



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after a lovely summer break. I hope you all managed what you could of the sunshine and now look forward to the children returning back to school.

School is now underway, the children are settling quickly into their routines and it has been pleasing to see their enthusiasm in returning back. I know that with your help and encouragement the children will be able to maintain this positive attitude to learning and have a really good year. I would also like to take this opportunity of extending a warm welcome to all parents and children who are new to the school. As always if, during the course of the year, you have concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to contact school.



Communication with Parents

Newsletters will be given to each child (or emailed if you prefer) once a fortnight, highlighting current information in school and notification of future events. These will be numbered to help you determine if a letter has gone astray on the way home! Spares are available from the foyer and a copy will be posted on the website. A children's' newsletter is also produced half termly giving a flavour of their learning within each class. If you would like electronic communication, please could you let the school office have your contact email address and/or mobile phone details as we also use Facebook and Twitter for shorter reminders.



Staffing news

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Mrs Zoe Sugden who is joining as a teaching assistant in Year 6 and Miss Lauren Saunders as an additional needs teaching assistant. We also welcome Mr Greg Hooper who will be working with us in Year 2 through the Schools Direct Training Programme.



School Uniform

The children look very smart coming back to school; thank you parents for supporting the school's uniform policy. School ties and book bags are available from the school office – mornings only. The school holds very limited supplies of jumpers and cardigans but these can also be purchased through our online supplier - details can be obtained from the school office.

Please could I request that all long hair is tied back neatly to avoid any unwanted visitors. Extreme hairstyles, shaved lines into the head or colours are not permitted. Make-up or nail varnish should not be worn to school. Children who have had their ears pierced should only wear plain sleepers or studs to school and these should be removed or covered for PE. Watches are permitted but no other jewellery should be worn.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



Drinks and snacks

Please could I ask that if children are bringing their own drink to school that it is water only and that snacks at playtime are healthy - either a piece of fruit or raw vegetables. Milk is available free to all children under 5 in Reception and then on request through the Cool Milk Scheme. To register for this, please collect a form from the office. All children in Key Stage 1 will still continue to receive a healthy snack each day though the Government's School Fruit Scheme. We are keen to instil a healthy attitude to food so all other types of snacks will be discouraged.

Year 5 will continue to run the Healthy Tuck shop each morning as an enterprise adventure with items for purchase at 50p each.



School Meals

For all children in Key Stage 2, just a reminder that the cost of a school dinner is **£2.10 per day (£10.50 per week)**. Payment can be made using ParentPay at any time prior to your child taking a school lunch, but if you are paying by cash or cheque, monies should be paid on a Monday morning in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name and class number and the amount paid. All cheques should be

made payable to **Uffculme Academy Schools Trust**. Please give dinner money envelopes to your child's class teacher so they can be brought up to the office with the dinner register.



Secondary School Applications - Reminder for Year 6 Parents

The application window for Year 7 secondary school admission in 2018 is now open. We are sending home today a letter from the Local Authority to all Year 6 parents giving details about applications for secondary schools. It is important that all Year 6 parents make their applications either on-line or send a paper copy to the Admissions Team at Devon County Council by **31st October 2017**. It is important that the application is made on time so that parents can secure a place for their child at the secondary school of their choice. If you have any difficulties accessing this online, please ask school for assistance and we will happily support your application. (All children who currently attend this school will automatically get a place at Uffculme School regardless of whether they live in the catchment area or not, ***but you will still need to go through the Devon County Council application process.***)

All the information you need, including a Step by Step guide is available on Devon's secondary school admission website via this link: **<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>**



Y6 SATs for 2017

For your information, the Year 6 SATs tests will take place from Monday 14th to Thursday 18th May 2018. It is important that all Year 6 pupils are in school every day during this week.



Music Tuition

If your child enjoys music and would be interested in learning an instrument, now might be a good time to consider individual or group lessons. Lessons in woodwind, string, guitar, brass, and keyboard tuition can be arranged through Uffculme School. If you would like to find out more please contact Mrs Pethick, our Music Co-ordinator or the school office for information. Lessons will be starting during September for existing students.



Contact Details

If you have received a new mobile phone over the summer break, have changed home telephone or contact numbers or email address, or moved house please advise the school office as soon as possible to enable us to amend your child's records.



Overall Safety of Pupils

To help us monitor the security and attendance of pupils, parents are asked to sign their children into school if they arrive after 9.20am. If a child is being collected for appointments or taken home sick they also need to be signed out of school by the person collecting them. There is a signing-in sheet located at the office window. This system helps us to ensure the safety of all children in the school.

If you need to report your child's absence the following methods can be used:

- 1 Telephone the school 01884 840282
- 2 Email to admin@primary.uffculmechool.net

If we have not had any contact with you by 9:30am regarding an absence, the school office will contact you directly in order that we can establish the safety of your child.

School staff are available on the playground from 8.50am and school starts at 9:00am prompt. Pupils should not arrive at school *unaccompanied* before 8.50am and remain the responsibility of parents until this time. All pupils in Key Stage One (Years 1 & 2) and Key Stage Two (Years 3, 4, 5, & 6) should go to the playground where their teachers will be waiting for them. The Reception Class will come through the main entrance door for their first term only. We are trying to reduce the flow of traffic in the morning to ensure as quiet and settled a start to the school day as possible.

We would also be grateful if you could ensure that the children are not on the school field or climbing equipment before school. Thank you for your co-operation with this.



Meet and Greet Session in Classes (please refer to diary date section)

Your child's class teacher is available in their classroom for a meet and greet session for an informal chat about how your child has settled back into school. It is an opportunity to meet all the staff that are working with your child as well as ask any further questions you may have about their new class and routines for the forthcoming year.



Administration of Medicines

Please note that medicines and creams can only be administered by the school if they have been prescribed by a doctor and have a prescription label attached. You will also need to complete a permission form from the school office. Please could we ask that all parents check their child's inhalers to ensure they are up-to-date and indicate on the information provided by school of any specific instructions required in their administration.



School Nursing/ Community Drop-ins

The School Nursing service across Devon is required to make sure all children and young people in Devon's maintained schools, colleges and academies have access to a School Nurse 52 weeks a year, (not just when schools are open) to provide information and support to all school aged children. Uffculme Primary School will be hosting community clinics over the next two terms on Tuesdays on the following days: 19 September, 21 November; 16 January; 20 March. They will consist of a drop-in session from 9:00-9:30am, followed by appointments only between 9:30 and 11:00am.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's health and how they can be supported in school please contact our local School Nurse, Sandra Williamson, by ringing 01884 836001 or texting 07811 227998. Further information can be found on the school website under the heading of 'Links'.



Extra - Curricular Clubs

Information for the range of clubs that are offered by members of staff and volunteers for this term is being sent to you today. We are very grateful to all those that offer their time in providing these opportunities to the children and in their organisation. Most clubs will start next week unless indicated otherwise. If your child attends an out-of-school provider, please can we respectfully ask that you liaise directly with them about collection times for your child/children.

We all look forward to an exciting, busy and productive year, teaching and learning with your children and working in partnership with all of our families. If you have any queries over aspects of your child's education, please do come and ask!

Yours sincerely,

Jo Dentith

HEADTEACHER



PTFA

The next PTFA meeting will be on Tuesday 19 September at school. We meet in the school staff room at 6:30pm for tea and coffee and aim to end at 8:30pm at the latest. All parents and carers with children at Uffculme Primary School are members of the PTFA. The PTFA raises money for extra resources and activities for our children. Our committee meetings are open to all members so please do come along if you would like to get more involved. If you would like an agenda or further information please email ptfa@primary.uffculmeschool.net

The PTFA are looking forward to a busy Autumn term. We are running the following events for you all to enjoy:

- A family fun walk in and around Uffculme
- A Beetle drive 'style' evening for our families
- Creating a fundraiser Cook Book with the help of the school and the wider community of Uffculme
- A Halloween disco

We hope that you will be able to help us with these events and support us with your company.



UFFCULME PRIMARY SCHOOL - TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2017/2018

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Begins	Tuesday 5 September	Wed 3 January	Monday 16 April
Half Term	Mon 23 – Fri 27 Oct	Mon 12 – Fri 16 Feb	Mon 28 May-Fri 1 June
Last day of term	Friday 15 December	Thursday 29 March	Friday 20 July

Non pupil days: *Friday 6 October; Tuesday 2 January; Friday 29 June (Inset)*

Diary Dates for the Autumn Term 2017 and beyond;-

SEPTEMBER		
Thursday 7	3:40pm onwards	3:40pm 'Meet and greet Teacher' session for Years 1-6
Friday 8		First half day session in school for new Reception children
Monday 11- Thursday 14		Half day sessions for Reception children
Monday 11 Friday 15		Year 6 Residential at Grenville House
Thursday 14	3:40pm	Meet and greet Teacher session for Reception Class
Friday 15		First full day for Reception children
Monday 18	3.40pm	
Tuesday 19	9-11:00am	School Nurse Community Drop
	6.30pm	PTFA Meeting
OCTOBER		
Friday 6		Non-Pupil Day – staff in school but no children
Tuesday 17		Harvest Service at 2pm at St Marys Church
Thursday 19		Dirt Day
Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2017- Half Term Break		
NOVEMBER		
Wednesday 1		School photos (individual)
Wednesday 1 & Thursday 2	3:40pm onwards	Parent consultations
Tuesday 21	9.00-11:00am	School Nurse Community Drop
Tuesday 28	6.00pm	Christingle Service at St Marys Church, Uffculme
Thursday 30	10:00am	New parents Open morning (for 2018-2019 intake)
DECEMBER		
Friday 1	10:00am	New parents Open morning (for 2018-2019 intake)
Tuesday 5	2.00pm	KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 6	6.00pm	KS1 Christmas Production
Friday 8	10:00am	New parents Open morning (for 2018-2019 intake) School Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 12	3:40pm	Countries Day Open Classrooms
Wednesday 13	AM	Whole school trip to Pantomime in Exeter
Friday 15		Last day of term
Monday 1 December to Wednesday 3 January 2018– Christmas Holidays		
JANUARY		
Tuesday 2		Non-Pupil Day – staff in school but no children
Wednesday 3		First day of Spring Term 2018
Tuesday 16	9-11:00am	School Nurse Community Drop

FEBRUARY		
Thursday 8		Dirt Day
Monday 12 to Friday 16 February 2018- Half Term Break		
Wednesday 28	3:40pm onwards	Parent consultations
MARCH		
Thursday 1	3:40pm onwards	World Book Day Parent consultations
Tuesday 20	9-11:00am	School Nurse Community Drop
Friday 23	6.00pm	Uffculme's Got Talent tbc
Tuesday 27	2.00pm	Easter Service at St Marys Church, Uffculme tbc
Thursday 29		Last day of term
Friday 30 March to Friday 13 April 2018- Easter Holidays		
APRIL		
Monday 16		First day of Summer Term
Wednesday 18-Friday 20		Year 4 Residential to Heatree House, Dartmoor
MAY		
Monday 14- Thursday 18		KS2 SATs week
Thursday 24		Dirt Day
Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June 2018- Half Term Break		
JUNE		
Thursday 7	9:30am	New Intake parents meeting
Saturday 16	11:00am- 2:30pm	Summer Fete
Friday 29		Non-Pupil Day – staff in school but no children
JULY		
Tuesday 3 rd	3:30pm	Year 6 Transition day to Uffculme School Meet and Greet with new teachers
Wednesday 11	6:00pm	Primary Presentation Evening in the Theatre
Friday 20	2:00pm	Last day of term Year 6 Leavers Assembly and BBQ on field