

Feb 1<sup>st</sup>  
2017

# uplands update



Uplands Junior L.E.A.D. Academy  
A L.E.A.D. Academy

## Dates for your



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017

- Year 3 Trip to Spinney Hill Park.

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> - Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017

- School Close for Half Term Holiday

### Valuable Learning Time

Every minute that the children spend in school is valuable learning time. We open the school gates at 8.30am and we have rearranged the school day to accommodate children in the classrooms from that time onwards. Class teachers are in their classrooms before 8.30am to ensure that activities are prepared for when the children arrive. So from 8.30am up until when the first lesson begins at 9.00am, children can engage in a range of learning experiences, including reading, practising spellings, completing their Learning Log tasks and practising their handwriting. We would encourage all parents to try and make the most of this facility by ensuring that their children arrive at school as close to 8.30am as possible. This will undoubtedly impact on the progress your child makes and give them the best possible start to the day. Thanks in anticipation of your support with this very important aspect of your child's education.

### School Uniform

The number of children wearing school uniform has diminished recently and we are saddened by this. I am sure you will agree that our children look incredibly smart in their uniform and this is something we should all be proud of. The uniform gives us a clear sense of identity and also allows members of our community to see the high standards we set in terms of conduct and presentation. Please continue to support the school by ensuring that your child wears their school uniform at all times. Thanks in anticipation of your support!

### Visit from Alex Bedford

We are committed to designing a rich, vibrant and exciting curriculum over the coming months and years. To this end we recently secured the services of Alex Bedford, a prominent consultant on curriculum design who spent a full day with our teaching and support staff. Alex gave some very insightful tips and advice on how to build a dynamic curriculum that will inspire both the children and the staff. We are already putting things in place and although the curriculum is in its infancy of design and implementation, we are making great progress. More news to follow on this area of school development.

### Sports Update

The world of sport is really taking off in school and we are exposing more and more children to sporting opportunities. Mrs Wood, our Head of Physical Education, is doing a tremendous job of organising and delivering a high quality PE and School Sport Curriculum. She is supported in her work by Mr Patel and Mr Walker who attend training sessions and sports events. The current provision on offer includes the following:

- Session with Skipping Henry
- Development of fundamental movement and brain gym with Brian Hookway
- Gymnastics club
- Swimming competitions
- Football team
- Inclusive football club
- Energy club
- Health and well-being leaders
- Playmaker leaders
- Go noodle sessions (dance)



### School Environment Update

We have been very busy making improvements to the school interior environment. The entire school has now been painted a bright and inviting colour which has really given the building a much needed boost. Along with this we have installed a range of colourful and inspiring display boards that allows us to showcase children's work and celebrate milestones in children's learning. We would welcome any feedback from parents regarding our work so far and on going forward, so please let us know what you think after visiting us for your parent consultation meeting.

### Visit from Diana Owen (LEAD Chief Executive)

Diana Owen, the Chief Executive of LEAD Academy Trust, came to visit the school recently and was extremely impressed with the progress we have made in such a short space of time. She could barely recognise the school from last year and complemented all the staff, children and parents on their hard work so far. Well done everybody!

### New Chair of Governors

We have appointed a new Chair of Governors after Andrew Munroe completed his term of office at our school. Christine Glass, a former Headteacher of a successful inner-city school has taken on the role and will be working closely with the school to ensure that we continue to make progress towards our targets. I'm sure that will warmly welcome Chris to the school and support her in her new role.