



Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year!

I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas holidays. I would also like to take this opportunity to send you and your family best wishes for 2018. We look forward to another busy term and already we are really impressed with how the children have settled back into school routines after the break.

Class topic letters and our extra-curricular club programme went out at the end of last week. There is a good range of activities being offered this term so if you would like your child to participate in any of these activities please could you return the permission slips as soon as possible to the office as places are limited. There is a slight delay with some of the sporting clubs in starting until light conditions after school have improved. If your child has a place in any of the clubs, you will be informed by the end of this week.

Details of expectations with homework have been clearly laid out in topic letters from each class teacher. However if you do have any queries with this or require any further support for example with IT access at home or what your child may be reading, please don't hesitate in contacting your child's class teacher.

Sporting News



Football - At the end of last term our Y3/4 boys' team beat Wilcombe 5-2. Well done, boys.

High 5s and Basketball - In last term's CVSA league our High 5s Team finished third overall (star player Emily Packham), the Year 5 Basketball Team came third (star player Reuben Tidball) and the Year 6 Basketball Team came second (star player Lewis Reed). Well done to all the teams.

Sports Hall Athletics - On Monday a mixed team of Y5 and 6 children represented school at a Sports Hall Athletics event at Uffculme School where they came 2nd overall. The children each took part in 6 scored team events (1 lap, 2 laps, chest push, standing long jump, speed bounce and relay) and 2 individual events. The team will now progress to the East Devon Finals on 1 February. Individual winners were: Meski Kempster-Weldon (1 lap), Martha Reynell (2 laps and shot) and Finlay Croft (javelin). Well done to all who took part.



Contact Details

If you have received a new mobile phone for Christmas or your home phone numbers or contact details have changed over the Christmas period, please could you advise the school office to enable us to keep your child's records up to date. It is the responsibility of parents to keep this information correct at all times as we need to be able to contact you in an emergency.



Attendance at School

Thank you to everyone for helping the school to achieve an average attendance of 96% last term. I would like to remind parents that requests for absences during term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances, at the discretion of the Headteacher and not for family holidays. Further information on the school's attendance policy is detailed on the school's website. Please remember to inform the school office as soon as possible if your child is absent from school.



School Office

For your information, the school office hours are from 8:15am until 4:00pm. If you leave a message outside these hours, we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible on our return. We have a red postbox on the wall outside the main entrance (which we empty every day). Please feel free to use this for any post to the office rather than having to queue at the window.



Primary Applications 2017/18

We have received communication from the Local Authority to remind parents that the deadline for all online applications for the September 2018 intake of children starting school is at midnight on **15th January 2018**.



Winner of the Christmas Hamper

Congratulations to Ms Hallchurch who was the winner of our staff Christmas Hamper and to all the other winners of the excellent PTFA Hampers. Many thanks for your support



School Nursing/ Community Drop-ins

The community drop-ins have been well received by the parents who have attended these and we are grateful to our School Nurse who is providing this valuable service in supporting our families. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's health and how they can be supported in school please contact Sandra Williamson, by ringing 01884 836001 or texting 07821 227998. Further information can be found on the school website under the heading of 'Links'. The first session of the year is due on Tuesday 16th January.

Polo Shirts



Following parental feedback, we are now going to be introducing a new red polo shirt with the school emblem on it as part of the children's PE kit. This will make the children look smarter and also easily identifiable at sporting events where they represent Uffculme Primary School. The polo shirt is from our existing supplier. In order to keep prices as low as possible, we are going to be keeping a stock of these in school so they can be purchased directly from the school office. The cost is currently £6.50. They can be purchased from the end of the month and we would ask that when your child's existing shirt becomes too small, it is replaced with the new school one. This will not apply for our Year 6 children but the polo shirts will be compulsory from September 2018 onwards. If you would like to see a sample, there is one on display in the foyer.



Healthy Snacks

As a school, we encourage all aspects of healthy living and in line with our policy on school food and the current Public Health guidelines for concerning the amount of sugar in snacks that children are eating, all children are requested to only have a piece of fruit or vegetable for their morning snacks. All of EYFS and KS1 have a free piece of fruit provided each day and free milk if they are under five. Milk can be purchased for over fives through our Cool Milk Scheme – details of which can be obtained through the school office. If children do come to school with snacks not within our guidelines for break-times, they will be asked to return these items to their lunchboxes/bags in order that they can eat them at lunchtime. Whilst we respect parental choice in what you provide for your child's packed lunch, we would be grateful if you could support healthy options wherever possible. We will also review the products that are currently sold through the Healthy Tuckshop by our Year 5 children. Drinking water is available in school for all children and only water should be please provided in children's drinks bottles, which they are encouraged to access throughout a school day.

Yours sincerely

Jo Dentith

HEADTEACHER



PTFA

The next PTFA meeting will be on Tuesday 27 February. 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

Easyfundraising – raise money for the school as you shop online!

If anybody would like to join and help to raise funds for the school, just go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/uffculmeprimaryptfa>

It is really easy, just register with Easyfundraising and go to the website/app before you shop. There are links to 100s of retailers including eBay, Amazon, Argos, Groupon, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Trainline, and lots more!

ALL funds raised will be donated back to the school to benefit your children's education.

Have you followed the PTFA on Facebook?

For all the latest news on school events, fundraising and lots more, follow the PTFA on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/UPS.PTFA/>.

You can contact us via this page if you have any queries or ideas, or if you would like to become more involved with the PTFA.



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 6th October; Tuesday 2nd January; Friday 29th June (Inset)*



UFFCULME PRIMARY SCHOOL - TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2018/19

		Spring Term	Summer Term
Begins	Wed 5 September	Monday 7 January	Tuesday 23 April
Half Term	Mon 22 - Fri 26 Oct	Mon 18 - Fri 22 Feb	Mon 27 May - Fri 31 My
Last day of term	Friday 21 December	Friday 5 April	Friday 19 July

Non pupil days: *Monday 3 September; Tuesday 4 September; Friday 12 October (INSET); Monday 6 May (Bank Holiday); Friday 28 June (INSET)*

Diary Dates for Spring Term 2017 and beyond

JANUARY		
Tuesday 16th	9-11:00am	School Nurse Community Drop
FEBRUARY		
Thursday 8th		Dirt Day
Monday 12th to Friday 16th February 2018- Half Term Break		
Wednesday 28 th	3:40pm onwards	Parent consultations
Wednesday 28 th – Tuesday 6 th March	After school	Scholastic Book Fair
MARCH		
Thursday 1 st		World Book Day
	3:40pm onwards	Parent consultations
Tuesday 20 th	9-11:00am	School Nurse Community Drop
Friday 23 rd	6pm	Uffculme's Got Talent
Tuesday 27 th	2pm	Easter Service at St Marys Church, Uffculme
Thursday 29 th		Last day of term
Friday 30th March to Friday 13th April 2018- Easter Holidays		
APRIL		
Monday 16 th		First day of Summer Term
Wednesday 18 th -Friday 20 th		Year 4 Residential to Heatree House, Dartmoor
MAY		
Monday 14 th - Thursday 18 th		KS2 SATs week
Thursday 24 th		Dirt Day
Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June 2018- Half Term Break		
JUNE		
Thursday 7 th	9:30am	New Intake parents meeting
Saturday	11:00am- 2:30pm	Summer Fete
Friday 29 th		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 th	6:00pm	Primary Presentation Evening in the Theatre
Friday 20 th	2:00pm	Last day of term Year 6 Leavers Assembly and BBQ on field