



# UPLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

*November /December 2013*

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## **General Notices:**

### **Parking:**

I'm sure many of you have noticed that myself and Mr Twyman have been standing on Harlington road monitoring the traffic. It is still an issue with parents parking on the yellow lines and parking across peoples driveways. I have now instructed a traffic warden to patrol this area over the next few weeks as the amount of public complaints is becoming unmanageable. We have also witnessed parents and family members driving at very unsafe speed limits on such a small busy road. It is very worrying and an accident could happen. Please could you park and drive safely around the school at all times.

### **Scooting or cycling :**

May I remind you that cycling and scooting on the school premises is not permitted. Any cycles and scooters are left on the premises at the owners risk. Please if you can lock the vehicles into one of the sheds. We are locking the main shed during the school day. But lets be extra safe and secure.

### ***Head Teacher's Message***

What a great start to the half term we have had. The festival of learning was amazing, the children produced some excellent work and really showcased their knowledge and understanding of E safety and the positive and negative implications for all. I am so immensely proud of all the staff and children for all the hard work and achievements made. Thank you to all of you who were able to come into school and celebrate with the children. Some wonderful feedback was received. We look forward to showcasing our next learning event in the spring term.

Science week was also fabulous, the children carried out some amazing investigative work in order to help Flora the Explorer. Again thank you so much for dressing your children up as scientists. We raised over £240 for Great Ormond Street.



I very much look forward to seeing many of you at all of

Upland's Christmas gatherings. There is a lot of excitement in the air already. I hope you all have wonderful holiday and look forward to hearing about all of the holidays stories in January.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas or a restful and a Happy New Year to all.

**Mrs Vicky Sengupta**

## Dates for your Diary

28th Nov Secret Santa Store

Fri 6th Dec Christmas Bazaar 3.30 – 6pm

Christmas Lunch 12th December

Foundation nativity Thurs 12th December 9am and 2pm performances

Christmas assembly at Christchurch 10am all parents welcome.

## Free school Meals.

If you feel you may be entitled to free schools meals or would like more information please speak to a staff member in the office or Mrs McKenzie.

## Feedback :

Under the new Ofsted arrangements it is now possible to give your views on how successful we are as a school at any time by visiting the OFSTED parents page at <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

We would encourage you to take advantage of this option and, of course to give us direct feedback on what we do well and what we could improve on.

## Website :

Our website is currently being redesigned in order to reflect the changes in our school. If you have any suggestions as to what you would like to see on the website please inform the school office.

## Staff Change :

It is with sadness that Mrs Lewis will be leaving Upland Primary School at the end of this term. I'd like to thank her for all the hard work and dedication that she has given to our school over the past 11 years. We wish her all the best for the future. Mrs Langdon will be joining the staff team

## School closure due to bad weather :

We always strive to stay open during periods of snow etc., but occasionally this is not possible due to members of staff being unable to get in, or if the school site is deemed unsafe for pupils. In the event of a school closure up to date information will be available on [www.bexley.gov.uk/winter](http://www.bexley.gov.uk/winter)

## Coming in to watch performances :

It has come to my attention that on days when the children are performing or we have an event taking place in school that the school foyer becomes congested and rather unsafe for children or staff to move in school. It is also classed as a fire evacuation risk. From now on when the children are performing and you are waiting to come into school you will be asked to form an orderly queue outside the main office doors. The office staff will then let you in once the school day has started. I would appreciate your cooperation on this matter.

## How does attendance affect progress ?

Attending school regularly is very important and coming to school on time is paramount. As a school we are striving to improve our attendance. Research clearly shows that attendance and your child's progress they make in school are linked. By not coming to school regularly could really hinder your child's attainment. If your child's attendance falls below 95% you will now receive a letter; However this table clearly shows the effect poor attendance will have on your child's progress.

Attendance during 1 school year	Which equals Days absent	Which is approximately Weeks absent	This number of lessons are missed
95%	9days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons
65%	67days	13.5 weeks	340 lessons