



Photo: Children enjoying FUSTival Last Week

Upham CE (Aided) Primary School

Wednesday 22 July



YR Y1&2 Y3&4 Y5&6

This week has been all about Year 6 and their journey through the school coming to an end. Though there is some sadness as this chapter in their life closes they are all ready to start the next exciting moment – so it's really a celebration! They shared a lovely Leaver's service at the church yesterday – lots of adult tears – and the bell ringing at hometime today will be their last symbolic act. In the church I talked about them being like jigsaw pieces, each a unique piece and together they are bonded. This 'missing piece' represented the school family – the memories they have of us and also the memories we will all have of them – they are now part of Upham School history! All of our love goes with them, good luck in all you do and keep being that unique you: Archie, Charlie, Emi, Esther, Ethan, Flo, Hugo, Isla, Nicole, Paige & Violet.



Dates for your Diary:

Wed 22 July – Yr6 Bell ringing at 3.30pm - Last Day

Thurs 23 July – Summer Holidays Start
Mon 31 August Last Day of Holidays
Tues 1 Sept – INSET Closure Day
Wed 2 Sept – INSET Closure Day

Thurs 3 Sept – First Day back for Years 1-6
Fri 4 Sept – 10-11.30am Final Year R taster day
Wed 9 Sept – First 'Proper' Day for Year R

Last Listen2Me Concert

Hedgehogs children were amazing in their trumpet Listen2Me concert last week – a really tricky instrument to master and they were all so tuneful. Well done to everyone and thanks to those of you who could come and celebrate them!



No OFSTED Report Yet!

I was hopeful the OFSTED report might be published before the end of term but I'm afraid it has not arrived – this means it won't be ready until September!



Goodbye to Families

As well as saying goodbye to our Year 6s, we are also saying goodbye to some families as their youngest child leaves us. We have loved having your children at our school – please give us updates on how they all get on! Goodbye to the:

- Stirlings (Flo & Sienna)
- Snowdons (Charlie & Fletcher)
- Howard (Paige)
- Barrows (Ethan & Ella)
- Haddrells (Nicole & Sophia)

Goodbye to Mrs White

Another goodbye we have to make today is to Lucy White who will be leaving us to work in a different field. It's hard to describe just how significant her contribution to Upham has been since joining us way back in 2018. She has worked mainly with Year 1& 2 but recently with Years 5 & 6 and in every class at some point. Lucy is always someone who worked incredibly hard for the team, happy to cover at short notice, help out, take on new things and support individual children at times of need. Her commitment to supporting children at Upham is beyond question and she is well known by all the children because she interacts with each and every one of them. I am sure you will join me in thanking her for all of this hard work, dedication and care over the years!

Communications this week:

- Tue – Calendar overview for 2026 / 2027 academic year

Emails:

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Thanks for the Gift!

Leaving Year 6 parents have kindly bought the school a gift as they have left. They have bought some library books which their children have chosen for a particular reason; a favourite book, an interest of theirs or one they have enjoyed they want others to discover. They have written messages in the front so that children, when they borrow them from September, will know who recommended it! Thanks from all of us!

Something to do over the summer – great butterfly count!!

This year has been a better year for butterflies and we've talked about this over the last few weeks. Many of the children know a Peacock from a Red Admiral or a Small Blue from a Woodland Brown and they might like to take part in the great butterfly watch which runs until 9th Aug. You can download free guides easily (bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org) or try the App – you just need to watch a sunny spot for 15mins and record what you see. This is also really important scientific data as butterflies are indicator species of biodiversity...or not.



Thanks for FUSTival!

What a lovely evening we had last Friday at FUSTival after school. The weather was perfect and the children all seemed to really enjoy themselves – a lovely end to another academic year. A huge thankyou to everyone at FUS for their hard work planning and preparing for the event. It was lovely to see so many of you, too many to name here, to help set up, run 'stalls' and clear away afterwards – my thanks to all of you; it couldn't have been a success without your contribution!

Year 6 Children wrote this lovely poem together which they shared during their Leaver's Service:

Our Primary School Journey

It doesn't seem that long ago, We walked through the school gate, small and shy.
With bags that felt much bigger than us, And dreams that reached up to the sky.

We've learnt to read, to write, to share, To be kind, thoughtful, brave and true.
We've made great friends and lasting memories, And discovered all the things we can do

In Dormice Class, our journey began, With Mrs Mason by our side,
Along with Mrs Nettle, always there, Helping us grow with love and pride.

Then came Squirrels, full of fun, Where new adventures filled each day.
Mrs Pilgrim cheered us onwards, While Mrs Sothcott showed us the way.

cont.

In Hedgehogs, we reached a little higher, Growing stronger, bit by bit.
Mrs Bird and Mrs Mildren, Encouraged us never to quit.

Then finally, Badgers led us here, To the end of our primary school days.
Miss Leech, Mrs Hayward and Mrs White, Have inspired us in so many ways.

Through every lesson, every year, One familiar smile we'd always see.
Mrs Miller has been part of every class, A constant face for you and me.

She taught us, helped us, made us laugh, Supported us through every stage.
Always there with kindness and care, As we turned another page.

We've climbed, created, sung and played, Solved problems, learnt and grown.
Together we've become a family, A place that always felt like home.

Now it's time to spread our wings, To step into a brand-new place.
We'll carry these memories in our hearts, Along with every smiling face.

To every teacher, every helper, Thank you for believing in us all.
For picking us up when we stumbled, And helping us stand proud and tall.

Though we'll miss these classrooms dearly, And the friends we've made each day,
We'll take with us the lessons learned, As we journey on our way.

So here's to laughter, dreams and hope, To every memory we've made.
We'll always be grateful for our primary years, And the strong foundations they have laid.

We'll never forget where our story began, Or the people who helped us grow.
Thank you for everything you've given. It's now our turn to shine and show.

We'll leave with grateful hearts today, Ready for whatever comes our way.
Though we're saying goodbye to primary school, These memories will forever stay.

On behalf of the whole team here at Upham CE Primary, thank you for all of your support, partnership, good humour, encouragement and kind words this year. We wish you all a good summer and look forward to seeing everyone again in September!

Mr Woolley