



JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a busy and eventful start to the New Year, with snow, strong winds, and plenty of rain—true British weather! Despite this, the children have quickly settled back into their routines and are fully engaged in their learning.

This half term, our school value is **Achievement**, and our assemblies are focused on this theme. It's always wonderful to hear about the children's successes, both in and out of school, so please do continue to share their achievements with us.

We have a number of exciting events coming up, so please check the newsletter for key dates. While we do our best to keep plans in place, sometimes changes are unavoidable—but rest assured, any updates will always be communicated by our Admin team.

I would like to draw your attention to two of our updated safeguarding policies highlighted in this newsletter – Mobile Phones & Devices and Positive Behaviour Policies. The full versions can be found on our website:

<https://uppernidderdalefed.school/policies/>

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

Miss N Thornber and Team

Our CHAMPS value this half-term is

ACHIEVEMENT

Monthly Attendance Summary

Jade Class - 99.77%

Amethyst Class - 99.28%

Obsidian Class - 98.77%

Whole School - 99.16%

Our Vision

At Upper Nidderdale Primary Federation, we will all approach everything we do in the **CHAMPS** way, helping every child flourish into a caring, confident and resilient young person who has a love of learning and:

- **C**hooses the right way and takes responsibility for their own actions
- Is **H**onest in everything they do and shows compassion for others
- **A**chieves the best they can with the talents they have and develops their wisdom
- Shows good **M**anners to everyone and treats everyone with respect
- **P**erseveres when situations are difficult and shows courage when they are challenged
- Knows how to keep **S**afe on and offline, ensuring that everyone is kept physically and emotionally safe.

This shows the special relationship we have with each other, where as a community, we look after each other, keeping each other safe – **Koinonia**.

Articles of the Month

Article 12

I have the right to an opinion and for my opinion to be taken seriously.

Article 24

I have the right to be mentally healthy.

Mobile Phones and Devices Policy

We now have a Mobile Phone & Devices Policy. You can see the whole policy on our website <https://uppernidderdalefed.school/policies> but below is some information from the policy.

Use of mobile phones by parents/carers, volunteers and visitors

Parents/carers, visitors and volunteers (including governors and contractors) must adhere to this policy, in the same way that it relates to staff, if they are on the school site during the school day.

This means:

- Not taking pictures or recordings of pupils at school events – school will post on social media as they have consents and known consents
- Not using phones in lessons, or when working with pupils

Parents/carers, visitors and volunteers will be informed of the rules for mobile phone use when they sign in at reception, or attend a public event at school.

Parents/carers or volunteers supervising school trips or residential visits must not:

- Use their phone to contact other parents/carers
- Take photos or recordings of pupils, their work, or anything else, which could identify a pupil

Parents/carers or volunteers supervising trips are also responsible for enforcing the school's policy for pupils using their phones, as set out in section 5 of this policy, but must refer any sanctions to a member of staff, as they do not have the power to search or confiscate devices.

Parents/carers must use the school office as the first point of contact if they need to get in touch with their child during the school day. They must not try to contact their child on their personal mobile during the school day.

Other areas included in the policy

Use of phones and smartwatches by pupil and Use of phones and smartwatches by staff

Jade Class Monthly News

Don't forget to like our Facebook pages so you can see lots of the wonderful learning your children are taking part in each day

We have had a busy, exciting start to 2025 in Jade class!

During our English lessons, Year 1s have been looking at writing to inform. Here we began with looking at the importance of writing clear instruction with making jam sandwiches, where we realised how important it is to be clear with our commands or jam ends up everywhere!

Our overarching topic has been looking at transport and flying, in the past, which all 3 year groups have enjoyed thoroughly. We have been trying our best to achieve in all aspects of school, especially as Reception were set the challenge to make their paper aeroplane fly longer than the wright brothers... (12 seconds)

We have ended this month looking at, and celebrating, Chinese New Year, which is the year of the snake. Reception enjoyed trying Chinese food and different flavours, and we worked on our description skills to explain if we enjoyed it or not.

Lots more to look forward to in Jade class in February 😊



Amethyst Class Monthly News

Don't forget to like our Facebook pages so you can see lots of the wonderful learning your children are taking part in each day



Amethyst have had a great start to the year.

We are really enjoying our welcome into school with lots of hugs, fist bumps and handshakes.

In Maths, we are working on our geometry knowledge. In Yr2 we have been looking at properties of shape. We have been counting the number of sides and vertices on 2d shapes. In Yr3 we have been learning about angles. We enjoyed our right angle hunt.

In English, we have writing stories using Leon and the Place Between as our inspiration. The final pieces are amazing. We are thinking like writers and making really careful choices about the grammar and punctuation that we use and the effect that we want.

Some of Yr3 went to Sheffield to take part in Young Voices. They were absolute CHAMPS and they sung their hearts out.



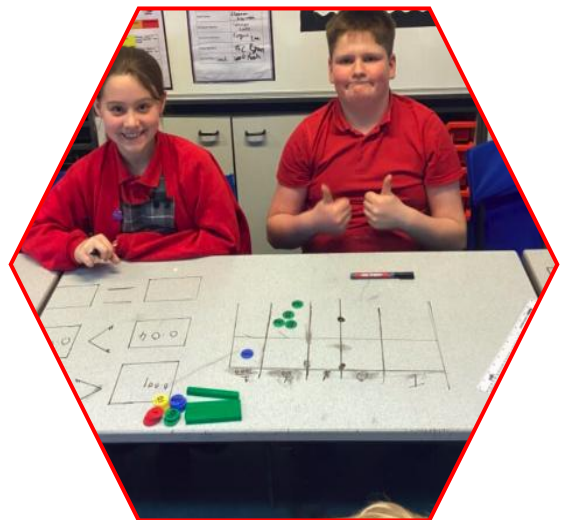
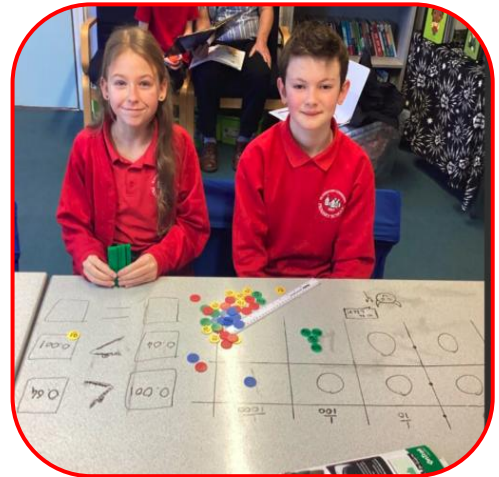
Obsidian Class Monthly News

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WOW- What an amazing week! I'd like to start by thanking all of Obsidian Class for making me feel so welcome and part of the Glasshouses community. I absolutely loved my first few days and I hope the children have had as much fun as I have.

Our first official maths lesson together was practical and Children drew out Place Value grids onto their tables and learnt to compare decimal values. In English, we started our new topic on explanation texts and are very excited to start to plan our own explanation text of 'How to be a Champ?' next week.

In PHSE, children have learnt all about taking responsibility for their own safety. They contributed some excellent ideas and have shown a great maturity in both discussion and their work.



Pupil Leadership Team News



Online Leaders

The online team met and decided to audit the computer equipment in school. The team also want to inform pupils about online safety and how to stay safe online. They want to make posters to inform pupils and put them up in school.



Sports Leaders

Sports leaders will be creating a booklet of games so that EYFS can work with the sports leaders to help them. They will also be asking the children what playtime games they would like.



Happiness & Wellbeing Team

Thank you to the Year 5 and 6 children who have written a letter explaining why they would like to be a Happiness Ambassador. We are enjoying reading them and the yellow hoodies are being ordered!



Rights Respecting Team

The Rights Respecting Team met to discuss how to raise money to buy a 'School in a Box,' for children without school resources. This would help other children to experience Article 28, the Right to an Education.

Attendance News



ATTENDANCE EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Below 90%
Serious Concern.
Persistent absence.

90 - 95.9%
Concern. Low
Attendance.

At least 96%
 Expected
attendance.



**Expected attendance means
having no more than seven
days off this school year!**

Jewellery in PE

Following North Yorkshire Safety advice, as a Federation, we have adopted their new Code of Practice for Jewellery in our PE lessons.

Adults or pupils are not allowed to wear watches / jewellery of any description (including earrings) during PE or swimming sessions, and they will be asked to remove them if worn.

To help with this matter, please ensure that your child does not come to school wearing any jewellery or a watch on these days.

Thank you for your cooperation.

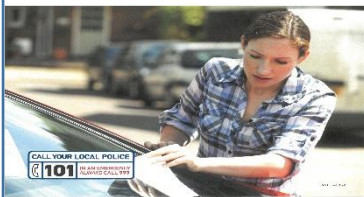


Community Give Back

Following on from our work on road safety last year, 3 members of our Rights Respecting Team meet with Community Police Officers to discuss their concerns around pupil safety outside school. Thank you to the parents who park and drive responsibly when dropping off and picking up. We appreciate that in a small village this can be challenging, but it helps to keep our children safe and may prevent a terrible accident. It also helps our school community's identity when we are showing that we are acting responsibly to our neighbours by not blocking their drives.

Please park considerably

Do not block driveways or obstruct the pavement. Doing so may result in a fine or your vehicle being removed.



No stopping
Mon - Fri
during term time
8.15am - 9.15am
3.15pm - 4.45pm
on entrance markings

Save the Date!

Our next
Working Bee Day is
Saturday 15th March.

Come along and help
spruce up our school 😊

[#nidderdalecommunitygiveback](https://www.facebook.com/nidderdalecommunitygiveback)

Forest School



Key Stage 2 have been learning to map read and give directions using North / South / East / West and Key Stage 1 have been using magnifying glasses to identify objects in the soil.



Focus on Behaviour

We have updated our Behaviour Policy over the recent weeks, and we spent our re-scheduled staff training session going through this, and our expectations. You can see the whole policy on our website <https://uppernidderdalefed.school/policies/> but below is some pertinent information from the policy:

Aims of the policy

- Set **HIGH EXPECTATIONS, HIGH CHALLENGE, CLEAR BOUNDARIES APPLIED CONSISTENTLY WITH NURTURE**
- To create a culture of exceptionally good behaviour: for learning, for community, **for life**
- To create a restorative, 'done with' culture
- To ensure that all learners are treated fairly, shown respect and to promote good relationships
- To refuse to give learners attention and importance for poor conduct (praise in public, correct in private)
- To help learners take control over their behaviour and be responsible for the consequences of it
- To build a community which values kindness, bravery, being in charge of yourself (and your actions), gratitude, curiosity and being on the team – being a **CHAMP**
- To promote community cohesion through improved relationships – **Koinonia**
- To ensure that **excellent behaviour is a minimum expectation for all**
- To ensure that those with special needs or disabilities have a right to be treated with dignity and as far as possible, independence and to play an active role in the community

Behaviour for Learning and Life

The phrase 'behaviour for learning' conceptualises the following three relationships experienced by a pupil:

- Their relationship with themselves, e.g. their self-confidence as a learner
- Their relationship with others, e.g. how they socially interact and recognise emotions
- Their relationship with the curriculum and learning, e.g. how best they learn

In order to foster a positive learning environment, these relationships must be developed and supported holistically.

As a universal offer, we have developed a 'Behaviour Curriculum.' Through this curriculum, children are taught how to follow our Behaviour Policy in the same way that they are taught in any curriculum subject. Good behaviour is modelled and taught, then recapped and revisited throughout the year.

NOTICEBOARD

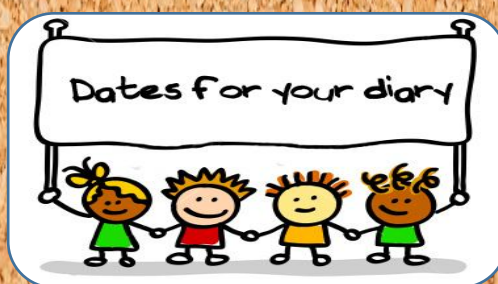
Extra-Curricular Clubs & Activities

Tuesday – Junior Band (held at St Cuthbert's)

Wednesday – Ukulele Club with Mr Wilkinson

Thursday – Scrabble Club with Mrs Haneskog

Thursday – Gymnastics Club with Kanga Sports



ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE / CANCELLATION

SPRING TERM (6 January – 4 April 2025)	
1ST HALF TERM – 6 weeks (6 Jan – 14 Feb)	SWIMMERS: Years 5 & 6
6 January	Staff Training Day – School closed to children
7 January	School starts – all children
27 January	Young Voices Concert – Sheffield Arena (KS2 children)
3-7 February	Children's Mental Health Week
11 February	Safer Internet Day
14 February	School closes for half-term (normal time)
2ND HALF TERM – 6 weeks (24 Feb – 4 Apr)	SWIMMERS: Years 3 & 4
24 February	School starts – all children
6 March	World Book Day
7-16 March	British Science Week
11 March	1-6pm Parent Information Sessions
14 March	Federation Friday
15 March (Saturday)	10am-4pm Working Bee – all volunteers welcome!
24-27 March	Scholastic Book Fair
1-3 April	Reception Parents – Learning Journey Updates 10-minute appointments available each day: 8:15/8:25/8:35am or 3:45/3:55/4:05pm
3 April	1:45-2:45pm Federation Easter Service at St Cuthbert's Church
4 April	10am Easter Bunny Trail (weather permitting)
4 April	2:30pm School Closes for Easter