



office@uptonjun.dorset.sch.uk



office@uptoninf.dorset.sch.uk

The Upton Schools Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers

13th June 2025

As we are hurtling towards the end of the academic year, we are beginning to turn our thoughts towards the transition for children into different year groups and in some cases different schools. Obviously this can be a difficult time for some children and we are working hard to alleviate the worries and concerns that some children will have.

Our transition day is Friday 27th June and on this day children will meet their new teachers, visit their new classrooms and, where relevant, new school. However, behind the scenes there is a lot of work that is going on which includes additional visits for some children and the transfer of child information between teachers.

A key part of the transition is the arranging of new classes for children. This is a very complex process and one that we put a lot of thought into. Each year group carefully considers each child's friendship groups whilst trying to make sure that new classes have a balance of gender and current attainment. Teachers have to consider what is best for each new class and the year group as a whole so children are happy and effective teaching and learning can take place.

Parents will find out the new classes on Friday 27th June as previously this has worked out the most effective way for the children as a whole. Although I accept there are pros and cons for each different way of doing this. For a few children it is in their best interest to find out before so they can be prepared, and we are currently putting this list together. Children who are transferring to secondary will find out during their transfer day.

On another note, I am sorry to say that Mrs Aplin will be leaving us at the end of the academic year. Mrs Aplin has been a fundamental part of Upton Junior school for a number of years and has had a considerable impact on a vast number of children in Upton. She will be sorely missed and we wish her well.

At the Infant School Mrs West will be leaving us at the end of the year as will Mrs Bunting. Mrs West, who is currently providing maternity cover for Mrs Edge, is leaving us as she has successfully gained a permanent position and Mrs Bunting, who is currently working one day a week in the Woodpeckers, has successfully gained a full-time position for September. I would like to thank them for their hard work and for being valued members of our school team. We are in the process of recruiting to fill the vacancies.

A reminder that on Saturday it is the Upton VE/VJ parade which is starting at St Dunston's Church at 12.30 ending at Upton rec at 1.00 for the annual Picnic in the Park. At the rec there will be lots of events and fun for all the family. Some of our pupils are taking part and they are looking forward to seeing you as they walk. Please come out and stand on the Jubilee Gardens side of Dorchester Road and give them a wave and a cheer. A huge thank you to Mrs Rudd, Mrs Warner Fancy and Mrs Zambuni for volunteering to accompany the children. Sadly, I won't be walking as I have recently had an operation on me knee but will join our walkers at the Rec.

Have a lovely weekend and I looking forward to seeing you Monday morning,

Duncan Churchill
Executive Head Teacher
Upton Infant and Junior School





UJS PSFA

Music from our talented children

**Opens
3.15pm**

Summer Fayre

Thursday 26th June




RAFFLE




Tombola, Stalls, Sweet Surprise, Refreshments including Pimms, Special Summer Essentials Raffle, Goal Shoot Out, Bottle Hoopla, Guess the Code Game and more!

Our food partner's this year are;












Chance to win a Haven Holiday
with our new game!

With thanks for your continued support for UJS PSFA

Monday 16th June is Non Uniform Day

in exchange for a donation to the Summer Fayre as below please;

Please remember we are a NUT FREE school

Year 3 and 4 - Tombola food prizes, bottles of alcohol, smellies and gifts (items you would be happy to win)

Year 5 - Sweets and Sweet Bags

Year 6 - Bottles of fizzy drinks

Please check all items are in date until 30/6/25

The fayre is on Thursday 26th June 3.15pm





With thanks for your support from UJS PSFA

Upton Junior School Announcements



Congratulations to Miss Dixon and Miss Ricketts on the safe arrival of their beautiful baby girls !



🎵 Summer Concert Update 🎵

Letters for our upcoming Summer Concerts have been distributed! These letters include an overview of the concerts and important details about ticket purchases.

There will be two performances on the same day – one at 1:45 PM and another at 5:45 PM.

Please read the letter carefully before returning the permission and ticket slips.

If your child is due to perform, don't forget to check their bag for the letter!

We're looking forward to a fantastic day of music and celebration! 🎉🎊

Diary Dates

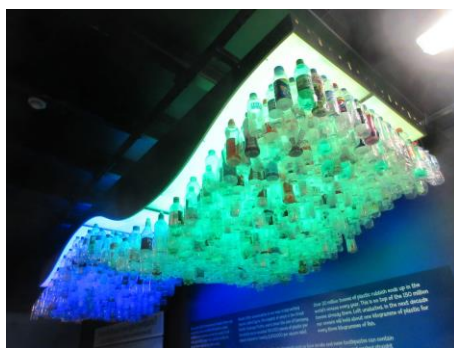


- ❖ Monday 16th June – Year 6 Bikeability
- ❖ Monday 16th June – PSFA Non-school uniform day for tombola donations
- ❖ Thursday 26th June – PSFA Summer Fayre 3.20 – 5pm
- ❖ Thursday 19th, 26th June & 3rd, 10th July, – Year 4 Swimming
- ❖ Friday 20th June – Upton Junior School Sports day 9.30 – 11.30 at the rec
- ❖ Monday 7th July – Year 6 Production 1.30-3pm
- ❖ Tuesday 8th July – Year 6 Production 4.30-6pm
- ❖ Thursday 10th July – Upton Junior School Summer Concert – 1.45pm & 5.45pm
- ❖ Monday 14th – 16th July – Year 6 Residential
- ❖ Monday 21st July – Year 6 End of Year Party
- ❖ Tuesday 22nd July – Leavers assembly for Year 6
- ❖ Tuesday 22nd July – Last day of school for the summer term – returning Thursday 4th September

Year 5 went to Weymouth Sealife Centre on one of their school trips. This was linked to their DT topic of plastic pollution and how to save our oceans.

We had a fantastic time - everyone was so well behaved and we all loved seeing so many of the animals and creatures. We managed to visit every exhibit! We saw weedy sea dragons, fairy penguins, tube anemones, seals, sea horses and SO much more! We had a short workshop too linked to remind us to recycle and reuse as much rubbish as we can.

We will be making sea creatures out of plastic rubbish in our DT lessons next week.



🎵 Unlock Your Child's Musical Potential 🎵

Is your child interested in learning a musical instrument? Now's the perfect time to sign up for peripatetic music lessons for the next academic year!

We offer a fantastic range of instrumental tuition with specialist teachers. If you'd like your child to take part, please contact the school office for an application form, or download one directly from our school website.

👉 Please note: If your child is already learning an instrument through school lessons, you do not need to reapply.

Now... let's meet our highly qualified instrumental team!

Mr O. Potter – Drum Kit



Mr Potter has been a dedicated music educator for over a decade, bringing with him a wealth of experience in both curriculum music and one-to-one instrumental teaching. As the Music Co-ordinator at Upton Junior School, he plays a key role in shaping the school's vibrant musical life.

Known for his energy, expertise, and unwavering commitment, Mr. Potter boasts a 100% pass rate in graded music exams. Many of his students have gone on to achieve outstanding results at GCSE level and beyond.

Remarkably, some of his current junior school pupils—who began lessons in Year 3—are already preparing for Grade 5, which is two levels above GCSE standard. His engaging teaching style and dedication to each student's progress make him a highly valued member of our school community.

This is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to begin their musical journey on the drum kit under expert guidance. However, spaces are limited, so if you would like your child to take part, please complete and return an application form as soon as possible – available from the school office or our website.

Miss J. Morgan Piano, Keyboard, Clarinet, Violin and Saxophone



Miss Morgan graduated from the University of Southampton with a BA (Hons) in Music, specialising in performance. She has been teaching in local schools across all age groups, from junior to secondary, for nearly 10 years with great success.

An extremely skilled instrumentalist, Miss Morgan has achieved Grade 8 on numerous instruments and currently teaches violin, clarinet, piano, and saxophone. She also leads chamber groups and string ensembles.

Fun facts: During university, she was principal clarinettist of the Symphonic Wind Orchestra and performed in both the Sinfonietta and Symphony Orchestra. She also gained orchestral management experience and had the amazing opportunity to perform with members of the London Sinfonietta.

Miss Morgan was also a keen singer and performed with the Bournemouth Symphony Children's Choir in concerts, operas, and recordings — and you might still catch her singing around the music block! 😊

Miss R Baxter - Singing



Mrs Baxter has been a dynamic force at Upton for the past year, bringing energy, passion, and a love of performance to every lesson. She's loved every moment of working with the students, watching their confidence soar and their talents take centre stage.

A graduate with a National Diploma in Musical Theatre, Mrs Baxter went on to tour internationally with a renowned jazz band—an experience that brings a real spark of showbiz magic to her teaching.

With over a decade of experience in stage schools, she knows how to inspire young performers to push boundaries, believe in themselves, and shine in the spotlight.

At Upton Junior School, Mrs Baxter also leads the choir, which is renowned for its exciting and energetic performances that captivate every audience. In her sessions, students develop vocal range, control, and stage presence—all in a fun, encouraging environment where creativity and confidence thrive.

Mr M. Potter - Electric Guitar, Electric Bass Guitar and Ukulele



A graduate of Glamorgan University, Mr M. Potter has been teaching professionally for fifteen years, and has significant industry experience performing live and recording with several bands.

Tuition is informative, enjoyable, and rewarding. Mr Potter's lessons at Upton are all one to one, so you can be assured your child is getting bespoke tuition tailored around them.

Mr M. Potter has a 100% student pass rate for all guitar, bass and ukulele exams to date, and his guitar teaching company is now a registered exam centre for Trinity Rock & Pop exams. Students can submit their exam digitally - no more having to face a scary examiner behind a desk! Full support for recording and exam submission is included in Mr Potter's lessons. Instrumental exams are by no means compulsory but are encouraged.

During his years of teaching, Mr M. Potter has built up a reputation for his commitment to student progress and finds continued motivation in helping young players build their confidence and unleashing their inner rock star!

Many of Mr M. Potter's students take their playing to a professional standard and often study music at higher education level.

Mr M. Potter looks forward to continuing to share his experience and expertise with students at Upton Junior School.

Mr K. Stockley - Acoustic and Electric Guitar



Mr Stockley graduated from Sheffield University with a BA (Hons) in Popular Music and has been teaching and performing ever since. With over 23 years of experience—including nearly 14 years at Upton Junior School—he has taught across a wide range of educational settings, from primary schools through to college and university. He brings a strong commitment to music education and a proven ability to engage and inspire students of all ages and abilities, from their very first lesson through to GCSE and further progression.

Over the years, Mr Stockley has developed a flexible and adaptive teaching style that responds to each student's individual needs. He understands that no two learners are the same and tailors his approach to suit each student's pace, interests, and learning preferences. Whether students are preparing for graded exams, building sight-reading skills, or simply learning to play their favourite songs for fun, he supports them every step of the way—with a 100% pass rate in guitar and ukulele grades to date.

Mr Stockley teaches both acoustic and electric guitar, with the aim of making learning enjoyable, accessible, and rewarding for all.

His drive to improve student engagement led him to create Level Up!, a series of guitar books for young beginners. Based on a video game concept, the Level Up! books encourage progression through stages, allowing students to earn points and unlock coloured guitar belts (similar to karate belts).

In addition to teaching, Mr Stockley is an active performer. He regularly gigs with Evertime, a multi-award-winning acoustic duo he formed with his wife, performing at weddings and private events across the country.



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE**

Years 5 & 6 recently had a visit from Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service. They have learnt how to stay safe on the heathland and what they can do to prevent heath fires. We also talked about how to keep safe at home from fires and what to do in the event of a fire in the home.

Please spend a few moments looking through this form with them, helping them understand how they can help keep themselves safe both indoors and outdoors. At the end, there is a chance to enter a prize draw to win a VIP trip to a DWFRS fire station, Emergency Services Lego and a Blaize Bear.

<https://forms.office.com/e/3ZjbvzmGVC>

Upton Infant School Announcements

Diary Dates



- ❖ Monday 16th June – Non-school uniform day for Summer Fayre donations
- ❖ Thursday 19th June – Upton Infant School Sports Day – more information to follow
- ❖ Friday 27th June – Adult Only Quiz Night
- ❖ Monday 14th July – Year 1 trip to Monkey World
- ❖ Monday 21st July – Summer Fayre

The Honeybees class went to Weymouth Sealife Centre on Tuesday as part of their 'Under the Sea' topic. They saw starfish, turtles, sharks, stingrays, seahorses, otters and penguins.

The sealions were by far the favourite creatures. The least favourite creatures were the naughty seagulls that stole one of the children's sandwich!

Other than the sandwich theft, they all had a whale of a time!



Upton Infant School
Guest Road, Upton,
Poole. BH16 5LQ
01202 622367



Upton Junior School
St. Martin's Road, Upton,
Poole. BH16 5NQ
01202 622649



Upton Infant School PSFA are
hosting another fun fundraising

QUIZ NIGHT

Adults only

FRIDAY 27TH
JUNE

Upton Infant School

7pm start · £5 per person

[Maximum of 8 per quiz team]

Please buy your tickets from the school office
Bring your own food and drinks [alcohol is allowed]

Raffle prizes throughout the evening - £1 a ticket

SUGGESTED
DONATION OF
£5 PER CHILD

UPTON INFANT SCHOOL PRESENTS

Upton Fest

8.40AM
-4PM

MONDAY
21ST JULY
2025

BOUNCY CASTLE
GAMES ~ CRAFTS
DISCO ~ RAFFLE
MUSIC ~ ICE CREAM
AND MORE!

PARENTS WELCOME FROM 2PM
COME AND ENJOY THE FUN!

PERFORMANCES FROM EACH YEAR GROUP
PLUS UIS ALLSTAR CHEERLEADERS, THE
SCHOOL CHOIR AND OUR UPTON'S GOT
TALENT FINALISTS

ST★RS HOLIDAY CLUB

Summer Holiday Club

Multi-Activity Holiday
Club for children aged
4-13 with activities such
as - Football, Dance,
Gymnastics, Inflatable
Fun, Dodgeball, Arts &
Crafts, Nerf Wars, Tennis,
Cricket and many many
more!



 **OPEN ALL SUMMER
w/c 21st July**

**£20
per day**

LIMITED FREE HAF SPACES AVAILABLE

📍 SWANAGE 📍 LYCHETT 📍 KINGSLEIGH 📍 BAYSIDE ACADEMY

Star Members, Sibling and
School Discounts available

Contact us to book your spot!
kirsty@starscorporateltd.co.uk



**UPTON JUNIOR SCHOOL
ALL YEAR GROUPS**

Strictly Stage Theatre School has been successfully running in schools in the Dorset area since 2002! Strictly Stage is a Performing Arts School, based on dance (street, disco, cabaret), singing (pop, musical theatre) and drama, but most of all HAVING FUN! Your child will have the opportunity to learn various routines to the latest chart music and Musical Theatre Shows such as School of Rock, Aladdin, Mary Poppins, Grease & Matilda etc.

All Strictly Stage Students work towards and perform in our annual productions at the prestigious Lighthouse Theatre, Poole.

The Principal of Strictly Stage, Liz, has worked as a professional Singer/Dancer all over the world on various cruise ships such as QE2, P&O, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and had the honour of working as part of the cast of Andrew Lloyd Webbers, Phantom of the Opera, in London's West End 1994 to 1996. With a team of professional teachers to support her, Strictly Stage has proved to be highly successful with over 300 children currently enrolled.

Strictly Stage will take place at Upton Junior School in the main hall, every Thursday term time from 3.15pm – 4.15pm. The class will be for all year groups, boys and girls. The cost is £5.50 per session which is payable per half term.

If you would like to enrol your child with Strictly Stage, please visit our website:

www.strictlystage.uk > Contact/Enrol Now

We will then e-mail you confirmation of your child's place at Strictly Stage Theatre School as soon as possible ready for a September start.

There are limited spaces available, and places are secured on a first come first served basis. Book early to avoid disappointment!

IF YOUR CHILD ALREADY ATTENDS STRICTLY STAGE THEATRE SCHOOL, THERE IS NO NEED TO RE-APPLY, AS THEY WILL HAVE A SECURE PLACE FOR THE ENTIRE 2025/26 ACADEMIC YEAR!

Hope to see you there

Liz Rodda
Principal of Strictly Stage Theatre School

Email: hello@strictlystage.uk

FB: @StrictlyStageTheatreSchool
Insta: strictly_stage

Lytchett Minster & Upton Town Council
invites you to

PICNIC IN THE PARK

SATURDAY 14 JUNE 2025
1.00PM - 5.00PM
UPTON RECREATION GROUND, BH16 5NF

Marking the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe & Japan

KIDS CRAFTS **FOOD & REFRESHMENTS***
BOUNCY CASTLE **FACE PAINTING** **PONIES**
KIDS RIDES* **CLASSIC CARS** **FANCY DRESS CHILDRENS PARADE**
STAGE PERFORMANCES **FALCONRY DISPLAY**

BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC & ENJOY THE FREE ENTERTAINMENT
*CHARGEABLE

www.lytchettminsterandupton-tc.gov.uk

WOOL

SKATEPARK JAM

SAT 28 JUNE
FROM 12 TO 4PM

MUSIC
RIDER DEMOS
COMPETITIONS
PRIZES
FOOD BY SALT PIG

THE SALT PIG
SKATE SHOP
MONGO!
Griff
Studioink
TRABAL
SOUTH WEST SKATEBOARD CO.
CAMP AUBICOM

TECH DECK
LiveLike Ralph
#WillDoes
DEEZ NUTZ
608
CHILLI
MAVERICK SKATEPARKS

WOOL SKATEPARK
WOOL, WAREHAM
DORSET, BH20 6DR

Lyttchett United Royal British Legion Club

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

No military or service background needed – pick up a membership form at the club!

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER DISCO!
Tuesday 22nd July After School until 6PM

Join us for a fun and relaxed afternoon as we celebrate the end of the school year!

- Child-friendly Disco
- Sunny Beer Garden Open (weather permitting)
- Refreshments available inside the club

All are welcome – come and kick off the summer with us in style!

www.lurbl.co.uk

Dorchester Road, Upton, BH16 5NW

**ARTZ+SPORTZ+
XTRA 5 - 17 YRS**



**3 SESSIONS
FOR £26.77**
20% discount for those
receiving universal credit

July 25

SATURDAYS
DATES: 5, 12 & 19 JULY
9.30 - 12.30 P.M.

PRINCE OF WALES PRE-SCHOOL, MAIDEN CASTLE RD,
DORCHESTER DT1 2HH

- ✓ Soft play
- ✓ 1 hour swimming
- ✓ Fun and games




Contact leisure@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk to
request a place
Bookings close 18 June 25
Confirmation emails on 19 June 25



Summer Reading Challenge News

Joining the Summer Reading Challenge

Children sign up through their local library and receive a sticker booklet. They set a reading goal and borrow books of their choice during the summer, collecting special stickers. Children who complete the Challenge are presented with a medal when they have read 6 books, and a certificate is sent to school in the Autumn term.

The Challenge starts on Saturday 5 July



How the Summer Reading Challenge benefits children:

- significantly improves reading confidence and independence
- ensures students are ready for their return to school, preventing the summer reading 'dip'
- aids the successful transition between year groups and key stages

Schools online author event with Gareth P. Jones to launch Story Garden Thursday 3 July 9.15 - 9.45 am



Book your place for our online launch event

What next

- display posters in your school
- send a newsletter to parents and carers with information about the Challenge
- talk to students about Story Garden during assembly time
- visit the Summer Reading Challenge School Zone for more information and free resources



2025 Summer Reading Challenge, Story Garden - Adventures in nature and the great outdoors

This year's exciting theme will inspire children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature.

The Summer Reading Challenge is a FREE holiday activity for children. It's all about reading for fun, aiming to improve children's reading skills and confidence.



We value your support in helping us to promote the Summer Reading Challenge and therefore we will be pleased to:

- attend an assembly to talk about the Summer Reading Challenge
- provide an electronic promotional flyer for emailing to parents and carers
- provide a PowerPoint presentation to explain the Summer Reading Challenge to children in an assembly or classroom situation. We will notify you when it is available

To ensure all children hear about Story Garden, library staff would be delighted to visit an assembly to talk to children about the Summer Reading Challenge.

Assembly visits are available between 23 June and 16 July

Book your assembly visit



The Summer Reading Challenge is developed by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries.

**Our Library Service mission is to Inspire,
Connect and Enable our communities**




SUPER SWIMMERS

**BRAND NEW
PURPOSE BUILT POOL
IN HAMWORTHY**

After School Classes,
Parent & Baby, Toddler,
Preschool, Holiday Courses
1-2-1, 2-1 and Adult Lessons

Monday-Friday 4pm-7pm
& Mondays 9.30am

07717 722 720
www.superswimmer.co.uk