

Upham School Newsletter

6 June 2025



Photo: Squirrels (Y1&2) enjoying a drama workshop yesterday

Wed 11 Jun – 2.30pm
Parents Panel
Thurs 19 Jun – Hedgehogs
Y3&4) trip to Lepe Country
Park Beach
Wed 25 Jun – pm Sports
Day (exact timings tbc)
Sat 28 Jun – Upham Village
Fete
Tues 1 July – pm Reserve
Sports Day
Tues 8 July – Wyvern Y6
new intake day
Wed 16 – Fri 8 July –
Badgers (Y5&6) Residential
visit
Tues 22 July – Last Day of
Term

A few words from the headteacher...

What a dramatic change in the weather this week – we've all got a bit used to reliable sunny, warm weather and this week had some wet plays inside and some windy cold drizzle outside – decidedly autumnal! The children have to adapt on these days when they can't go on the field and they switch to different types of games. The indoor playtimes have actually been a nice novelty with children enjoying playing games inside, though I was beaten playing Dobble with some Yr 5 and 6s yesterday so I wasn't so happy!

Squirrels (Y1&2) Drama Workshop

Children in Years 1 and 2 had a fun drama workshop all morning yesterday. This was the 'hook' for their topic this term; the initial activity which enthuses them into the material. Their topic is a historical lead one about famous explorers and starts with the moon landing. During the session they learned about space travel and the early stages before using drama to try to think about what the journey might have been like. In the photo above they are lying on their backs imagining the massive G-force pinning them back during take-off in the rocket! Lots of fun but also lots of information – I hope they were able to tell you about it when they got home!

Reminder
Hedgehogs (Y3&4)
Trip – please provide
consent on Arbor
ASAP



INSET Days for 24/25:

- All completed

Yrs5&6

Y3&4

Y1&2

YR



Communication this week:

Thurs – Guitar lesson reports

Our INSET on Monday

I thought you might be interested to know what we did as part of staff training on our INSET day on Monday.

Part of the day was spent thinking about how generative AI might be used to enliven and enrich teaching. We will not be getting children to use this at all but there are interesting possibilities for how we can shape activities, match reading texts and create resources more efficiently.

We also explored how we can better think about children's mental health, in particular by considering how brain theory might help us understand their reactions during heightened emotions. Brain theory is about the idea that the emotional control centre (limbic system) is deep in the brain with the thinking analytical part (cortex) wrapped around it. At moments of high emotion the limbic system takes control and the thinking part disconnects – and then initiates a fight, flight or freeze response. This is an evolutionary throwback and explains why people 'lose control' at times of high emotion. Have a watch of this

Youtube clip if you'd like to know more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qm9CIJ74Oxw>