



# Upton Primary Newsletter

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20th November 2020

Upton-upon-Severn CofE Primary, Nursery and Pre School 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'

'To inspire ... To aspire'

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

## WEEKLY BIBLE QUOTE

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other,  
just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4.32

### ANTI BULLYING WEEK

This week our week started with Odd Socks Day which was a fun way to introduce a very serious topic. The Odd Socks Day raised £63.12. This will be used to support anti-bullying and create a positive environment for children.

Monday's assembly launched this vital topic and each class was able to contribute via Zoom to share why they felt it was important we ensure that nobody experiences bullying within our school community. We include within our school community everybody and, as you will all be aware, we have a very strong emphasis on team ethos. We follow lessons from geese who work very strongly together as a team and fly 71% further in their 'V' formation than when they fly alone. Those geese who are tired or ill receive support from the rest of the flock and it is a very key link to how we need to support each other, particularly at this time of national crisis.

### PSHE QUESTIONNAIRE

In the Summer 70% of responses to the PSHE questionnaire stated that you would like more information on what our school teaches about growing up, relationships or online safety. To move forward and work in partnership with you, we have created an online form asking how you would like that information shared.

A link to the form will be sent to you at the beginning of next week. We would be most grateful for your input and request that all replies are completed by **Friday 27th November**.

### PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES

As we had three applicants for the two vacant appointments we will have to put out a Ballot. Full Ballot details will be sent to all parents/carers of the school on Monday.

### CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER

Unfortunately this year we will be unable to have our usual lovely Christmas lunch. However, we would still like to hold a day when children can come to school in a Christmas themed top.



**Save the Children**  
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

This will be held on the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day which is taking place all over the UK on Friday 11th December. Children can therefore come to school on that day wearing a Christmas themed top for a donation of £1.00 (school trousers/skirts and school shoes are to be worn as normal).

The Save the Children Fund, commonly known as Save the Children, was established in the United Kingdom in 1919 to improve the lives of children through better education, health care, and economic opportunities, as well as providing emergency aid in natural disasters, war, and other conflicts.

### Here is some amazing examples of what Save the Children can do:

1. £2 could pay for hand sanitiser to help fight coronavirus in one of Save the Children's medical clinics
2. £6 could buy a face shield for a superhero health worker in Yemen
3. £10 could buy antibiotics to help five children beat malnutrition
4. £20 could buy a back-to-school kit for a child in Indonesia
5. £60 could buy toys and books to support children from struggling families in the UK
6. £100 could buy a first aid kit for a health worker in Somalia

We will also be planning some other fun things to do on our Christmas Jumper Day to ensure the children are able to participate in Christmas festive activities, even though we are working in slightly different conditions.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS

Due to COVID restrictions unfortunately we are unable to allow children to bring Christmas cards into school to distribute to their friends this year. However, we will be doing lots of Christmas crafts in school to make this a special time for the children.



Congratulations to the Friends Committee on raising a phenomenal amount of money through collecting 20 pence pieces in Smartie tubes. This was a well thought out and COVID regulated fund raiser which has had a great impact. The children raised a whopping £638.16 in total!

Year 1 raised the most being £116.26, so won the challenge!

We would like to say thank you for your generous donations, we appreciate how difficult this year is and the financial impact of the COVID crisis is far reaching.



### COPPER HEARTS

'Copper Hearts A Cotswold Company' is a local business run by partners, Annabelle and Jack. They began creating copper hearts during the COVID-19 crisis to give as gifts to show unity and solidarity with their neighbours. Through the powers of social media, people began asking how much they were! It was then that they launched 'Copper Hearts A Cotswold Company'.



Copper Hearts has donated to the school a beautiful heart and we are delighted to have had this installed in the centre front border of our Rainbow Garden. This Rainbow Garden will be a long-lasting reminder of how well the Upton Primary School community came together and managed the challenges of the COVID crisis from the beginning of March.

### FLAG

The Year 6 children ran a competition to design a flag and we are currently arranging to put a flag post up on site and, once the current lockdown is over, we will be able to make a plan for the spring term to officially raise our school flag.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING**

The West Mercia Police Safer Schools Team for South Worcestershire have received complaints about school children congregating after school and hanging around in groups/on parks.

As our children are Primary School children it means parents congregate outside school to collect them. Can we please respectfully remind everybody that nobody should be standing and talking in a group situation and that adults, with their children, should disperse as quickly as possible at the end of our primary school day. PC Johns, our local Officer, has been monitoring the situation outside the school over the last few weeks and will continue to do so to ensure that both parking regulations and social distancing is being adhered to.

**SPEECH AND LANGUAGE**

With most of us spending more time at home, here are some games that can help develop language and social skills:

**Games to get the family talking!**

**Guess Who?** The original verbal reasoning game – great for asking questions too!

**Frustration!** If there is a better game for learning to cope with losing then we don't know it! Can we all win? No! Can we all have fun? YES!!

**Articulate!** Grown ups and children love it! Who knew defining words could be so much fun?!

**sussed?** One for older children – good for thinking flexibly and making links ☺

**SHOUT!** A brilliant game to get the whole family TALKING! Switch off and have a conversation that you have NEVER had before!

**5 in a Row** Can you name things in a category and do it FAST?!

**Latice** Finally – this is a brilliant strategy game for children who have great visual skills – no language barriers!

**Smarty**

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If you have any concerns about your child’s communication skills please phone or email the school office (office@uptonuponsevern.worcs.sch.uk), and I will call you back on my next visit into school. You can also contact me directly on 01562 752 749.

**Keren Somers (Speech and Language Therapist)**

