



NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

The children have settled into school so well and we are so proud of their achievements and progress so far this year. They are looking incredibly smart in their new uniform and have certainly stood out at recent sports event in the green Upper Arley PE kits and coats.

Whole school topics so far, have been 'This is Me' and currently the children are focusing on 'My Place My Time', encompassing Geography and History. A number of educational visits have been planned for some classes this term – you will see an updated list of dates at the end of this newsletter.

The Harvest Service on Wednesday gave us an opportune moment to be thankful for the wonderful fruits and vegetables this season offers. It has been lovely to be supported by Louvain with our Worship and we are so pleased to welcome 'Open the Book' with Tony and Marion, who have been sharing bible stories with us.

We had a fantastic surprise at the end of the summer, when we were told that a local event celebrating the life of the racing car driver Peter Collins, had raised some money and it was being donated to our school. Chris Holford and Chris Price told the children about Peter and presented us with a cheque for £600! We are going to buy Science books and a bench for our Reflection Garden. Thank you so much!

We also had some good news from our local Councillor, Dan Morehead, who has organised some additional signage and road markings around school to help with road safety. Dan came in with the Arley Parish Clerk, Angela to tell the children and give us an opportunity to say 'thank you'.

Ann Mulders from HSBC has been in again this half term to teach the children about money. She always makes the lessons fun for each class.

You may have noticed your child coming home with our fabulous Learning Superpower stickers. These are learning characteristics which we really wish to promote at Upper Arley. Ask your child to tell you all about them. You can find out more about them, later in this newsletter.

At Upper Arley C of E School, we believe that reading is hugely important and helps to unlock all other learning. Part of reading to learn is the practise they can have outside of school and the development of a lifelong love of reading. For this reason, we ask that children have at least 5 reads recorded in their home-school link books each week. Please speak to your child's teacher for advice on how to support your child with their reading. We have a visit from the Book Fair.

If you have not had a chance to complete the latest parent questionnaire, please use this QR code to take you directly to it:



We are also sending out the link – see below - for our Trust Relationships and Health Education policy. This is out for consultation with parents. If you have any comments or feedback please contact the school via e-mail at office@upperarleycofeschool.org



Don't forget to book your child's place for the Pantomime, we are so excited to be going again this year! This can be found on Parent Pay. Over the half term break the children have been invited to spend some time thinking about science and also to generate some ideas for our 'Reflection Garden' which we are hoping to create in the concrete space next to Owls and Falcons' door. Please see the projects which have been sent home.

Kind regards

Louise Low

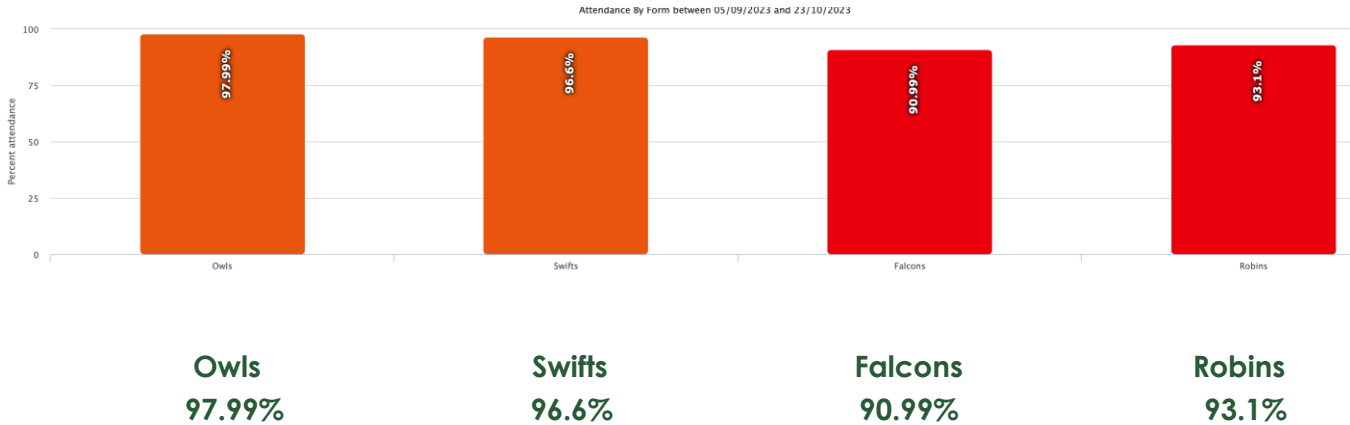
Mrs Louise Low
Headteacher



Chris Price and Chris Holford
presenting the cheque for £600.



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 94.41%

Well done to **Robins and Swifts** who won this week's attendance trophy with 100% for last week. The two classes will share the trophy until the next announcement for the winning class.

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 9.00am** 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.

What are we doing to reward good attendance?

We want to celebrate 100% attendance and good class attendance. As part of this, we are rewarding the class with a trophy, for each week's highest attendance. We will display each class's weekly attendance on a display for the children to see every day on the wall outside Happy Hare's/Owl's/Falcon's door.



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**.



Our School Vision

Through our vision of **ONE COMMUNITY, LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER SHARING GOD'S LOVE**, we recognise everyone as a child of God. Through this learning, 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**

Our School Values

We focus on a school value each week. The children are fantastic at telling us how they practise these values in school and at home, so look out for them!



Thank you so much for the wonderful Harvest donations which will be delivered to the local food bank.



Happy Hares

This term in Happy Hares we have been reminding each other of our listening rules, remembering where items belong, how we use new items, and how we look after our classroom. The children have worked really hard in all of these areas and really helped to encourage each other. We have also been looking at a different story each week where we use puppets, masks, musical instruments, soft toys and lots of story props, the children really liked reading the story Rainbow Fish as they got to share out their shiny scales with a friend of their choice. Each morning we have used our senses to discover what is in the "box". Last week the children found some signs of Autumn hiding in there. They used the leaves to sing the song "Autumn leaves are falling down, falling down". I look forward to next half term giving the children lots of opportunities to discover Autumn for themselves.





Owls



Role-playing a Baptism.

RE

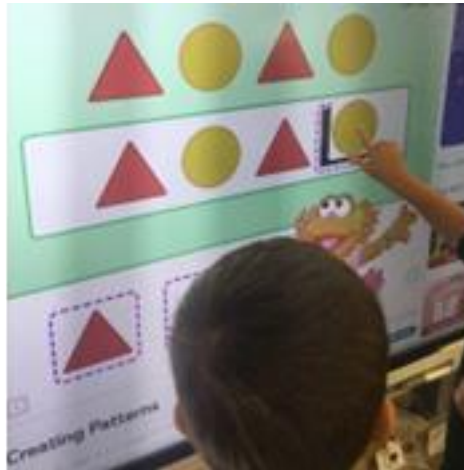
We have been thinking about what makes us feel we belong and how we might show we belong to different groups. The children discussed who was in their family, sports and recreation groups as well as any faith groups they belong to. We enjoyed thinking about the artefacts used in a Baptism and how ceremonies and celebrations help to make someone feel welcome in our groups.

Talk for Write

We love stories! Owls are fabulous at using lots of actions and expression to retell stories. We think it is very funny when the animals misbehave in the story, but we think the Little Red Hen should give her farm friends another chance to help her.

Maths

We have been developing our understanding of measures and patterns. We compared the size and length of items around the classroom and outdoors and created our own patterns using a range of resources.



Topic

We have loved learning about growing and changing. We chatted about ourselves and have been thinking about how the weather has changed during Autumn. We had lots of fun exploring the leaves on our play area and in Forest School. We noticed which of our trees are beginning to shed their leaves and which are evergreen.





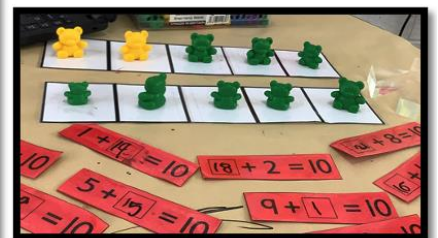
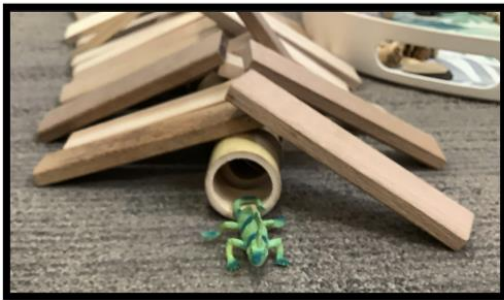
Robins

In Robins this term we have been busy working on Place value. We have been representing, writing numbers and learning about how numbers can be made using tens and ones. We have been working with resources to help support us learning our number bonds to 10 and 20! In writing we have been learning Little Red Riding Hood and learning about a simple plot to retell a narrative. We have been focusing on a story structure with a beginning, middle and end.

In art we have been exploring the artist Anthony Browne and focusing on drawing skills such as tripod grip, applying pressure when sketching and working closely with the Austin's butterfly model to support us with improving our self-portraits.

In Geography we have been exploring the UK's four countries and capital cities! We have been comparing the capital cities to our capital of London. We have explored the physical and human features and explored similarities and differences alongside locating the countries on a map of the United Kingdom.

In Science we have been exploring things that are living, dead and never been alive! We have sorted living and non-living things and explored different habitats and microhabitats! We have been using our outdoor area to search for micro-habitats and the living things that live there.





Swifts

This first term has been wonderful, and the new Swifts class has settled in brilliantly!

We began the year with cooking frittatas, where the children showed that they were Collaborative Cleos, and Enthusiastic Eddies when working as a team to make the yummy treats. We also used maths and geography skills to help us understand where the food comes from, what country certain foods come from, and weighing the ingredients accurately using a scale.

In science, Year 3 and 4 have been exploring plants, focusing on how they are structured, grow, and effect the world. We turned to the wildflowers on the playground and field to help us with this and observed different growing conditions.

We began our music unit by listening to Night on a Bare Mountain, and discussing what the children could hear, the story behind in, and how the music changes throughout the movement. We have then progressed to using a variety of instruments to create soundscapes based on images of mountains and creating sound effects for a soundless video.





Falcons

What a busy half term it has been! Year 6 have been enjoying reading and watching 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' throughout our English lessons. We have been using a range of writing skills to create setting and character descriptions from this famous story, leading and inspiring us to write our own narrative.

In Maths, we have been working extremely hard when using the formal written methods for all four operations and applying these within different reasoning problems. As well as the four operations, we have been calculating using fractions, which will continue after half term.

Year 6 have been fantastic artists this half term and have sketched their own self-portraits in the style of John Tenniel. We are even going to attempt some portraits of the staff now – we cannot wait to see these!

In Geography, we have been exploring the different biomes of the world and where to find them. We have enjoyed researching how the climates differ between these biomes and what plants and animals can be found here. We loved taking photographs when carrying out fieldwork, in order to collect evidence to prove that we live in a temperate biome.





Sports Events

It seems quite appropriate at this time of year that we are again embarking on our Sporting journey with an outstanding crop of talented children. Our first event of this term involved a group of Year 5 and 6 children attending the Sportscrew and Wellbeing Champions training on Tuesday 3rd October at Stourport Sports Centre. The Sportscrew were selected from those children that have shown great enthusiasm and willingness to take part and help others take part in all sorts of sporting activities that take place during the year. The Wellbeing Champions were chosen from children that showed a real empathetic and considerate nature to their fellow students and will be a great help in the classroom and playground, helping those children that may need a sympathetic shoulder. Both of these groups, as part of their training will be leading a school assembly during next half term to introduce and explain their roles to everyone.

Some of our Key stage 1 children attended the Multiskills Festival at Bewdley Leisure Centre on the 13th October. The sports hall was set up with over 12 different activities to test their Fundamental Movement Skills that they have been learning in their P.E. lessons. The enthusiasm and joy on their faces was a sight to behold.

Our first event for the older children was the Mixed Netball Competition that took place at Stourport Netball Dome on Monday 23rd October. We were determined to do better than last year, so training had begun as soon as we returned from the summer Holidays. A group of 8 children took part in a league of 8, that, as usual, included schools that were a lot larger than those, but as is the Upper Arley Way, we approached the competition with our usual supreme attitude of showing everyone what our school is all about.

What happened next was simply amazing! We won our first game 5-0, our second 5-1, our third 3-0, then 8-0!! We couldn't? Could we? 4 games 4 big wins, Mrs Wood and I were finding it quite hard to keep our pride and excitement under wraps. Only having 8 players to choose from unfortunately was to play a big part in the next few fixtures, where we drew 2-2 (after leading 2-0), won 9-0, then lost our last game 2-0 to the overall Champions. Despite this We cannot underestimate how good our team was on the day: 5 wins, 1 draw and only 1 loss. We scored 32 goals and only conceded 4, a fantastic achievement unmatched by any other school. It would be hard to pick out any individual performances as everyone was tremendous!!

Next term sees us trying to defend our Year 5 Cross Country title at Stourport, plus a new event to the calendar in Speed Stacking.



Our Netball Team in Action



Multisports

Congratulations!

We would like to let you know that Miss Burton has had a beautiful baby girl. She has named her Beau and we met her for the first time at our Harvest Festival. Miss Burton brought her into school afterwards, so that the children could say 'Hello'. Congratulations Miss Burton!



Learning Superpowers

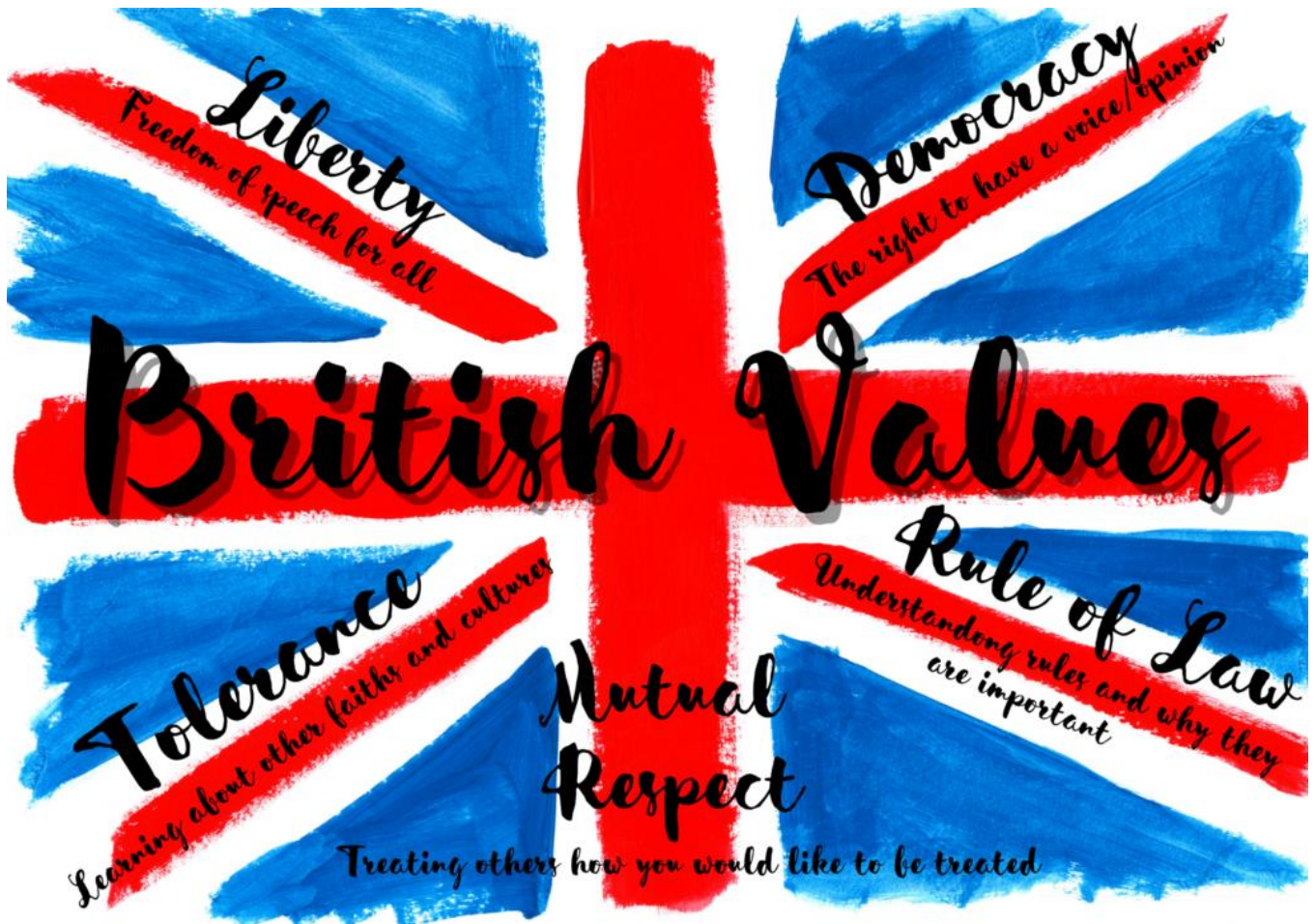
You may well have seen your child sporting a learning superpower sticker. At Upper Arley, we have worked hard to identify the learning characteristics which we would like to promote. These are curiosity, enthusiasm, resilience, collaboration and being a risk taker. The children have been focusing on one superpower a week to learn all about each one. The children have been amazing and are learning to use these powers every day.





British Values

As a school, we are striving to create responsible, respectful and active citizens; teach the children to stay safe in the real and online worlds; help them thrive and celebrate individuality; and flourish in later life. One way in which this can be achieved is the recognition and understanding of the British Values. Please chat to you child about the values below and discuss how they impact them.



Uniform

Mrs Hope has had new uniform stock delivered, please order on Parent Pay, if you require any new items. Please label all school items to ensure that they are not lost.

Shoebboxes

If you are planning to fill a shoebox over the half term holiday, please bring it in after the half term holiday, ready for Barrie and Teams 4U.





Forest Friends

If you know anyone with young children from 0 – 5, let them know about our wonderful Forest Friends, which is currently running on the first Wednesday of every month. The next session will be Wednesday 8th November.



Forest Friends



Families come along and join us for fun in our forest school.

Activities include Leaf rubbing, Den making, Story time, Nature patterns, Mud mixing, Treasure hunt, Obstacle course, all in the wonderful surroundings of Upper Arley C of E Primary School's Forest School site.

Arley Lane, Upper Arley DY12 1XA



from
little
seeds
grow
mighty
trees

Session dates-

First Wednesday of each month, if the Wednesday falls in the school holidays it will be the Wednesday after.

There will be reminders of the actual dates on [our Facebook page](#).

Session times

From 10am to 11am
For children aged 5 and under.

Free Sessions

Includes refreshments for children and adults.

Please book with the office
01299 861260 or email:

office@upperarleycofeschool.org





Open Mornings

If you know of any families with upcoming Nursery or Reception children, tell them about our lovely school and the Open Mornings coming up. See the poster below for details.



Reception and Nursery Open Days

Contact our office for more information and to book your place. See dates available below.



At Upper Arley C of E Primary School we inspire the whole child through our distinctive Christian ethos to develop a sense of pride and ambition leading to strong attitudes to learning and good outcomes.

Thursday 16th November
10am – 11am

Thursday 30th November
10am – 11am



Upper Arley
C of E Primary School

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

office@upperarleycofeschool.org

01299 861260



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 13th November – Anti-Bullying Week – wear odd socks to school

Monday 13th November: BOOK FAIR IN SCHOOL all week until Thursday

Thursday 16th November – Reception Open Morning 10am

Thursday 16th November – Bags 2 School (PTFA)

Thursday 16th November – School Photos

Friday 17th November – Robins trip to Aston Hall

Friday 17th November – Wear Red Day (Anti-Bullying Week)

Monday 20th November – Bikeability Week

Wednesday 22nd November – Falcons visit to Worcester Cathedral
(Civil War Workshop)

Thursday 30th November – Reception Open Morning 10am

Friday 1st December – Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Crafts
afternoon/Chocolate donations

Tuesday 5th December- Happy Hares/Owls/Robins Nativity 9am and 6pm

Friday 8th December – Non-Uniform Day – bring a bottle

Tuesday 12th December - Carol Service KS2 – St Peter's Church 6pm

Wednesday 13th December – Pantomime visit (late return to school)

Friday 15th December – Christmas Fayre (PFTA) 3.15pm

Monday 18th December – Elfridges Shop (PTFA)

Wednesday 20th December – Black Pear Trust Carol service at Worcester
Cathedral

Thursday 21st December – Christmas Dinner free to all children

Friday 22nd December – Christmas Parties



Term Dates 2023-2024

Autumn Term 2023

Staff TED: Monday 4th September

Term begins: Tuesday 5th September

Staff TED: Friday 22nd September

Staff TED: Friday 27th October

Half term: Monday 30th October – Friday 3rd November

School re-opens: Monday 6th November

Term ends: Friday 22nd December

Spring Term 2024

Term begins: Monday 8th January

Staff TED: Friday 9th February

Half term: Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February

School re-opens: Monday 19th February

Term ends: Thursday 21st March

Staff TED: Friday 22nd March

Summer Term 2024

Term begins: Monday 8th April

Staff TED: Friday 24th May

Half term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

School re-opens: Monday 3rd June

Term ends: Friday 19th July

Staff TED: Monday 22nd July

Bank Holidays:

Good Friday	Friday 29th March
Easter Monday	Monday 1st April
May Day	Monday 6th May
Whitsun (Spring)	Monday 27th May

TED Days

Monday 4th September

Friday 22nd September

Friday 27th October

Friday 9th February

Friday 22nd March

Friday 24th May

Monday 22nd July

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