

Weekly Updates From Uplands



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

We hope you all had an enjoyable summer break and have enjoyed the lovely weather. A special welcome to Merlins Class that started school on Thursday. They have all settled in really well and are excited about joining our happy school. I am also glad to report that the rest of the school have also settled back into the school routine already, it is wonderful to hear the sound of children's voices echoing around the school again.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new staff that have joined Uplands, we hope they will enjoy working at such a wonderful school.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING- SMARTPHONE USE CAMPAIGN

On the evening of the 16th September, 6pm at Uplands School, Katie Bee from the charity called Papaya Parent Talk will be delivering an information evening about the safe use of SMARTPHONES for certain ages.

If you are interested in attending, please let the office know.

ONLINE SAFETY BRIEFING WITH A LOCAL POLICE OFFICER

Online safety is essential for children surfing the internet safely. Uplands is teaming up with five local primary schools we work very closely with to put on an Internet Safety Briefing Evening for parents led by a police officer. This evening is being held on **Wednesday 8th October from 6:00-7:00pm** at Stroud Valley Primary School. If you are able to, please attend this information evening.

MEET THE SCHOOL

Wednesday 24th September

This year we will be repeating our very successful "Meet the School". This will take place on Wednesday 24th September between 6-7pm. This event will provide parents with the opportunity to hear from the teaching staff, the Governors and the PTA members about how Uplands School operates. There will also be a chance to ask any questions. Please ensure you inform the office if you are able to attend by Friday 19th September.

Many thanks.

HOLIDAYS OR ABSENCE DURING SCHOOL TIME

The government has stressed the importance of children attending school regularly and we firmly believe that it is very important that your child is in school for every session. If your child misses out on lessons, learning is lost, as work is often built on from previous lessons and children then struggle to catch up. Every lesson counts! If your child is ill and unable to attend school, please let us know, or leave a message on the school's answer phone as soon as possible - 01453 762409. We do chase up any child not in school as we need to know that they are safe and being looked after. If you need to apply for leave of absence during term-time for extraordinary circumstances, a form must be completed, available from the school office. We are glad to report that there was a slight reduction in the number of absence requests received last academic year, however it still remains high. Please do not take time off without letting the school know as we will spend time trying to contact you unnecessarily. The school has discretion in 'exceptional circumstances' to authorise a leave of absence if we believe it is a genuine reason. Parents must also note that they can be given a Penalty Notice or prosecuted for periods of unauthorised holidays and the regulations are set out within our Attendance Policy.

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION UPDATE

Just to remind you, staff are unable to administer medication to any pupil unless it has been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse/pharmacist prescriber. Medication such as paracetamol or Piriton for allergies, cannot be administered by staff unless prescribed. Parents/carers are very welcome to come into school to administer non-prescription medicines to their child if required.

STAFF ABSENCE

We would like to inform you that Miss Dempster will be absent from school for four weeks, starting on 15th September, as she will be undergoing a long awaited knee operation.

During her recovery, we are pleased to let you know that an excellent supply teacher will be taking care of Kestrels Class. Miss Dempster will continue to set the class work from home to ensure consistency and continuity in learning.

We apologise for any disruption this may cause and appreciate your understanding and support during this time.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Thank you to the parents that have supported the start of the Uplands After School provision that officially opened this week, this is a fantastic addition to Uplands wraparound care. Staff who are employed to run this facility are very experienced and keen to ensure that the children enjoy themselves in a safe environment. We still have some spaces available - please contact the office if you are interested in a place for your child/ren.

COMMUNICATION WITH STAFF

We are all very proud of our open door policy at Uplands School and the positive relationships we hold with our parents. We always endeavour to answer any queries as quickly as possible and work in partnership with all parents for the best of every child. However, this year, to consider the wellbeing of staff we will be making a few slight amendments to how parents can contact teachers.

These changes should not affect our open door policy and are as follows:

- Previously parents have contacted teaching staff via class email. With immediate effect, all parent email enquiries must be sent to the school office. The enquiry will then be triaged to the appropriate person. The staff member will endeavour to respond asap and within 3 working days during school opening hours.
- Any teacher appointment requests will need to be organised through the office staff.
- All members of staff are often extremely busy during pick-up and drop off times and their prime responsibility is safeguarding all children. If you need to get a message to a staff member, please speak to the office staff and they will pass any messages on to the relevant person.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support,
it is very much appreciated by all staff.

After School Club

*If you need to
contact the after
school club, please
press the bell
situated on the
window in the
school entrance
lobby.*





**HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A LOVELY
WEEKEND!
SEE YOU ALL NEXT WEEK!**

Yours sincerely,



Mr James Powell
Head Teacher

DIARY DATES - 2025-2026	
Monday 15 th September	Eagles Swimming begins every Monday for 6 weeks 10am
Tuesday 16 th September	Papaya Parent Talk - Smartphones
Wednesday 24 th September	Meet the School 6-7pm
Wednesday 8 th October	Online Safety Briefing 6-7pm -Stroud Valley Primary School
Wednesday 22 October	School Photographs
Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October	Half Term Break
Monday 3 rd November	Children return to school
Thursday 6 th November	Stroud Book Festival – Kestrels & Eagles
Friday 7 th November	Stroud Book Festival - Owls
Tuesday 11 th November	Parents Evening
Wednesday 12 th November	Parents Evening
Wednesday 17 th December	Whole School Trip to the Panto – Stroud Sub Rooms (1pm)
Monday 22 December – Friday 2nd January 2026	Christmas Holidays
Monday 5 th January	Inset Day – School Closed
Tuesday 6 th January	Children return to school