



Upper Arley C of E Primary School

Newsletter 18th December 2020

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Tel: 01299 861260

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a very busy but enjoyable term we have had here in Upper Arley C of E Primary School.

May I commend your children, every one of them, for their hard work and enthusiasm in learning, as well as their adaption to the surroundings and restrictions placed upon them this term. They have adjusted well and just got on with it.

We have been very lucky for school to have been able to remain open and have all children learning in school. We have heard of so many where bubbles have been sent home and whole schools closed in our local area due to positive cases of COVID infections. Thank you for your diligence and persistence with the protective measures recommended and adherence to school requests for support in this.

You may have seen the recent letter from school advising you of the procedures to take during the holiday should you or some one you live with tests positive for Coronavirus. Please ensure that these are followed should you or someone you live with, is tested positive.

All being well, we will be ready for children to come back into school on Tuesday 5th January, as Monday 4th is a Teacher Education Day. Please keep an eye on the website and School Ping app for notifications or further updates.

Should you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at head@upperarley.worcs.sch.uk. Please note that, the Office email inbox is not monitored during the holiday period.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the last few weeks of term, celebrating Christmas with yourselves and the children, albeit at a safe distance. I hope that you enjoyed the activities and events that we have been able to share and look forward to planning many more next year. Please support your children in the activities they have planned for children to engage in during the holiday and enjoy looking through the schools You Tube channel for clips of what we have been up to this term.

I wish you all a safe and peaceful Christmas.

Mrs Tracie Langfield

Head Teacher

Swifts Class - 12 days of Christmas Challenge! In Swifts class this Christmas we thought about how we could celebrate whilst also continuing to be safe in the current world. Swifts decided to create a challenge that every family could get involved with over the Christmas period... are you ready to get your fun and creative hats on and take part in the Swifts 12 days of Christmas Challenge? Please see the back page for instructions!

Falcons QR Challenge!

Do you want an interesting outdoor digital event for the family this Christmas break? Why not follow the Falcon's QR quiz hunt!

If you are interested in taking part in this digital festival fun, bring a smart device (such as a smart phone), to the school gate. You will have different colour routes to follow. Simply scan the first QR code for the colour and answer the question, don't forget to check the answer on the back! Then spend some time walking around the village, finding the QR codes and scanning them.

We would love your feedback!

Happy Christmas!

Falcons Class.

LEARNING AND THE CURRICULUM

The new term brings new opportunities for the children to learn through.

As a taster for things to come, Swifts class will be participating in **PE sessions** at Wolverly High School, each Wednesday for the half term. They will be developing key skills in a number of sports, taught by experienced teachers from the school. Children will be accompanied by their class teacher and supporting staff and will travel by coach to and from the school. They will not need any special equipment or clothing but **will need to ensure they have a warm, winter PE kit in school along with sturdy, clean trainers.**

Hopefully, Falcons will commence their **swimming sessions** each Friday as planned. A letter will be sent nearer the time regarding details for this.

Forest School Sessions

All children in school engage with Forest School activities each week. The purpose of Forest School is to support the development of many non academic skills, such as problem solving, thinking creatively and dealing with emotions and differing environments.

These sessions are sociable and their success is reliant on the positive interactions between both adults and children. This year, we have seen childrens attitudes develop positively and become more independent as a result of the experiences and dialogue between adults and children as they experience challenges both socially and physically within the outdoor environment.

These sessions are most valuable for the development of these attributes as well giving the opportunity to learn about the great outdoors.

We hope that you can continue to support this by ensuring that children are prepared with the right clothing for these sessions. Warm layers, hats, gloves and wellington boots.

Dance Exchange

We are lucky enough to be involved with the talented dancers from the Birmingham Dance Exchange. Dancers will be working with all classes throughout the spring term. More details will follow after the new year.

Suitcase Project

Falcons will be taking part in a very interesting and worthwhile project throughout the first spring half term. This will involve working virtually with residents from a local care home and experts in dementia and history. There will be a particular focus on activities that will trigger historical memories. The children will take part in drama and film activities, as well as zooming as a class to understand the condition more.

World Book Day

As always in school, there is a focus on reading. This year we are planning a themed World Book Day. To give you plenty of notice, this will be based on the story of Alice in Wonderland. The children will work with drama teachers and storytellers to explore the characters and story prior to choosing which character to dress as on World Book Day. More details will follow later in the term.



PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

The deadline for applying for school places is the 15th January 2021. This is for spaces in Reception September 2021

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20099/school_admissions

We are still welcoming bookings for tours of the school should you know anyone who is interested in considering Upper Arley C of E Primary school for their child. Please contact the school directly on or after January 4th or via email head@upperarley.worcs.sch.uk.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL WRAP AROUND CARE



Please contact the school office or HHWAC@upperarley.worcs.sch.uk directly if you need to make use of this service. This will be available from 7.30am until 6pm, 5 days per week commencing Tuesday 5th January. Please ensure you book ahead where possible. A booking form will be available from the website.

Diary dates Autumn 2020

DECEMBER

Friday 18th

End of term

JANUARY

Monday 4th

Teacher Education Day (children not in school)

Tuesday 5th

Children return to school

Tuesday 13th

Eye tests for Reception and Year 1 children

Friday 15th

Swimming starts for Year 5 and 6 to be confirmed

FEBRUARY

Friday 12th

HALF TERM BEGINS

Monday 22nd

Children return to school

MARCH

Monday 1st

Alice in Wonderland workshop

Thursday 4th

WORLD BOOK DAY—Alice in Wonderland themed

Sunday 14th

Mothering Sunday

APRIL

Thursday 1st

End of term

Monday 19th

Children return to school

Swifts have put together 12 challenges they'd like to complete with their families over the Christmas break. We challenge you to do as many challenges as you can before we return to school in January!

On the **first** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To decorate my Christmas tree

On the **second** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **third** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **fourth** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To make a gingerbread house, go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **fifth** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To create a Christmas activity, make a gingerbread house, go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **sixth** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To sing Christmas carols in the country, create a Christmas activity, make a gingerbread house, go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **seventh** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To open my advent calendar, sing Christmas carols in the country, create a Christmas activity, make a gingerbread house, go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **eighth** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To wear a Santa hat all day, open my advent calendar, sing Christmas carols in the country, create a Christmas activity, make a gingerbread house, go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **ninth** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To wear a Santa hat all day, open my advent calendar, sing Christmas carols in the country, create a Christmas activity, make a gingerbread house, go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **tenth** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To build a snowman, wear a Santa hat all day, open my advent calendar, sing Christmas carols in the country, create a Christmas activity, make a gingerbread house, go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **eleventh** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To read a Christmas story, build a snowman, wear a Santa hat all day, open my advent calendar, sing Christmas carols in the country, create a Christmas activity, make a gingerbread house, go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

On the **twelfth** day of Christmas, swifts challenged me:

To play pass the parcel on Christmas day, read a Christmas story, build a snowman, wear a Santa hat all day, open my advent calendar, sing Christmas carols in the country, create a Christmas activity, make a gingerbread house, go on a walk, make hot chocolate and decorate my Christmas tree

