cerys, Year 5.



Sports Morning

Such a fab morning for all! Thank you to all who came and supported. Thank you too for all the positive feedback.



Homework Share

Thank you to all who joined us in school for our homework share. I am over the moon that we are now in a position to return to children physically bringing their homework in to school.

Our updated Homework Policy can be found on the school website -

<https://d3hgriq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f43e07e66494/content/pages/documents/homework-22.pdf>

We took on board all of your comments from the questionnaire. There is a vast continuum on views for homework and we still consider that our policy targets all levels. We continue with our homework webs which is cross curricular and fits in with our topic, and which will fit in with our newly designed curriculum. We continue to listen to the children's views as to the learning they would like to engage with.

There is not a 'one size fits all' approach to our policy. There are not weekly worksheets sent home. Regular reading, including phonics, continues to be a high priority. Children who can read and comprehend what they are reading, will be able to access a lot more areas of the curriculum. We recommend daily reading with the children – school books, picture books, magazines etc. Helping the children to decode words and understand the meaning of unknown words. Asking questions about the text to ensure children have grasped the meaning.

There are also areas of Maths and English identified in the policy. We ask for parents to support their children with the fundamentals and therefore there are links to good websites to support this.

Depending on year groups and ability, there may be spellings to take home and practice. If a child has an educational plan, there will be targets that reflect support at home. There will be target in the Autumn and Spring reports. There is Mathletics, Rainbow Maths and the statutory spelling lists can also be found in the policy. As we always say, if you need anything else, please speak to the class teacher.

Library Books

A reminder that we would like to collect all the library books in before the end of term. If you haven't done so already, please bring them in to school – thank you.

KS2 School Performance

Absolutely brilliant! The children performed and sang exceptionally well. A huge well done to all of KS2 for magnificent performance and thank you to the staff for making it happen!

Uley School Fete

A huge thank you to FUS and everyone who helped to organise and run a very successful summer fete. Well done to the children who joined in with the country dancing and thank you to the Years 6s and The CHIP Council for running stalls.

A good day was had by all and the weather was fantastic! Thank you.

Message from FUS



Thank you to everyone who helped and supported the **FUS Summer Fete** on 9th July – it was a super sunny one!

There was country dancing and pony rides, mocktails and Uley ales, ducks, coconuts and lots more!

We raised fantastic and much needed £1692.16, an increase of 14% on the last summer fair in 2019! All the money raised by the incredible hard work of volunteer parents is ploughed back into your child's education and opportunities.



We wish heartfelt good luck to our **Year 6s** as they finish their time at Uley and start their new school adventures – we are very happy to contribute £25 per pupil to support their leaver's books, hoodies and party.

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.

Four of our key committee members are stepping down in September, having all served many years on the committee. Without a committee, there is no FUS and without FUS, no summer fete, school disco, subsidised trips, no Athletics and no extra classroom resources. If you're willing to do your bit and get involved to make sure our important work continues, please get in touch. Thank you for your support!

Email hello@friendsofuleyschool.org | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | www.friendsofuleyschool.org

Skin Health

Young skin is delicate and very easily damaged by the sun. In hope and preparation of the sun regularly shining, please slap on a sunhat and slop on plenty of sun cream before school. At school the children are encouraged to slurp plenty of water. Please also put some clearly named sun cream in your child's bag. The children will be encouraged to apply this independently so please consider the application method e.g. tube, roll etc.



on some cool clothing,

on a hat,

on some sun cream and

plenty of water

Dates for your diary – please also look on the school website calendar where you will find dates and all the information you need:

Wednesday 20th July – Y6 Live, Learn, Flourish Celebration, ~~1.30pm~~ 9.30am Uley School Hall for Y6 parents

Thursday 21st July – End of term service and Leaver's Service, 1.45pm St Giles Church – for all to attend

Thursday 21st July – End of the academic year

Monday 5th September – Staff INSET day

Tuesday 6th September – Staff INSET Day

Wednesday 7th September – Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 return to school

Thursday 8th September – New Reception start Group A

Friday 9th September – New Reception start Group B

Monday 12th September – All new Reception until 12.15pm

Some Ideas for Holiday Learning

Summer Reading Challenge

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the summer holidays. You can sign up at your local library, and then read six library books of your choice to complete the Challenge. There are exclusive rewards to collect along the way, and it's FREE to take part!

The Summer Reading Challenge website helps you keep track of your reading all year round: find new books to read, take part in competitions and play games.

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

- The Summer Reading Challenge is inclusive of all children and families and all stages of reading development. Children choose whatever they want to borrow. There are no levels.
- Children read six or more books of their choice: fiction, non-fiction, joke books, picture books; any books they like as long as they are borrowed from the library. They talk about them in the library with a

member of staff or young volunteer and receive rewards along the way and a medal and/or certificate when they complete the Challenge.

- There is also a mini-challenge for pre-school children so that the whole family can take part.
- Most libraries in England and Wales will start the Challenge on Saturday 9th July 2022.
- There is not an official end date for the Challenge. Each library authority will set their own finish date. Please check with your local library to find out when the Challenge will finish in your area.

Extreme Reading Challenge

Books don't need electricity! We can read them '**anywhere**' and '**everywhere**'! We are inviting you to take the Uley School Extreme Reading Challenge. Think about different, exciting, fun and SAFE places you can enjoy a book.

Children – tell your parent/carer your idea and ask them if they could take a photograph of you reading your book in your 'extreme' place.

Have Fun Extreme Reading!!

Support Learning through the Holidays

Summer comes but once a year, and brings with it weeks of freedom from school-runs, schoolwork and homework. While this break is much-deserved support over the summer doesn't have to be laborious; a little and often approach is ideal.

Keep Reading

Read regularly with your child, or if they are fully-independent readers, set aside time for them to read to themselves. Visit the library (Summer Reading Challenge or Extreme Reading Challenge), revisit old favourite books, read taking turns or taking the roles of characters or the narrator. Read anything: comics, magazines, even instructions for making something!

Writing skills

Practise holding a pencil correctly, can your child write – in their neatest handwriting – your shopping list or holiday list of items to take? What about keeping a holiday scrapbook? Write in different forms of medium from paint brushes in water to sparkly gel pens.

Count, Count, Count

Try counting holiday money, or playing cards or board games – all support mental agility. Don't forget that cooking is the perfect opportunity to practise weighing and measuring ingredients, and learn the difference between ounces, kilograms, pounds and so on – good science and English links too. Don't forget practicing times tables is always helpful.

Copies of **Rainbow Maths** can be found on the school website on the Maths Page.

Mathletics—The link to Mathletics can be found on the Maths Page of the school website.