

20th January 2023

Upton Primary Newsletter

Upton-upon-Severn CofE Primary, Nursery and Riverboats SureStart Children's Centre, working together to support the local community



Our School Vision is to offer inspiration to young lives 'Anything is possible, we can all succeed'

Providing enriching experiences to foster aspiration 'To inspire ... To aspire'

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13)

WEEKLY BIBLE QUOTE

[John 3:11](#) - For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

NEW YEAR, NEW TEAM FOCUS

Last week we introduced our half-term value which is 'Respect'. Below are our six values that we work through to ensure that our children understand the root of our school philosophy 'Anything is possible, we can all succeed':

RESPONSIBILITY

RESPECT

PERSISTENCE

COMMUNITY

TRUST

COURAGE

We respect all our children and work with the wider school community focusing at all times on positivity. We strongly believe in a team ethos both in and out of the classroom and work taking inspiration from geese who fly 71% further in a 'V' formation than when they fly alone. Each of our

children is a member of a team and the team philosophy flows through all we do within school. The four teams are:

AVON SEVERN TEME WYE

The children work together to build up team points that on a weekly basis are shared in assembly. At the end of each half-term we have been giving the children team celebrations according to how many team points each team have earned. Since the Covid crisis this had not been possible due to the way we had been working within the school. At the end of the autumn term we relaunched with the children our team philosophy and we are delighted that today team Wye were able to have a non-uniform day and a special afternoon play session which included some time with Teddy, our school therapy dog.

Team philosophy is a vital link to ensuring that children develop resilience and positivity for their future. We take great joy in all of our children's achievements and we promote them in a variety of ways, including merits, team points, Headteacher's awards and community awards, depending on their particular focus. It is vitally important that children also learn that it is about taking part and supporting each other that is critical and the emphasise on whether we win or not plays a lesser part of the team ethos. As Gareth Southgate (England football manager) says:

"Sometimes you have to go through difficult times as a team, and failures, to learn and to improve"

We have also been looking at our behaviour policy and are about to relaunch the way this is managed. Further news on this will be sent out in the next few weeks.

TEDDY THERAPY TIME

Teddy, our school therapy dog, is now 20 months old and is continuing with his general training, although we were delighted when he passed his official Therapy Dog UK assessment. He is known to all the children and particularly enjoys sitting on his 'Teddy ramp' and watching the children as they go in and out of the playground during playtimes and lunchtimes. The children also respond very positively to him and class 4 in particular always ensure they work really quietly so they do not disturb Teddy in his 'office'. The positive benefits of a therapy dog in schools have been well researched over preceding years. However for us at Upton upon Severn our children are really enjoying having their own school dog. The children who are working with Teddy have found great enjoyment in participating with his training. In turn Teddy responds brilliantly to the children, sits when asked, waits very patiently when they command him to and then runs happily after the ball to fetch it for them. The only problem we currently have is trying to teach him to drop but this is a target we are all working on! Below are some photos showing Teddy in action with some of the pupils who are helping to train him.





STRIKE ACTION

As the Headteacher I work with the Governors of our school and we would like to inform you of the information below:

We are sure that you will all have heard that the National Education of Teachers Union are planning a series of strikes, the first national strike action being due to take place on Wednesday 1st February with other dates currently being set as 1st, 15th and 16th March. They are striking for education and are concerned that cuts to the teachers' pay and lack of funding for schools are causing a crisis in education. They are calling on the Government to increase pay for teachers and support staff and also increase funding for schools. We do not have to be informed whether the teachers are intending to strike until the actual day of the action and so we will be placed in a very difficult situation that potentially causes disruption to our school day. We will obviously keep you informed as soon as we are able to on strike action days and we ask for your support during this difficult time. We are unable to give any specific information regarding our teaching staff.

MUSIC IN SCHOOL



1 - DJEMBE JOY ON A FRIDAY

Year 3 have had a very enjoyable afternoon playing our Djembe drums. The children thoroughly enjoyed the variety of different beats and music they were making and the strong rhythmic sounds could be heard throughout all of KS2. Watching their concentration as they followed the variety of different musical beats that were being taught to them was wonderful. Music has deep effects on the brain including influencing perception and thinking. A variety of different studies have found that learning and memory, when linked to specific beats in a rhythm can be stimulated increasing learning ability.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



WORCESTERSHIRE YOUNG CARERS

Worcestershire Young Carers, funded by Worcestershire County Council, provide help and support for children and young people between the ages of 7 – 25yrs who are caring for a family member at home.

How do we operate?

Upon receipt of a referral into our service we complete an assessment of need with the young person and their family.

Dependant on the level of need we then provide one to one support with either a keyworker or one of our trained volunteers.

We also provide young people with the opportunity to attend a variety of activities and events within the community.

This support provision allows young carers to have their voices heard and supports their emotional wellbeing without missing out on all the other important things in life, such as the opportunity to meet new people, make friends and have fun.



Worcestershire Young Carers work closely with schools and other partner agencies to identify the most appropriate support required. This can involve signposting to other relevant agencies wherever necessary.

How to make a referral to our service

Email us on referrals@yss.org.uk and request the referral link.

If you would like further information on the Worcestershire Young Carers Service

Contact us on 01905 619886 or email youngcarers@yss.org.uk



WORCESTER
SPORTS RUGBY
CAMP THIS EASTER

INCLUDED

- Sports/Rugby Coaching
- Meet Ex International Player Thinus Delpont
- Free Raffle Entry For Signed Rugby Ball

EASTER 2023

DAYS	VENUE	DISCOUNTS
2 Days	Worcester Rugby Club	Early Bird - £35 Siblings - 25% OFF

11TH APRIL - 12TH APRIL
 Boys & Girl Aged 6 - 13 // 10:00-15:00
Location: Worcester Rugby Football Club, Hindlip, Worcester WR3 8TR

07854 434575 | JAG@WORCESTERSPORTSRUGBYACADEMY.UK | WORCESTERSPORTSRUGBYACADEMY.UK

£35 PER PERSON PER DAY EARLY BIRD PRICE

HOPPY EASTER

