



NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

The new school year has begun well with the children settling into their new routines with their teachers. We ran Bikeability in the second week and had an excellent turn out with most of the children in Year Four and Five earning their certificates and badges. We are hosting a Celebration Day for all of the children who took part on Wednesday 12th October.

We are visiting the school values weekly and so far, we have focused on Forgiveness, Courage, Compassion and Trust. On the next page there is an update about our school vision and values. Our long-term plan for Worship has also been updated and we continue to welcome Louvain in for regular visits. Unfortunately, we are having to say goodbye to Reverend Nigel, who is moving on to pastures new. We wish him all the best and thank him for the support he has given us with delivering assemblies and running our Bible Club.



As a link with compassion, Barrie Lewis came in to talk to the children about making up shoeboxes for children abroad. Shoeboxes will be given to a vulnerable child, or family, through schools, nurseries, hospitals and orphanages. Your child should have brought a leaflet home which gives you more information. Please bring shoeboxes in by Friday 4th November.

As part of our school priorities, we will be monitoring attendance closely and will be using the Department of Education guidance to address poor attendance and punctuality. It is vitally important that your child attends school every day unless they are unwell. Research shows that poor attendance will impact negatively on a child's social and emotional wellbeing, as well as their academic progress. Teachers plan robust sequences of learning, and essential knowledge and skills can be missed if a child is away regularly.

Reading is another very important area which needs to be highlighted and please continue to support your child with reading regularly at home. Thank you so much to our parents who attended our recent phonics workshops, and we hope you found them very useful. Please encourage your child to read every day and record in their home/school reading diary.

The children are looking very smart in their school uniform. Thank you for your support as we make the transition from the old uniform to the new. The new school coats look extremely smart and are very warm, as well as being waterproof – just perfect for this time of year, as the weather turns colder.

Our Harvest Festival will take place in St Peter's Church on the morning of Thursday 20th October. We shall walk down to church first thing, and we would really appreciate it if parents are available to support us with the walk. We are suggesting that non-perishable items are donated for the harvest so that they can be passed on to the Food Bank.

It has been lovely welcoming parents on to the school site in the morning; it makes such a difference and gives you an opportunity to pass on any important messages to the teachers. Staff are always available to help, queries and messages can also be sent to the school office via e-mail: office@upperarleycofeschool.org. If anything needs immediate attention, please call the office on 01299 861260. Wishing you all a lovely autumnal weekend.

Louise Low

Mrs Louise Low
Headteacher



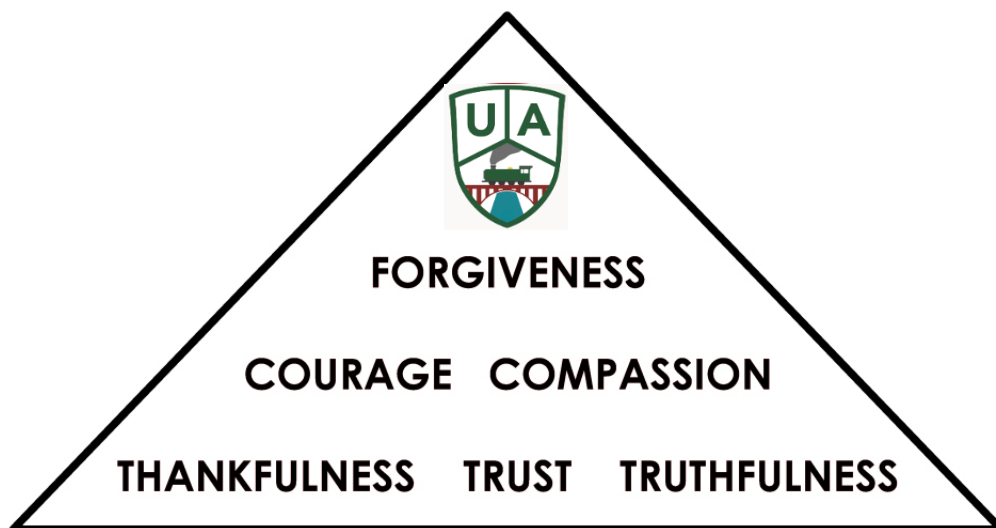
Upper Arley C of E Primary School

VISION AND VALUES

We have been working with Worcester Diocese to update our vision and values. The values have been streamlined into six which will be shared with the children on a much more regular basis.

ONE COMMUNITY, LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER, SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Here at Upper Arley C of E Primary School we recognise everyone as a child of God and through sharing this knowledge, we encourage all to grow in their learning so that everyone can achieve and flourish in all they do.

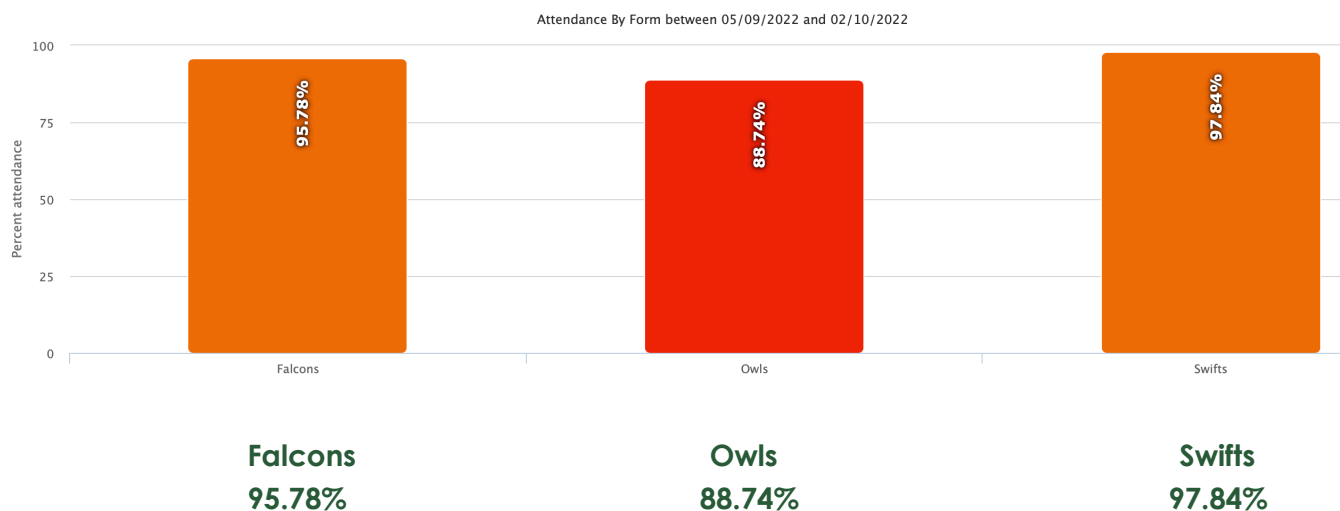


"I can do all this through Christ because he gives me strength"
Philippians 4:13

God created everyone in his image, and we are all his children. His ultimate aim is for us to grow and succeed in everything we do as his children. It is through the strength that Christ gives that we are able to overcome all challenges and to achieve and flourish in all that we do.



Attendance for the School Year



**The target this year is to ensure all children have at least 96% attendance.
Attendance for the academic year is 94.2%**

Thank you to all Parents and Carers for ensuring that their child/ren attend school and are punctual for the start of the school day. **Good attendance has a positive impact on your child's well-being and educational outcomes.** We do know that from time-to-time children are too poorly to come to school. If this is the case, please **ring the school office by 9.15am** on 01299 861260 or email, if you prefer to office@upperarleycofeschool.org. It is important that you inform school if your child is unwell.

If your child has a medical appointment, please bring in the relevant letters to the office and if possible, try and arrange for these to be outside of the school day.

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility

If you feel a child is at risk of immediate harm and needs immediate protection phone the police and the Family Front Door on **01905 822666**



Happy Hares

The children in Happy Hares were excited to return and explore all the new resources in the classroom. Our topic this term is 'What is special about me'. We have made self-portraits, talked about who is in our family, shared our photos and looked at our likes and dislikes. The children met our new story time bear and came up with his name, "Ginger". He sits with the children during story time and likes to blow lots of bubbles at the end of the story.





Little Owls

This term in reception we have been focusing on numbers 1 to 10! We have been counting using our rules of counting and using ten frames to represent numbers up to 10!

In Talk for Writing, we have been exploring lots of different texts. Giraffes can't dance, The Little Red Hen and The Elephant and the bad baby. We have become familiar with these stories and have created story maps with actions, role played the stories with masks and hot seated each other to take on the role of different characters.

In Topic we have been thinking about what makes us unique and how we are similar and different to our friends. We have created self-portraits, timelines of our milestones and goals on string to celebrate all the amazing milestones we have achieved!





Owls

The children have had a wonderful start to their learning in Owls this term. We enjoyed learning about each other and thinking about what makes us unique through our topic 'All About Me'. We are looking forward to finding out more about our local area too. We challenged ourselves in our learning. We can express and explain our ideas really well and are fabulous at acting out and inventing stories. We have been exploring our fantastic Forest School Area and using our enquiry skills to observe all the changes in the environment. The children planted tulip bulbs to watch them grow and notice seasonal changes across the year.

We loved making a healthy snack using equipment to prepare and blend our fruit smoothies and we have had an exciting time taking part in a Multiskills competition. We all worked hard, tried our best and supported each other to show excellent sportsmanship. Well done, Owls!



A home for a hibernating hedgehog



Acting out our own stories

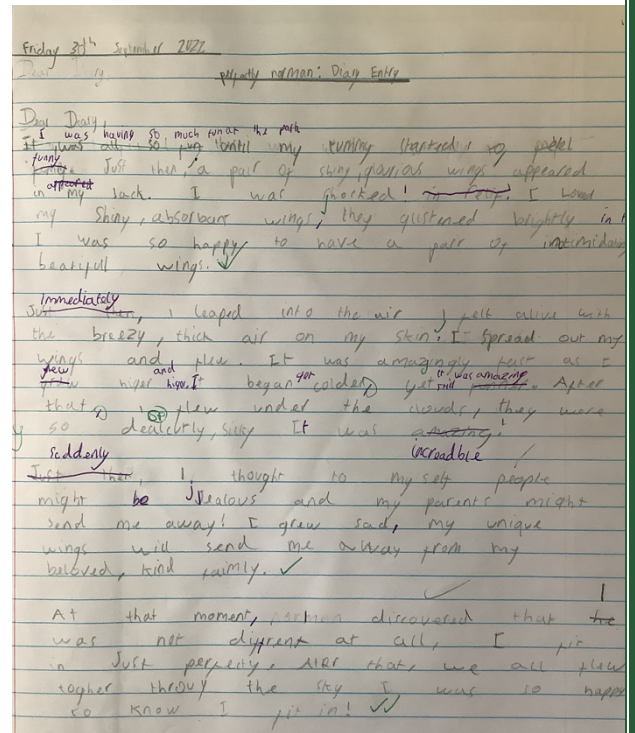


Taking turns to prepare our fruit smoothies



Swifts

We have had a lovely start to the term in Swifts! We have already been practising our cooking skills, cooking, completing our level 1 Bikeability, and learning skills in gymnastics. We have been showing creativity throughout writing, learning about features of a diary entry, and writing them based on Perfectly Norman. We are now moving onto our Geography topic of rivers, and we will be learning all about the River Severn and beyond.



Falcons

We have had a busy and productive start to the beginning of term. Year 6 have been swimming weekly at the local baths in Kidderminster and all of the children are loving the opportunity to be back in forest school. Year 5 have had their level 2 Bikeability training which means that they have been observed to be safe whilst riding on the road. I have been amazed by the creativity of the children in their writing and their artwork, we have talented children in our class! The children have explored what it is to be different and how wonderful diversity is through our text Perfectly Norman and have written their own endings for the story. We have also baked bread and been looking at staying safe whilst being online. We are moving on to studying floods and their impact on people and the local area both in Geography and English.





Shared Deputies

You may well have already met Mr Harris and Mr Modley, our shared deputy headteachers with St George's. Please come up and say hello if you haven't had a chance to do so.



Mr Harris



Mr Modley

Nursery places

We do have Nursery places available. If you know of anyone who is looking for Nursery provision for three-year-olds, why not tell them about our beautiful setting? Contact the office to organise a look around on 01299 861260 or email, if you prefer to office@upperarleycofeschool.org

Sports Events

Well, what a busy and exciting start to our new term this year. The first week back we welcomed a minibus to our school, kindly loaned to us for at least this year, by Hollymount School. This of course opens up a new avenue in terms of school trips, and Sports Events. Not only saving us money to use elsewhere in the P.E. Department, but also saving us a lot of admin and possible disappointment trying to hire buses from elsewhere.

It has also allowed us to make use of hourly, instead of half hourly swimming lessons at Holy Trinity, and even after only three weeks we can see what a difference it has made to their stroke development. Our events for this half term include Sports Crew, Multiskills, Tag rugby, and Volleyball.

Sports crew/Well-being champions on Tuesday 4th Oct involved eight children from Year 6 and six from Year 5. Year 6 attended the Sports crew where they learned all about the important role they can perform helping the school and staff with their P.E. and Sport provision. Year 5 attended the Well-being Champions session where they were helped to widen their understanding of being Physically and Mentally well, and how they can take these skills and help mentor other children within our school. They are all sporting a lovely badge for their efforts and we are looking forward to working towards our targets for the year.

On Friday 7th October we took ten Year 1 and 2 children to a Multiskills event at Wolverley. For some this was not only their first school trip but their first trip on a bus! The children took part in about 12 different activities which developed their co-ordination, running and catching skills. Superb enthusiasm, behaviour and determination came from everybody involved- Well done Owls!



Apple Pressing



We are planning on turning our lovely apples, which are grown on site, into apple juice once again this year. If you would like to **donate any of your apples**, please bring into school over the coming days but by Thursday 20th October at the latest.

Updates

If there are any changes to your child's medical needs or updates regarding change of address, telephone numbers or e-mail addresses, please let Mrs Hope know in the office. We are endeavouring to send communications out via School Ping. If you have any problems with the use of this App, please let the office know and we will try to help.

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 12th October: Cycle Celebration Day

Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th October: Parents' Meetings

Thursday 20th October: Harvest Festival 9am St Peter's Church

Thursday 20th October: Final date to bring your apples in

Friday 21st October: TED Day – Children not required in school

Monday 31st October: All children return to school

Monday 31st October: School Photos

Wednesday 16th November: Swifts Visit to Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre

Friday 4th November: Shoe box deadline

Friday 29th November: Flu vaccine R -Yr6

Swimming will begin for Year 4 after half term

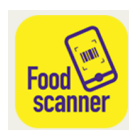


Healthy Snacks

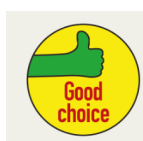
Our Upper Arley families have requested some information about healthier snacks to include in lunch boxes.

This link will take you to the NHS online resources where you will find lots of ideas for snacks you can look out for in the shops, make at home or include as an alternative choice for your child

[Healthier snacks - Food facts - Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/healthier-snacks/)



You can download the food scanner app and look out for these labels and symbols on packaging.



This link explains a bit more about food labels.

[What is traffic light labelling and how is it used for food? | Metro News](https://www.metro.co.uk/news/health/what-is-traffic-light-labelling-and-how-is-it-used-for-food-13456789)



If you have any questions, please share these with your child's class teacher. Other families may have the same question. We will try to answer your questions in the next newsletter and share the information with all our Upper Arley families.

Playtime Snacks

Please send in fruit for playtime. We wish to encourage the children to make healthy choices.





Friends of Upper Arley PTFA

EVERYONE IS
WELCOME TO
JOIN US -
JUST POP
ALONG TO
SHARE YOUR
IDEAS!

FRIENDS OF UPPER ARLEY PTFA

OPEN

MEETING

TUES
OCT 11th

5PM

**UPPER
ARLEY
PRIMARY**

SCHOOL BANK
UPPER ARLEY
DY12 1XA

ALL WELCOME!



Internet Safety

10 INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

1 Don't block all access to technology. Help your child learn to use tech **safely** and **positively**.

2 Take an **interest** in your child's favourite apps or sites. Co-view or co-create at times.

3 Be the parent. You're in charge. Set **boundaries** and consider using filtering software.

4 Create a family media **agreement** with tech free zones such as cars, bedrooms, and meals.

5 Teach your child what **personal information** they should not reveal online (YAPPY acronym).

6 Help your child learn to **filter** information online and navigate fact from fiction.

7 Navigate digital **dilemmas** with your child. Avoid using devices as rewards or punishments.

8 **Balance** green time and screen time at home. Focus on basic developmental needs.

9 Don't support your child to sign up for sites with **age restrictions** (e.g. 13+) if they're underage.

10 **Learn more:** Explore reliable resources for parents so you can educate yourself.



Upper Arley C of E Primary School

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2022

Staff TED: Monday 5th September

Term begins: Tuesday 6th September

Staff TED: Friday 21st October

Half term: Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October

Term ends: Friday 16th December

Spring Term 2023

Staff TED: Tuesday 3rd January

TERM begins: Wednesday 4th January

Staff TED: Friday 17th February

Half term: Monday 20th February – Friday 24th February

Term ends: Thursday 30th March

Staff TED: Friday 31st March

Summer Term 2023

Term begins: Monday 17th April

May Day: Monday 1st May

Half term: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

Term ends: Friday 21st July

Bank Holidays:

Christmas Day

Boxing Day

Good Friday

Easter Monday

May Day

Whitsun/Spring Bank Holiday

Tuesday 27th December 2022

Monday 26th December 2022

Friday 7th April 2023

Monday 10th April 2023

Monday 1st May 2022

Thursday 29th May 2023

Teacher Training Dates:

Monday 5th September 2022

Friday 21st October 2022

Monday 3rd January 2023

Friday 17th February 2023

Friday 31st March 2023