



# UPLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## November 2015 Newsletter

### Driving and Parking.

Unfortunately I have recently witnessed some very near accidents on Harlington Road in the mornings. Please be considerate when driving down this busy road in the mornings and please let pedestrians cross safely. I shall be recording registration numbers now as I feel that the safety of our community is paramount.

### Healthy Snacks

At Playtimes the children should be bringing in only fruit, water, cereal bars or a healthy equivalent. Packed lunches are monitored and as long as the packed lunch is balanced then there is no reason for food to be confiscated. This will only happen if we feel that the lunch contains excessive amounts of sweet items. Parents will be contacted to discuss this.

### Goodbyes

This term we have said Goodbye to Mrs Long who left in October. We also said a very sad goodbye to Mrs Wells who left Upland after 13 years. We wish them all the best in their new adventures and thank them for the difference they made to the children at Upland.

### Welcome

We are very pleased to welcome two new teaching assistants to our school. Mrs Green will be working in Saturn class and Mrs Barrett will be working in Bramble class. They will both be a great asset to the school.

We know they are going to be very happy here.

### Poppy Appeal

Thank you so much to all of you who donated money to the British Legion and bought a poppy. Well done to Year 6 who did a lovely remembrance assembly. We raised £168.

### *Head Teacher's Message*

Another month passes and the days have all of sudden become shorter but Upland Primary School becomes busier with lots happening from day to day.

There have been so many events since the last newsletter, I want to thank you all personally for your support in either attending events, volunteering at events, buying costumes and sending in some wonderfully generous donations. We really wouldn't be so successful without your support, time and dedication.

This last term has seen the children go out on so many trips. These trips really do enhance the work that the children do and allow them to experience the big wide world and all it has to offer. I have recently received a vast amount of emails from the public and parents about the conduct of our children whilst on trips: impeccable manners, looking smart and they have a thirst for knowledge. A real credit to you to you all.

I fully appreciate that the costs of trips can be another financial pressure for parents, however as a school we will always listen to individual circumstances and we will do all we can to support or devise a payment plan that is suitable for all. I have listened very carefully to the parent body who no longer feel obliged to pay the cost for others who make no attempt to put a contribution towards a trip. As a school we do feel that we all need to be responsible in order for a trip to go ahead. Please if you are finding things difficult then speak to me personally and I will do all I can. I really do not want children missing out.

As Headteacher all I am asking is that we work together and with everyone making a contribution including the school the opportunities will be greater for the children. I also need to make you aware that even though children do get sick on the day of a trip, we still have to pay for the transport and the tickets, therefore I will be consulting the UPP on the issuing of refunds. This is an area that is becoming a great burden on school resources, that are diminishing with every new Government initiative. If you have any thoughts or questions around this matter then I would be very grateful to receive them.

Again I thank you all for taking the time and effort to make contributions big or small and thank so many of you for your contributions and those of you who support the children whilst on the trips. Children's safety is paramount.

Kindest regards

Ms V Sengupta

### Donations for the Elderly Christmas Hampers.

Thank you so much for your already very generous donations for hampers, that will be given to our elderly guests who will be spending Christmas alone this year. We are really looking forward to sharing our Christmas lunch with them. If anyone has any toiletries or bottles of drink we would be very grateful for these to accompany the lovely sweet treats that have already been donated. Again I thank you from the bottom of our hearts for supporting this wonderful cause.

### Important Date

The **FINAL INSET DAY** for the year has been set. The school will be closed on **Monday 11th April**. So the last day of term is Friday 22nd July.

## Dates for your Diary

23rd-27th Nov ~ Assessment week for children.

27th Nov ~ Venus class Assembly

10th Dec am ~ Caterpillar and morning Bumblebees Nativity play.

10th Dec pm ~ Ladybird and afternoon Bumblebee Nativity play.

11th Dec ~ Festival of Learning. 2pm All parents welcome.

14th –16th Dec ~ Class Christmas parties.

18th Dec ~ Carol Service at Christchurch 10am parents welcome.

18th Dec ~ Last day of term.

4th January 2016 ~ School closed INSET DAY

Back to school Tuesday 5th January 2016

## Assessment Meeting

Thank you to those of you who gave up an evening to come and hear the school message regarding new assessments in school. The power point is on the school website should you wish to keep up to date with school changes.

## Meal Patterns

Meal patterns must remain the same for a whole half term. We are unable to do weekly swaps as this makes things very difficult for the office staff and the catering suppliers. Mid half term requests will not be authorised. I thank you in advance for co operating with this.

## Money Envelopes

It has become apparent that the congestion in the office area is beginning to cause delays. Could we please ask that **all monies** coming into school are in an envelope, clearly marked and sent in with your child/ren to their classroom teacher which will then be sent to the school office. Dinner money should be also put in a separate envelope solely for dinner money purposes. Thank you for adhering to this. We hope this will cause less delays and issues relating to money in the school.



## Children in Need

Thank you so much for your generous donations in supporting Children in need this year. We raised £564, truly fantastic. The children enjoyed getting an extra sweet treat during the school day as well as making Mrs Sengupta look quite ridiculous with the face paints. The children looked wonderful in their costumes: A school full of super heroes.



## Upland Parents Association

**Deadline for bringing in the wonderful tree decorations and jars is Friday 27th Nov.**



The PA Christmas Fayre will be on Thursday 3rd Dec from 3.10 - 5.30pm. This will be a very different event with new ideas, new gifts and the usual favourites. We do hope that many of you will come along and support this event. It's one of the highlights in the school year. If you are able to volunteer on the afternoon then please do contact the PA.

## Family Week

It was absolutely glorious to see so many of you in school enjoying the learning activities with your children. The creativity around the school was fantastic. I know that the children loved having you in school so that they could showcase their work. I really enjoyed the Year 4 cooking activities, the Fire of London re-enactment in the playground, sewing in Year 6 and getting messy making animals in Year 5. Thank you so much to Mrs McKenzie for organising this lovely event and to the staff who really did plan lovely, fun lessons.

## Parents Evenings

99.1 % of parents/carers attended parents evenings in October. This is a fantastic turn out. I hope that you went away knowing what your children will be learning and how we will be assessing their skills and knowledge. Thank you to Harrison Catering who supplied some lovely food tasters and to Athena Gym Club who gave the children opportunities to show off their Gym skills but also let others have a go.

## Carol Concert At Christchurch

Our Carol Concert will be at 10am on Friday 18th December. The children will be registered in school and then walk to the church. If any parents are able to help us walk the children to the Church safely, then please do let your child's class teacher know. This year the main focus is going to be on the Nativity and story of Christmas, therefore the showcasing of the music will be slightly different. Only the Orchestra and Year 5 and 6 violins will be playing this year at the Church. We hope to see lots of you there.

## Festival of Learning.

You are all invited to our Autumn term festival of learning on Friday 11th December at 2pm. The children will be showcasing their projects from all of their learning this term. Year 3 children will be doing a violin performance at 2.30-2.45 in the hall and Year 4 children will be doing the same at 2.45– 3pm. Again we hope to see lots of you in school.

## Our Fantastic Football Team

Our newly formed Football team are doing so well that they have won 2 matches and drawn 1. We have made it through to the finals of the McCarthy Cup. Thank you so much to you all for supporting the boys. Please see the website for the match commentaries.

## Toy Carol Concert

Our school choir will be performing at Christchurch on Sunday at a Toy carol concert from 10 am. The church are asking for toy donations to send to less fortunate children. If you are able to support this cause or would like to come along and support the children, then the more the merrier.

