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The Upton Schools

Belonging  **Growth**  **Excellence**

Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

12th December 2025

We hope the children have enjoyed the Christmas festivities in school over the last few weeks. The Christmas Fayre yesterday was a great success and it was a joy to walk around the schools' seeing children and staff having some much-needed time together to enjoy this magical time of year. The reason we held our Christmas Fayre during the school day was that all children can attend as we know that doing these things at the weekend or after school does limit the opportunity for some. Thank you for your kind donations, the money will be spent enhancing our outside environments, which I am sure you will notice over the coming months.

Please have a look at the Facebook pages for both schools where you can see photos of what has been happening over the past few weeks.

Behaviour Policy

Over the last few weeks, we have reviewed and refined the Behaviour Policy for both schools, so our classrooms are well ordered, calm and conducive for effective learning. Our approach is underpinned by strong relational practice and knowing our children well. Please see the full policy on both the schools' websites but I have included a summary here for you.

School Rules

Our school rules are the cornerstone to our policy and guide our curriculum and our sanctions and rewards.

Our school rules are:

- ❖ Be Kind
- ❖ Be Ready
- ❖ Be Respectful

Celebrating Positive Behaviour at Our School

We are committed to creating a culture where positive behaviour and effort are recognised and celebrated. Here's how we do it:

Recognition Boards

Recognition Boards are a simple yet powerful way to promote the behaviours we want to see in class. The focus is at the teachers discretion.

- ❖ Each board displays a chosen behaviour (e.g., Magnet Eyes).
- ❖ Children's names are added when they demonstrate this behaviour well.
- ❖ It's a **team effort**—the goal is for everyone to have their name on the board by the end of the set period.
- ❖ Once achieved, we move on to a new focus behaviour.

This strategy fosters **collaboration and positive interdependence** in the classroom.

House Points

Every child belongs to a colour house from Reception. House points are awarded for **exceptional effort and 'wow' moments**.

Rewards include:

- ❖ 50 points: Bronze Award – Sticker + Postcard home
- ❖ 75 points: Silver Award – Certificate in assembly + Bag of sweets
- ❖ 100 points: Gold Award – Certificate + Gold Pencil + Non-uniform day

At the end of the year, the top point earners in each year group will enjoy a special trip to Costa!

Postcards Home

Children who consistently show high standards of behaviour and effort will receive a postcard home, so their achievements can be celebrated with family.

Addressing Poor Behaviour

Our stepped approach is clear and structured—it emphasises early intervention, which is key to maintaining a positive learning environment.

Stepped Approach to Addressing Poor Behaviour

Our goal is to ensure that every class remains focused and free from disruption. To achieve this, we use a progressive system of responses:

- ❖ **Stage 1 – Verbal Reminder** - A calm, clear reminder of expectations and the behaviour that needs to change.
- ❖ **Stage 2 – Change of Seat** - The pupil is moved within the classroom to minimize disruption and refocus attention.
- ❖ **Stage 3 – Loss of Privilege** - Time is taken off at break or the pupil is held back to leave last at the end of the school day.
- ❖ **Stage 4 – Relocation to Another Classroom** - The pupil spends time in a different classroom to allow learning to continue for others.
- ❖ **Stage 5 – Referral to SLT** - Persistent or serious behaviour results in time spent with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Key Principle: By intervening early and assertively, we prevent escalation and ensure that learning continues uninterrupted.

Year 6 Behaviour Trial

To help prepare our Year 6 pupils for the expectations of secondary school and ensure learning remains focused, we are trialling a new approach to managing classroom behaviour.

- ❖ **Step 1 – Formal Warning**-Pupils receive a clear, formal warning if behaviour does not meet expectations.
- ❖ **Step 2 – Loss of Break Time**-If behaviour continues, five minutes is taken off their break time. Should the behaviour persist, an additional five minutes will be added.
- ❖ **Step 3 – Removal from Class**-If disruption still continues, the pupil will be removed from the classroom to allow learning to continue for others.

This approach aims to encourage responsibility and self-regulation while maintaining a calm and productive learning environment.

By supporting us with the implementation of our policy you are playing a vital part in ensuring our school is well ordered, children can learn and they are being prepared for the next stage of their education.

Reflect and Reset Day

We understand that the first day back after the holidays can be challenging for some children to return to school, so we are going to be having a 'Reflect and Reset' day on Monday 5th January (put on your calendars, diaries and phones now!). To ease the children back into school we would like the children to come into school dressed in 'cosy clothes' which could be tracksuits, pyjamas or similar clothes. During the day, the children will be reflecting on the progress they have made since the start of the school year, spending some time together as a class off curriculum enjoying some fun activities and generally easing back into school life after a two-week break.

A Polite Request

At our school, we believe that a positive and respectful environment is essential for everyone to thrive; children, staff, and families alike. Our staff work hard to support the learning and wellbeing of every child, and it is important that they are treated with dignity and respect at all times. I recognise that, at times, we get it wrong and make mistakes. We kindly ask all members of our school community to communicate with staff in a courteous and considerate manner, whether in person, by phone, or online. Constructive dialogue helps us work together effectively and ensures that our school remains a safe and welcoming place for all.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a culture of respect and collaboration.

As this will be the last newsletter before the end of term, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kind regards

Duncan Churchill
Executive Head Teacher
Upton Infant and Junior School

The Hamwic Trust Online Safety Hub will be running their Online Safety Parent Workshop on **15th January** from **7-8pm**.

If you wish to attend, you can register for the session using the following link:
[HET Online Safety Workshop 15th January 2026](#).

You may find the following links useful:

Tips and Tricks for Holidays:

[Digital Downtime: Managing Healthy Holiday Habits](#)

[Tech-Tastic Tips for the Festive Season](#)

Social Media Safety:

[What is Italian Brainrot?](#)

[Talking to your child about violence on social media](#)

Generative AI:

[How are children really using AI tools?](#)

App Review:

[Whatsapp](#)

How-To:

[Block inappropriate sites with Qustodio](#)

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

You are the expert of your child

You Are Not Alone - Every 1st Tuesday of the month - 7.00pm - 8.30pm

A free monthly online drop-in for parents & carers

The **You Are Not Alone** community is a friendly and safe space run by Erik & Sally Wagter where you can come and learn about autism & PDA, ask questions, connect with like-minded people or simply hang back and listen in.



In this community we talk about all sorts of things such as:

- helping your child regulate their emotions & feelings
- understanding autism and PDA
- navigating school and EHCPs
- Supporting your child with friendships
- understanding and managing challenging behaviour
- managing sensory needs
- developing a positive relationship with your child (family dynamics)
- exploring EOTAS or home education
- looking after your wellbeing
- and so much more



Here's what parents said:

'My husband Jamie was saying that in the last few sessions, he has learned so much more about autism and PDA than he has over the last year'

Jo (parent)

'Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel and I really do feel less alone and more validated. My hope is back'

Louise (parent)

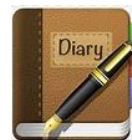
'Thank you so much for your support. I nearly chicken out in speaking but I'm glad I did. These sessions have been really helpful and I don't feel so alone'

Emma (parent)

If you would like to join the **next drop-in on Tuesday 6th January**, please send an email to sallywagter@gmail.com and we will send you the **Zoom** link.



Upton Junior School Announcements Diary Dates



December Dates

- ❖ Thursday 18th – Last Day of Term – return Monday 5th January 2026
- ❖ Friday 19th – INSET day

- ❖ Monday 5th January 2026 – Reflect and Reset Day – dress “Cosy”

PE Days – up until 18th December 2025

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday				
Tuesday	PE			PE
Wednesday		PE	PE	
Thursday	PE			PE
Friday		PE	PE	

PE Days – Starting 5th January 2026

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday				
Tuesday	PE			PE
Wednesday	PE	PE		
Thursday			PE	PE
Friday		PE	PE	

Upton Infant School Announcements Diary Dates



December Dates

- ❖ Wednesday 17th – 10am Rock Steady performance
- ❖ Wednesday 17th – 5pm Year Two performance
- ❖ Thursday 18th – 2.40pm Hive performance
- ❖ Thursday 18th – Last Day of Term – return Monday 5th January 2026
- ❖ Friday 19th – INSET day

- ❖ Monday 5th January 2026 – Reflect and Reset Day – dress “Cosy”

PE Days

	Honeybees	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Monday				
Tuesday		PE		
Wednesday			PE	
Thursday			PE	PE
Friday	PE			PE

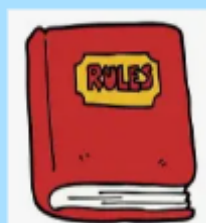
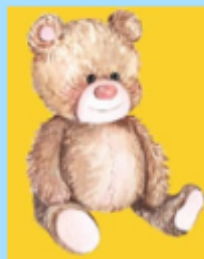


A **BIG THANK YOU** from the PSFA on our very successful Christmas Fayres which were thoroughly enjoyed by all the children and staff.

We raised:

Upton Juniors - £1400

Upton Infants - £1982 which includes the donations from our Christmas performances and hopefully more to come next week!



BREAK THE RULES

UPTON JUNIORS - £730

UPTON INFANTS - £440

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

TAG, TOUCH & CONTACT RUGBY COACHING & GAMES

ONLY
£5
PER CHILD*

DESIGNED TO DEVELOP CORE RFU VALUES
OF SPORTSMANSHIP, TEAMWORK, RESPECT,
DISCIPLINE AND ENJOYMENT.

For children ages 4-13 years old.



*School subsidy may apply.

TO BOOK YOUR SPACE
VISIT RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK
EMAIL STUART@RIPPARUGBY.CO.UK
CALL STUART ON 07899 268265



OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PARTNER



COACHING
CONSULTANCY
AVAILABLE

WHAT IS RIPPA RUGBY?

It's Tag, Touch and contact based Rugby games designed with the objective to develop skills such as catching, passing, invasion, evasion, spatial awareness and decision making. Rippa Rugby develops communication skills and improves overall fitness levels. Above all it's great fun. Our aim to make our sessions the most rewarding activity your child will participate in all week.

WHO IS IT FOR?

It is for school children (both boys and girls) aged between 4 and 13 years old during the following times;

- During and after school/pre-school
- School holidays
- Rugby themed birthday parties

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

It's only £5 per session per child per hour (school subsidy may apply). Visit our website for more information.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

To develop the RFU 'Five C's' within a child in line with National Curriculum standards which includes;

- Competence and skill development
- Confidence to take part in sport and games
- Connection with other children to develop strong friendships
- Creativity to try something different and not be afraid of making mistakes
- Caring character and encouraged to support and look after each other

COACHING CONSULTANCY

We also offer a coaching consultancy for teaching staff and developing coaches at competitive rates.

Provision of coaching services at Rugby themed parties.

All our coaches are DBS Cleared, First Aid trained and RFU Level 2 Experienced Bournemouth Rugby Age Group Coaches.

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OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PARTNER

SPORTZ+
XTRA



2026

SATURDAY SESSIONS

3, 10, 17 JAN 9.30 - 12.30 P.M.

VENUE: BRIDPORT LEISURE CENTRE, BREWERY FIELDS, BRIDPORT, DORSET DT6 5LN

COST: £8.92 PER SESSION

TO BOOK: LEISURE@DORSETCOUNCIL.GOV.UK

- ✓ Soft Play and Bouncy Castle
- ✓ Swimming
- ✓ Didi cars and games



£8.92 PER SESSION

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/sport-leisure/artz-sportz-xtra

BOOKINGS CLOSE 17 DEC 2025
CONFIRMATION EMAILS 18 DEC 2025
PARENTS MUST STAY IF THIS IS YOUR CHILD'S FIRST SESSION.



DORSET

Pregnancy Therapies

Midwife Complementary Therapies- to help
you feel comfortable, confident and in
control - during pregnancy & after birth

Offering support and relief from:

- Sickness
- Back, Hip & Pelvic Pain
- Heartburn & Indigestion
- Tingling Wrists
- Constipation & Haemorrhoids
- Stress & Anxiety
- Relaxation
- Birth Preparation
- Avoiding Induction
- Breech Baby
- Recovery from Birth

Gift Vouchers Available



SCAN ME