



Dear Parents/Carers,



### Internet Safety

Year 5 & 6 took part in a really informative session in school this week, delivered by Gary Gates, an ex-policeman, helping to develop their understanding of how to be safe in our on-line world. Thank you also to the 6 parents who attended the evening parental workshop, which had some hard hitting messages on how to safe as adults and how to effectively safeguard our own children. Important messages that were delivered included:

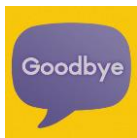
- 'Think before you click; think before you send; think before you post'
- If you don't know what a person smells like in the real world, then **you do not know** who they are on-line.

If you ever want more advice as parents, please refer to the link via the CEOP REPORT logo which is located on our school website (bottom left hand side of the website home page). There is also a list of useful websites under our Safeguarding section, then to policies and guidance, then to e-safety advice.



### School Funding

With election promises looming, please can I draw your attention to some recent advice on school funding on our website, under the section for parental information called 'Education on the Doorstep'. The parental guide gives information on the issue of school funding and the significant current financial difficulties that all of our schools are now facing.



### Staffing News

After a long association of 14 years with Uffculme Primary School, Mrs Cheetham will be leaving at the end of the term to start an early retirement. She will no longer be packing her bag in September to join a residential trip, but packing her walking boots and rucksack to travel. She will be greatly missed as a colleague as she has been incredibly supportive to all who have worked here. Her commitment, professionalism and care that she has given to the children and families that she has worked within Uffculme has been much appreciated. We all wish her the very best of luck for the future. As parents, if you would like to make a donation to a leaving present (and have any suggestions), please could I ask that this is returned to the school office in a sealed envelope marked accordingly.

Last week, Mrs Zoe Sugden was appointed to the general teaching assistant role in year 6. Mrs Sugden will be new to the school and will be spending some time over the next half term getting to know the new Year 6 and the members of staff in school.

After an even longer association with the school, of 27 years, Mrs Smith has decided to finally hang up her playground whistle. She has probably seen more changes in this school than anyone and supported several generations of families and their children and will also be greatly missed. We are very grateful to her for everyone she has nurtured over the years and wish her the very best of luck – no more lunches standing in the cold Mrs Smith! Again, if you would like to make a donation to a leaving present (and have any suggestions), please could I ask that this is returned to the school office in a sealed envelope marked accordingly.



### School Uniform- shoes

One of the reasons we have a school uniform is to develop a sense of pride and belonging in our school and children, with them understanding that a uniform also represents this sense of community. I appreciate that towards the end of a school year, it can be easy to not bother buying new shoes or new school jumpers. However I would greatly appreciate your support in ensuring all children do wear the correct school uniform. We do have a small supply of school daps or plimsolls in school which we can provide for the children to borrow during a school day as I would please like to see a reduction in the range of brightly coloured trainers that have come to my notice recently.

### Nail Varnish and Ear-Rings

Can we please remind parents that if your child has their ears pierced they should only wear stud ear-rings to school. We also do not permit children to wear nail varnish. Thank you for your co-operation with this.



### **Free School meals for children moving into KS2**

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in state-funded schools in England are eligible for a **Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM)**. When your child transfers to Key Stage 2 (so Year 3) they will no longer continue to be entitled to a free school meal under this scheme. If you wish to apply for free school meals or to see if you are eligible, please either download an application form via <http://www.devon.gov.uk/free-school-meals.htm> or call the Education Helpline on **0345**

**155 1019**. There is **NO** need for you to call to apply or complete an application form if you already have a FSM claim.

### **School Summer Fair – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June**



A reminder that our annual Summer Fair is taking place on Saturday 17 June and opens at 11:00am. The PTFA are working very hard to prepare for this event and would appreciate your help with any donations of books, toys, luxury gifts, tombola prizes etc that can be left in the box next to the photocopier. The PTFA would also appreciate any help that could be given on the day either setting up in the morning, helping on a stall during the fair or to

clear up at the end of the fair. Let's hope that the sun shines and we all enjoy a good day.



### **Dirt Day- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

This Thursday will be our final Dirt Day of this year and the children will be undertaking activities of an outdoor nature. They are welcome to come to school on this day in non-uniform, comfortable footwear (no wellies are needed) and clothes that you do not mind getting slightly dirty. Children in KS2 in Exe and Lowman House groups will be having a forest school session at Gaddon Woods for either a morning or afternoon and have already been notified separately about this. All lunch arrangements are as normal. PLEASE DON'T FORGET SUNSCREEN AS THE WEATHER IS DUE TO BE HOT TOMORROW.

### **Events in Manchester**

Our thoughts and prayers go to all of those who have been caught up in the recent terrorism attack in Manchester this week. Any concerns that have been raised by the children will be addressed individually. As a school we will continue to remind the children about how to stay safe.



### **Half Term**

I do hope you will all be able to enjoy some free time with your children over half term and hopefully some sunny, dry weather. The half term holiday is from Monday 29 May until Friday 2 June with school reopening on Monday 5 June.

Yours sincerely,

*Jo Dentith*

**HEADTEACHER**



### UFFCULME PRIMARY SCHOOL - TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2016/2017

	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Begins	Monday 5 September	Wed 4 January	Tuesday 18 April
Half Term	Mon 24 – Fri 28 Oct	Mon 13 – Fri 17 Feb	Mon 29 May-Fri 2 June
Last day of term	Friday 16 December	Friday 31 March	Friday 21 July

**Non pupil days:** *Friday 30 June (Inset)*

### UFFCULME PRIMARY SCHOOL - TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2017/2018

		Spring Term	Summer Term
Begins	Tuesday 5 September	Wed 3 January	Monday 16 April
Half Term	Mon 23 - Fri 27 October	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:** *Monday 4 September; Friday 6 October (INSET); Monday 7 May (Bank Holiday); Friday 29 June (INSET)*

### **Diary Dates for the Spring Term 2017 and beyond:-**

<b>MAY</b>		
Thursday 25		School Development Day 'Dirt Day'
29 May – June 2		Half term week
<b>JUNE</b>		
Thursday 8	9.30am	New Parents Meeting (for September 2017 intake) Year 3 and Year 5 Sleepover with the Sharks
Wednesday 14	All Day	Year 4 to Gaddon Woods with 'Children of the Forest'
Saturday 17	11:00-3:0pm	Summer Fete
Tuesday 20		School Nurse Community Drop in am
Wednesday 28	All day	<b>Sports Day</b> at Uffculme School
Thursday 29	2.45pm	Year 5 Assembly
Friday 30	10-1pm	Non-pupil day – staff in school but <b>no children</b> <b>Area Sports Day- Mr Carpanini to take selected children- details to follow</b>
<b>JULY</b>		
Tuesday 4	3:40pm	Year 6 Transition Day at Uffculme School Meet and great sessions after school for Year 1-6 classes.
Wednesday 5	6:30pm	KS2 Production- School Hall
Thursday 6	6:30pm	KS2 Production- School Hall
Friday 7	6:30pm	KS2 Production- School Hall
Wednesday 12	6:00pm	Primary Presentation Evening – Uffculme School Dining Hall
Thursday 20	5:00pm KS1 6:15pm KS2	School Discos
Friday 21	2:00pm	Year 6 Leavers Assembly followed by BBQ on school field Last day of term
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
Tuesday 5		First day back for the new term Home visits to take place over this week for the new Reception intake.