



# UPLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## May 2016 Newsletter

### Key dates

- 8th May CarBoot Sale 10 am—1pm
- 9th –13th May SATS Week
- 17th May PA Sponsored Bounce Event
- 19th May 9am & 6pm 11+ Meetings
- 20th May Fern Class assembly
- 23rd –27th May Outdoor Week
- 27th May Caterpillars Class Assembly
- 30th May– 3rd June Half Term

### Uniform accessories

Just a reminder that no jewellery or make up should be worn in school. This includes acrylic/false nails and nail varnish. Large hair accessories are not necessary. Plain hair bands and bobbles are adequate.

Also trainers are not school uniform. Children should be wearing black shoes at all times. Letters will be sent home to ask why children are not wearing the correct uniform. I thank you for your co operation.

### Water is good for the brain

Please make sure that your child has a water bottle every day. Water really does keep the brain hydrated and enable your children to focus.

### Donations

If you have some unwanted books or comics that are in good condition we would gratefully accept these to help boost our book supplies in school.

### Attendance

I would like to remind you that holidays in term time will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please can I ask that if you are planning on taking holiday that you inform the school. Unfortunately, some families have claimed sickness rather than holiday and then the EWO service has been mis informed. This can then cause further problems. Honesty is the best policy.

### Head Teacher's Message

I hope that you all had a lovely bank holiday weekend as we head towards another busy part of the school year. We have lots of exciting trips and events to look forward to so let's hope the sun keeps shining. I would now recommend that your children have a sun hat in school, and for those particularly warm days applying sun cream would be advisable.

I know I must sound like a stuck record but communications are being ignored by some people when it comes to driving and parking around the school. I'm sure most of you have now seen the new large signs on the school fences. I had hoped this would deter people from parking on, dropping off and picking up children from the yellow lined zones; However it hasn't totally and this saddens me greatly as the childrens' and family safety is so important. I shall continue to alert parking attendants to these people who park on the lines. Could I now ask that if you see people parked and being unsafe around the school that you either alert me to them or maybe politely ask themselves to respect the safety of all within the school. I thank you in advance for supporting me with this.

Although it's a while ago now, thank you to all of you who purchased books on parents evenings. We do get some commission and this enables us to buy lovely new books for the classrooms for your children to enjoy.

As always thank you for your continued support of our school.

Kindest regards

Ms Vicky Sengupta

### Outdoor Week

Thank you to those of you who have already sent in your contributions for outdoor week. This has enabled us to secure some of the activities planned for the children. Please do send the money in a sealed envelope with your children to their classes. During this week the children should come to school in old outdoor clothing. Please no lovely new clothes as the children will get dirty and we don't want lots of expensive clothing getting ruined.

### Important Dates

Unfortunately due to an announcement about the EU Referendum elections last week; unfortunately **the school will be closed on 23rd June 2016 to become a polling station.**

## **Trips**

This term has already seen Year 1 and Year 4 extending their learning beyond the classroom by going on trips. Year 1 had a lovely day visiting the synagogue in Bromley. The children learnt lots more about the Jewish faith. The facilitators were blown away with the children's knowledge. Year 4 had an exciting time conducting a river study in Horton Kirby; it was a wonderful way to make Geography real and exciting. Thank you for continuing to support our curriculum enrichment activities.

## **Goodbye**

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Mrs Jones at the end of this half term. She has been the face of the office for 11 and a half years. Her warm, welcoming manner will be greatly missed. I'd like to thank Mrs Jones for all of her dedication, support and care to the community of Upland Primary School. The staff and children are certainly going to miss her. I hope you'll all join us in wishing her all the very best for her new adventures, wherever they may take her.

## **New office structure and Welcome to Upland.**

You have been made aware that there has been a restructuring of the school office taking place. This is due to the demands faced on us as a school and, going forward, in order to ensure the school runs efficiently and effectively, more personnel within the office area are required.

We have successfully recruited a School Business Manager who will work closely with the Headteacher, Governing Board and Senior Leaders to manage the finances and business elements of running a school. Her name is Mrs Grant, she is very experienced in this field and will be starting in the next fortnight.

The pressures on the office area are also increasing therefore two new Receptionists have been recruited to work alongside Mrs Bunstone (Ruth). The school office will now be manned from 8 am – 5 p.m. . The two new receptionists are Mrs Sage who will be working Mon –Fri 8am-4pm and Mrs Prior who will be working from 9am-5pm Thurs and Fri. Mrs Bunstone will work 9-5pm Mon– Wed. I'm sure you will all make them feel welcome.

Don't worry Mrs Atkin and Mrs Fitzgerald are still here, they will be working from the back office within the school. You will still see them as they will continue doing all of their duties that involve communicating and working with parents.

This new structure will continue to improve our school systems and communications.

## **Sports Mile**

Wow !! Thank you so much for sponsoring your children to walk the mile. We have raised over £1400. The children did amazingly well. Thank you to Mrs Bryant for organising and coordinating this event.

## **Scottish Dancing**

It was an absolute privilege to attend our Scottish dancing family event last month. It was such a lovely afternoon. I was immensely proud of all of the pupils past and present who have worked so hard to gain their awards and gradings. I fully appreciate now after having a go myself at the dances, the effort, skills and precision that makes this style of dancing so unique. A huge thank you to Mrs Kellet for continuing this lovely club at our school.

## **Year 6 Outward Bound**

Year 6 had a wonderful time in Cumbria in March. We had the most perfect weather, which made the week's activities even better. The children excelled themselves in all of the very challenging activities that we were faced with. Outward Bound is an excellent outdoor learning provider. The location, the resources, the instructors and the time and effort put into making the activities fun yet challenging and inspiring is phenomenal. It was an honour accompanying the children this year. Thank you to all the families who have supported our school journey adventures.



## **Sporting Achievements.**

One of our pupils, Cedric Mamodesen from Year 1, was recently chosen to be a mascot for the FA Cup Semi Final between Crystal Palace and Watford. He got to hold the captains hand as they came out of the tunnel. Such a wonderful experience and honour. Well done, Cedric.



## **Academy Meeting for Parents.**

You will have all received the letter regarding the future direction and path for our lovely school. Two meetings were held this week for parents, as this was the parent bodies opportunity to share their views and ask any questions. Only 33 families were represented at these two meetings which was a little disappointing. Thank you to all of those families who did attend, I hope you now feel more informed about the academy conversion process. The presentation used is now on the school website in the parents 'section. There are also some leaflets in the school office foyer for you to read. If you do have any questions, please do contact the school for further information.