

ULEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Live, Learn, Flourish

23rd September 2019

“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.”

We've had a fantastic start to the new school year. The children have been settling back into routine and the staff, back into the swing of things. Our topic for this term is 'Way back when...'

Staffing Updates

On Thursday 26th September, we will be saying 'goodbye' to Mrs. Saunders as she leaves to begin her maternity leave. We wish her well and look forward to meeting Baby Saunders number 2 soon. Best wishes Mr and Mrs Saunders.

LIVE, LEARN, FLOURISH

Every week we celebrate the children's talents and achievements. We also celebrate good examples of values particularly the term's value. The children receive a certificate for curriculum work and stickers for demonstrating values. The children's work can be found in a folder in the school corridor.

A fabulous well done to:

Florrie for her excellent ideas of ways to show resilience in school and remembering not to listen to her 'inner chimp'.

Zara for her helpful and caring attitude to others in the class.

Gilbert for being a kind and helpful friend to the new children in Class 3.

Edith for showing the school value of friendship by making friends with reception.

Sophia, Class 1, for being really brave when she had a big bump.

Emily for consistently working hard and helping others with their Roman shields.

Holly for her enthusiasm when approaching assessments.

Miles for showing tremendous effort and enthusiasm when writing his story about the 'Big Bad Knight'.

Joseph, Class 4, for his wise and interesting ideas when discussing what God is like and how to show mutual respect.

Joseph S for his wise words and valuable contribution to our lesson on resilience.

Dino for his hard work and thoughtful input in class debates; thinking of others' beliefs and showing respect to others.

Roxy for showing patience, consideration and respect for others when working with others to make a shield.

Nicholas for being truthful when bumping into someone on the field.

Nellie for talking about truthfulness so confidently during class worship.



Uley Church of England School

You may have noticed that some of our paperwork and displays in school have been updated to reflect the distinctively Christian nature of the Uley C of E Primary School.

Our school mission now makes reference to John 10 which reflects the vision for the Diocese of Gloucester.

“I have come that they may have LIFE, and have it to the full.”
(John 10:10)

Our Live, Learn, Flourish vision is now rooted in Psalm 3:1:

“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.”

Our emblem of a tree reminds us to celebrate our beautiful rural location, and also brings many positive associations that align with our vision with the tree of life; developing strong roots, stability, growth and nurture.

Value

The value for the autumn term is ‘Truthfulness’.

Over the course of the term we will be exploring:

Telling the whole truth – do we feel better inside if we tell the whole truth?

Living without lies – exploring truthfulness and lies through the story of Jacob and Esau. Have you ever felt tempted to tell a lie to get something you want?

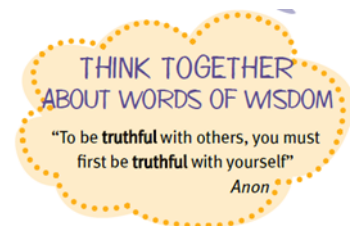
Making the right choices – sometimes other people try to influence us to make the wrong choices and not to tell the truth. Do you want to be someone that others trust to be truthful?

Searching for the truth – through the story of Phillips Treasure – truth can be like treasure.

Having the courage to be honest – sometimes keeping quiet and not saying what should be said can cause as much trouble as lying – “Speak the truth in the spirit of love.” Ephesians 4.15

You can find a link to the Home School value activities:

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



2019-2020 Team Captains and Vice Team Captains are:

Angeston

Captain – Dotty Pugh

Vice-captain – Max Kordula

Rockstowes

Captain – Ethan Montague

Vice-captain – Hattie Entwistle-Poultney

Dauncey's

Captain – Katie Nash

Vice-captain – Archie Howarth

Sheppard's

Captain – Krystal Eavis

Vice-captain – Annie Bailey



Team Captain Role and Responsibilities:

- Announce team points and add them up.
- Encourage team in sports day.
- Be a good role model.
- Motivate team at events.
- Encourage team members to be the best they can be.
- Make speeches.
- Help everyone who asks for help.
- Put out equipment and be prepared to help.

Young Leader Supervisor
Lily Nash

Worship Leader
Holly Kemmett

Team Publicist
Joseph Todd

2019-2020 School Council Members

Our school council is made up of children elected by their peers representing each year group. This year our councilors are:

Florrie Sage
Xavi Latham
Poppy Sage
Eve Naylor
Zoe Hutt
Joseph Summers
Lydia Tavner
William Griffiths



The purpose of our School Council is pupil voice and to:

- listen and support other pupils;
- be part of school improvement and help to make decisions;
- be part of the whole school team.

Harvest Service

The Uley School Harvest Service is in the church on Thursday 24th October, 9.45pm, to which you are warmly welcome. Please invite a member of the community who you know would like to join in our harvest celebrations. We will be collecting for the Stroud Food Bank and round the school you will find Food Bank posters with a shopping list of food and other items to donate.

The shopping list includes:

Tinned soup
Pasta sauce
Tinned vegetables
Tinned tomatoes
Chocolate spread
Tinned fruit
Shaving kit
Tooth brushes
Toothpaste



But **NO BEANS** please!

Please bring your donations of goods to school by **3.15pm on Wednesday 23rd October**.

Enrichment Groups

Last year we set up enrichment groups for children and we are very fortunate to have Mrs Pugh to run these weekly sessions which will continue again this year. As the year progressed, we made some tweaks including the size of the groups and we have created a simple baseline to support us in identifying areas for focus and monitoring any impact.

We aim to start our enrichment groups on Thursday 3rd October. Mrs Pugh and Mrs Mandeville (SENDco) work with the class staff, to recognise children who may benefit from some time during an afternoon, once a week, out of the classroom, to engage in activities that support the children to meet the social and intellectual demands of school life, improving their self-confidence and self-esteem.

The aims of our enrichment group are:

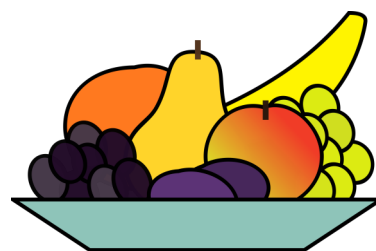
- To develop children's self-esteem
- To develop children's social skills
- To provide a calm environment
- To build relationships between adults and children
- To help the children grow in confidence, trust and reliability
- To provide a secure environment where children learn
- To provide the children with nurturing care from caring adults
- To help children learn the consequences of certain behaviours
- To work in partnership with parents and school staff to ensure consistent approach

This, of course, will be working in conjunction with you, as parents. Parents will be fully involved along the way. If we think a child would benefit from engaging in these valuable sessions then we will be in touch via email in the first instance, or if you think your child would benefit from these sessions, please come and speak to us.

Snacks

The infants receive a piece of fruit or vegetable daily through the government run, Fruit and Vegetable Scheme and we would encourage juniors to bring in a piece for break times also; it can be a long morning without a snack! Friday's are Fruitless Fridays when children can bring in a fruitless snack for break time. Water is available throughout the day.

Toast is available every Tuesday for the Infants and every Thursday for the Juniors, 10p a slice.



Policy Updates

Please find below the policies that have been reviewed which are available on the website:

- Supporting Children with Medical Needs
- First Aid Policy
- Maths Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Absconding Policy
- PSHE Policy
- Compliments and Complaints Policy

Any questions regarding our school policies, please come and ask.

Behaviour Ethos and Policy

Uley C of E Primary School has high expectations of its pupils. Our aim is to provide an education that brings out the best in every child that builds on their strengths, enables them to enjoy and extend their own learning and helps them to become motivated and successful.

We aim to work with children to support and encourage them to build positive relationships with others and work effectively within a team so that they grow into confident and tolerant citizens, valued for the contribution they make to society.

In 2016 the staff, children, governors and parents contributed to creating a behaviour ethos using the school's 4 key Christian values which are reviewed annually.

In working towards this aim we recognise that promoting an ethos of good behaviour is the responsibility of all stakeholders within the school community. We believe that our Christian values help to create an ethos where the beliefs and attitudes of everyone support the positive behaviours necessary to maintain an effective learning environment.

Trust

Be honest and just
 Believe in yourself – you can do it!
 Persevere on your journey, seek help from others

Friendship

Do as you would be done by
 Encourage, support and be proud of each other
 Smile and be thankful

Wisdom

Reflect on our mistakes and learn from them
 Make appropriate choices
 Have the courage to be the best you can be

Compassion

Be tolerant; embrace difference and diversity
 Say sorry, show you're sorry
 Show forgiveness and generosity

Children's Questionnaire Results and Feedback 2018 – 2019

Back in the summer term we asked the children for their views and have had some pleasing results.

95% children say they like school (2019) YR – Y5

100% infant children strongly agree or agree they feel safe in school (2019)

93% junior children strongly agree or agree they feel safe in school (2019)

100% Y6 children strongly agree or agree that they have been encouraged to achieve and exceed targets

98% children strongly agree or agree they are making good progress YR – Y5

98% infant children strongly agree or agree that teachers tell them how well they are doing

91% junior children strongly agree or agree that teachers tell them how well they are progressing Y3-5

100% infant children strongly agree or agree they can talk to an adult if they need help

83% junior children strongly agree or agree they can talk to an adult if they need help Y3-5

100% infant children strongly agree or agree are expected to be the best they can be

98% juniors children strongly agree or agree are expected to work hard and be the best they can be Y3-5

91% of all children YR – Y5 strongly agree or agree they enjoy borrowing books from the library

Reasons from children disagreeing – worry about getting book back on time, forgetting books, losing books, don't get time to finish book

Children's Views - What does the school do well?

Looking after children and teaching, school is good at singing and songs, school trips, everything, I like that it's fun, Maths, reading time, buddies, dealing with problems, creative and writing stories, large variety of clubs, sports, PE, Rainbow maths, art, explains things to you well, they think the best of you.

Children's Views - The school's vision and values help me – how?

Reminds me to help others, helps me to be a good friend, remind me to make the right choices, push you on to harder levels, helped me to flourish, helps people to be sensible and kind,

Parent Questionnaire Results and Feedback 2018 – 2019

Firstly I would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the Parents' Questionnaire in the summer term. We had 18 questionnaires returned (21% of the Uley families) and it was pleasing to see the positive results. Uley School is not complacent which means we are always looking at ways make our school even better.

The staff have discussed your feedback and I would like to share some of the top results and questions that received the lowest results.

100% agree/strongly agree the school has a happy atmosphere.

100% agree/strongly agree I am made to feel welcome when I come into school

100% agree/strongly agree my child is happy at school

100% agree/strongly agree the school helps to develop skills in mathematics

97% agree/strongly agree the school helps to develop skills in communication, reading and writing.

94% agree/strongly agree the school ensures my child is well looked after.

94% agree/strongly agree my child feels safe at school.

89% agree/strongly agree the school meets my child's needs.

89% agree/strongly agree there is a good standard of behaviour at school.

84% agree/strongly agree the school responds well to my concerns

83% agree/strongly agree my child is making good progress at school.

45% agree/strongly agree the school deals with case of bullying effectively and 50% responded don't know

<p>78% agree/ strongly agree the school helps me to support my child's learning.</p>	<p>At Uley School we value parental input. During parent evenings, teachers will update you on where your child is in terms of attainment via a National Curriculum target sheet which identifies areas to focus on over the coming weeks. Teachers will talk you through how you can support at home.</p> <p>We have organised information sessions in the past such as phonics, e-safety etc. but unfortunately these have not always been well attended. We will continue to plan for information sessions and look forward to better attendance.</p> <p>We encourage parents to come and speak to us if there is an area of the curriculum you feel you would like bit more information about in order to support your child's learning.</p>
<p>50% agree/ strongly agree my child gets the right amount of homework</p>	<p>Homework is not compulsory and for some that is great news. There is always debate about giving homework, what homework looks like and how much. We take into account that homework is an expectation at secondary school and we would not be giving our children the best chances if we didn't support good habits from an early age.</p> <p>Our Homework Policy aims to strike a happy balance.</p> <p>The school's topic web provides a variety of curriculum linked tasks which support the current topic over a term. For short term homework there is Rainbow Maths and Mathletics which can be practised to support the children's mathematical skills. With the introduction of the Multiplication Test for Year 4s in 2020, learning timetables from any age is important. In the infants, this can start with counting in twos, fives and tens</p> <p>At Uley School we believe in reading for enjoyment and that learning to read is essential in order to access other learning and therefore encourage daily reading at home. This can be the school's reading book, a picture book, comic, or hearing an adult read.</p> <p>Phonic and spelling practise is sent home to support the stage each child is working at.</p> <p>Have a look at Why is Reading Important? https://www.pearson.com/content/dam/one-dot-com/one-dot-com/uk/documents/Learner/Primary/Primary%20parents/Pearson_EnjoyReading_03.pdf</p> <p>We will be reviewing the homework policy very soon. Please look out for the updated policy on the website.</p>

<p>78% agree/strongly agree the school keeps me well informed.</p>	<p>At Uley School there is a variety of ways to keep informed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Newsletters are sent out approximately every other week and is full of information about what is happening in the school, updates and dates. A copy of the newsletter is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ emailed (if you have requested this) ○ sent out as hardcopies (if you have requested this) ○ pinned on the noticeboard outside the school ○ on the school website ○ Uley School has a Facebook Page where notes and reminders are added ○ The school website contains a lot of school information including a calendar of events. Any correspondence sent out is added. You will find notes and reminders on the home page. There is also a link to our Facebook page from the website. ○ Other correspondence that requires a response will be sent out via hard copies or email ○ Hard copies of correspondence will be sent home via pupils, so please check with them and check book bags. ○ A few copies of each letter sent home can be found in the letter rack next to the front door. <p>Please inform us of changes in contact details as soon as possible or if you are not receiving emails. Unexplained things can happen to emails at times!</p> <p>Don't forget that staff are happy to arrange to talk to you, should you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
<p>61% agree/strongly agree the school library had made a positive impact on my child's reading</p>	<p>Reading of any kind is really important for children; this includes magazines, non-fiction books etc. Children bring home book banded books which the children are expected to read confidently at home. The library offers alternative to the classroom reading books and promotes reading for enjoyment. A library timetable will be collected again for the next academic year. It would be great to see this percentage rise. Look out for the library lending dates 2019-2020.</p>

Other Comments	
Thank you for your feedback. Here are some of the positive comments	
<p>In recent years I've seen the school really improve the sports offer and I really appreciate the investment in activities throughout the school</p>	<p>I particularly like the way you focus on a value at a time it has clearly helped the children.</p>
<p>Fun Club provision is excellent and it is lovely to pick up happy children.</p>	<p>We feel the values you promote have been instilled in our children. It is lovely to see them talking about being kind to others and telling us what they have learnt</p>
<p>It is great that Rainbow Maths is now on the website</p>	<p>The class workshops have been excellent – it demonstrates that the children are being exposed to a stimulating and challenging curriculum and it has been great to see the term's topic brought to life as we ll as confident and eager children are to share their learning</p>
<p>We can see that there are threads of the vision and mission brought in to homework and curriculum each term which I think is effective at having a basis to follow an believe in as a school.</p>	<p>I have seen big improvement in lots of aspects at Uley this year.</p>
<p>The school as a whole is kind and well mannered</p>	

Additional comments that you think will help us continue to move the school forward	
<p>You said</p> <p>Has the offering of after school clubs and sporting activities been reduced?</p> <p>There is not enough focus on PE and school sport</p>	<p>The school has just received the bronze award for participation in school competitions and we were one off receiving a silver award. The school is currently working towards the healthy school status which requires being active hence the introduction of Active 10 as well as focussing on good mental health.</p> <p>The school has a sports coach who delivers an active club, curriculum sessions linked to mental health and Balanceability for the young children.</p> <p>We participate in the local small schools events (as a cluster at at school) which are in addition to the day to day PE curriculum. The school has entered many events over the past year including girl's and boy's football, netball, hockey, field event, dance, cross country, tag rugby.</p> <p>School staff and parents volunteer their time to run school clubs and pupil voice is taken into account.</p> <p>PE money is used to invest in upskilling staff for example recent gym training and working alongside coaches.</p> <p>Please take a look at our PE report which can be found on line. This report will give you information regarding sport provision.</p>
<p>Ongoing gender imbalance in the teaching staff</p>	<p>Recruitment at Uley for which ever post, is open to all. The process is inclusive, fair and non-discriminatory.</p> <p>When recruiting a teacher (and other roles in the school), we look for is a quality teacher who has excellent references which demonstrate a good track record, has high expectations of learning and behaviour, someone who is safe, approachable, kind and caring, and who is committed to ensuring every child flourishes.</p> <p>Here are some statistics taken from the School Workforce Census England: November 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 74% of full time equivalent teachers in primary and secondary education are female • There are 140,074 qualified female teachers employed in local authority maintained schools compared to 22,514 male teachers • There are 173,503 female teaching assistants in local authority maintained schools compared to 7,819 male teaching assistants • In Gloucestershire there are 26.8% qualified male teachers and 6.8% male teaching assistants. <p>From experience, applications from male teachers are few and far between although 17% of Uley School workforce is male - IT technician, sports coach, teaching assistant and cleaner/caretaker</p>
<p>More school-led work at home particularly maths and spelling</p> <p>More homework linked to the week's focus</p>	<p>Please see above.</p> <p>Please refer to the Homework Policy.</p> <p>Do come and speak to a member of staff should you feel more work at home is required.</p>



<p>Communications from school can be patchy and last minute</p>	<p>Please see above as to where information can be found. We apologise; we do all we can to ensure information is timely and accurate, and mistakes are kept to a minimum. Unfortunately sometimes information may be last minute due to unforeseen circumstances (such as cancellation of an after school club due to staff sickness), or a genuine mix up. We ask for your support and patience should these situations arise. If information is patchy do check the website, give the school a ring, email or pop in and see us for clarification.</p>
<p>Better instructions given to enable us to support better.</p> <p>Parents don't know how you teach these subjects</p> <p>More communication/ guidance for parents on how they can help their child</p> <p>Written feedback on progress at least 1 other time during the school year</p>	<p>There is a lot of subject matter in the National Curriculum. If there is a specific area of the curriculum you feel you may need some support with, please come and ask; we can give you our undivided attention.</p> <p>If there are a few parents wishing the same information we are more than happy to arrange an information session.</p> <p>There is a lot of information on the school website regarding expectations at each year – 'The Curriculum and Beyond'.</p> <p>We are exploring a way that we can record your child's attainment, progress and how you can support their learning that we can present at parents evening. Watch this space.</p>



Friends of Uley School Update

FUS are kicking off the new school year with our AGM, which is being held on Wednesday 25th September, and this year we're holding it at the Old Spot in Dursley (7:30pm for 8pm start). Please do come along if you want to find out more about the FUS or become more involved. Remember, all parents are automatically a member of the FUS so everyone is very welcome.

We're holding a coffee morning to welcome the new reception parents, combined with supporting Macmillan Cancer Support on Friday 27th September. Come and join us in the school hall from 8:50am for tea, coffee, pastries and cakes – donations of cakes will be much appreciated and any surplus will be sold after school.

Ofsted Parent View

Leaflets can be found in the reception area or visit www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

The Use of the School Field

Please note that the school field is now in use from 3.15 - 4pm on a Monday and Friday for school clubs so please avoid using the field at these times. Fun Club use the school field from 4pm onwards. Thank you.





Diary Dates

Week Commencing Monday 23rd September – Reception all day with hot school lunches

Wednesday 25th September – 8.00pm Friends of Uley School Annual General Meeting, Old Spot Inn Dursley

Friday 27th September – 8.50am – Macmillan coffee morning and welcome to new parents

Friday 27th September – Swimming Class 4

Friday 4th October – Swimming Class 4

Week commencing 7th October – Bikeability Year 6

Friday 11th October – Swimming Class 4

Wednesday 16th October 9 – 10.25am – Head Teacher's Surgery

Friday 18th October – Swimming Class 4

Wednesday 23rd October – Parent's Evening, starting at 3.40pm – letter to follow

Thursday 24th October – Harvest Service – more information to follow

Thursday 24th October – End of term 1.

Monday 4th November – Term 2 begins.

Wednesday 6th November – Head Teacher's Surgery, 2-3pm

Thursday 7th November – Parent's Evening starting at 5pm

Friday 8th November – Class 4 swimming

Week commencing 11th November – Anti – bullying week – more information to follow

Friday 15th November – Swimming Class 4