



SCHOOL NEWS

Value of Autumn, Term 2: Respect

Star of the Week	Recognition Award
Reception: Francesca	Reception: Annie-Rose 
Year 1 & 2: Heyward	Year 1 & 2: Felicity
Year 3 & 4: Xypher	Year 3 & 4: Oscar
Year 5 & 6: Grace	Year 5 & 6: Jacob

Dates for the Diary

- 11th Nov, Y5/6 visit to the World Museum, Liverpool
- 11th & 12th Nov, Y1& Y2 Design & Technology days
- 14th Nov, Y5/ Y6 Hockey at Deeside Ramblers
- Infants visit to B&M Waste and Recycling Centre
- 20th Nov, Dyslexia Awareness assembly, led by Iwear Opticians, Tarporley
- 25th Nov, IEB Meeting with parents, 7pm.
- 28th Nov, Y3/ Y4 Handball at THS
- 29th Nov, INSET day, school closed
- 2nd Dec, Infant visit to Gordale Garden Centre
- 5th Dec, Infant Parents' Phonics/ Reading meeting, 3.45pm
- 6th Dec, Toddlers Group in the school hall
- 6th Dec, Whole school visit to watch Jack and the Beanstalk at Theatre Clwyd from 11am
- 12th Dec, Y5/ Y6 Handball at THS
- 13th Dec, Christmas Fair
- 18th Dec, Nativity in the school hall, 1.30pm & 5pm
- 19th Dec, School Christmas dinner & films. Christmas jumpers/ clothes optional
- 19th Dec, Y3 / Y4 Indoor Athletics at THS
- 20th Dec, Christmas party (AM)
- 20th Dec, School closes at 1.15pm

Welcome!

Welcome to our first 'new look' newsletter. Mrs. Wright has taken over responsibility for putting the newsletter together each week to ensure that no matter how busy school gets, you will receive a newsletter.

Welcome Back Miss Totty!

Miss Totty used to drive our school minibus for morning children, as well as work as a full-time Teaching Assistant at Huxley Primary School. After a year away from schools, renovating a house, she found she missed the role and has returned to education part-time. She will be based in Year 5/6 two afternoons a week on a regular basis, but will also be utilising her art and design and technology skills in other classes when needed. We are delighted to have her creativity and energy back on our team.



Text and Email Service



If you are not receiving text and emails regularly (we send out many each week), please can you speak to Mrs. Wright so that she can check we have the correct contact details for you on our system. All letters are sent via email and those requiring a response are also sent out in paper format. All letters are also uploaded onto the parents' section of the website under Letters. Extra paper copies can also be requested at the School Office.

Friends of Utkinton

A huge thank you to those who helped out and attended our Hallowe'en Disco at the end of last half-term. It was an incredibly successful event, raising £525.50 for the school, which must be an all-time record! The parents involved so far have worked tirelessly during the last half-term setting up a Facebook page 'Friends of Utkinton', organising the installation of the willow classroom and planning Christmas events. The funds they raise are vital to the opportunities we can offer to all our children. We would love to see you on **Tuesday, 12th November at 3.30pm** in the School Hall whilst we plan the Christmas Film night and Christmas Market. If you know of anybody who would like a stall, please let Lucy Griffith know. We also need helpers to prepare/ dig out the ground ready for the willow classroom installation. We are meeting at

school at **10am on Saturday 16th November**. Please let Lucy Griffith of Lorna Pleavin know if you are able to bring a spade and help.

Friends of Utkinton Diary Dates



- 12th Nov Planning Meeting: Christmas Market & Film Night in the School Hall (3.40pm). Free childcare in 'The Den' provided.
- 13th Nov Own Clothes Day - bring non-perishable white items for the Christmas hampers.
- 16th Nov School Grounds Makeover (to prepare for the installation of the willow classroom from 10am - 2pm)
- 22nd Nov Own Clothes Day – bring non-perishable green items for the Christmas hampers.
- 22nd Nov Film Night, 3.45pm - 8pm. Parents do not have to attend.
- 28th Nov Own Clothes Day - bring non-perishable red items for the Christmas hampers.
- 2nd Dec Cup for sweet tombola to send home to be decorated and filled. To be returned by 9th Dec.
- 13th Dec Christmas Market, 3.45pm – 6.30pm in the School Hall.

Start of the School Day



Please can we ask for your support to ensure pupils arrive on time to school each morning. Over the past 6 weeks, we have had **56** instances of lateness, totaling **468** minutes of lost learning. Lateness not only causes disruption for the pupil concerned, but also to the class teacher and to the rest of the class. The school gates are open from 8.30am and pupils need to be in school for registration at 9am. Any children who arrive after this time will receive a late mark.

Curriculum Vision

At the end of last half term, I sent out a letter regarding the development of our new curriculum to prepare our children for a life in the 21st Century. If you would like to input into the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes you feel are vital for your children to succeed in life, then please complete the attached form to this newsletter and return it to the School Office by Wednesday, 13th November. The letter can be read in full on the school website.

FREESPACE

During the half-term holiday, we held our first FREESPACE day in the School Hall. The idea was borne out of my conversations with many parents acknowledging that parenting can be incredibly rewarding but also challenging and exhausting and there is no such thing as 'perfect parenting'. We wanted to provide informal opportunities for parents to meet up and 'share the load'. We are very much in the development stage at the moment and are eager to gain view of parents regarding activities they would find useful both with and without children e.g. collective days out during the school holidays, workshops/ visiting speakers, a book club, evenings out, childcare during the school holidays, etc.



Our next event is **Friday, 3rd January (10am-3pm) in the School Hall**. There will be a range of activities for the children to do both inside and outside (weather permitting) and you can either join in or sit down and have a coffee/ tea, have a chat with other adults, read a book/ magazine etc. You are welcome to come for the whole time or pop in for an hour or so. If you have any further questions about the group, please speak with Miss Pleavin. We really hope you will be able to join us and help us develop this project.