



Photos: Hedgehogs Class during their Egyptian Day!

**Upham CE (Aided)
Primary School**

Thursday 21 May



YR Y1&2 Y3&4 Y5&6

Children in Badgers and Hedgehogs Classes enjoyed their dressing up days this week – it was lovely to see all the different outfits and their excitement. The days were more than just an opportunity to dress up though, they were about trying to give experiences where children can think about what life might have been like for those people, through the planned activities. These were both timed this week as outcomes of the topic children have been exploring all half term, a great opportunity to apply their historical understanding. Thanks to everyone for helping provide and create the costumes!

Dates for your Diary:

- Fri 22 May** – INSET Closure Day
- Mon 25 – Fri 29 May** – Half Term
- Mon 1 June** – First day back of Summer II Term
- Wed 3 June** – 6.30 Meeting for Year R Sept '26 parents (previously shared)
- Fri 5 June** – Dormice visit to Bishops Waltham

Advance Notice - INSET Days in September

Later in the summer we will send parents lists of significant dates for the next academic year but I wanted to share the dates on INSET for September as soon as I could. We often have an INSET at the start of term as there is often new legislation or requirements, we need to ensure we are covering. For this September, there are a number of changes so I want to use two INSET days. This means the first school day for Years 1-6 will be Thursday 3rd September. Two days is also a nice amount for the children to get back into things ready to start 'fully' the following week.

To confirm:

- Tues 1st Sept** INSET Closure
- Weds 2nd Sept** – INSET Closure
- Thurs 3rd Sept** – First Day Back Y1-6

Bird Box News

Our last few baby birds fledged over the weekend so when we checked the bird box on Monday morning it was empty! Blue tits often lay second clutches in the summer so we may get to watch this again.

New Outside Space

Outside at playtime, all children have access to spaces to run, jump, climb, play and be active. However, for a while I have felt we have been missing a quieter, more contemplative space. Over the last few weeks, we have been developing such an area and this week it was 'opened' for the children. We have called this area our 'Thoughtful Space' because it is a calm space for sitting and chatting with friends, for taking in the nature in the area, for spending some time by yourself or perhaps prayer. Very naturalised with logs to sit on in spaces surrounded by trees and foliage so it feels secluded.



INSET Day left for 25/26
• Fri 22 May

Check you haven't missed these communications this week:

- **Tues** – Dormice letter Bishops Waltham trip
- **Fri** – All, new lunch menus after half term

First Week After Half Term

During the first week of June, each class will be watching assemblies produced by the NSPCC as part of their 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' programme. This engaging, age-appropriate material helps children think about their own safety, keeping private areas private and who to talk to if they are worried about anything. Year 2 and Year 5&6 children will also have a workshop with NSPCC leaders in a few weeks (further correspondence will be sent regarding this on Friday 5th June). This learning is an important part of our Health and Relationships curriculum.

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