



FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER



Message from the Headteacher

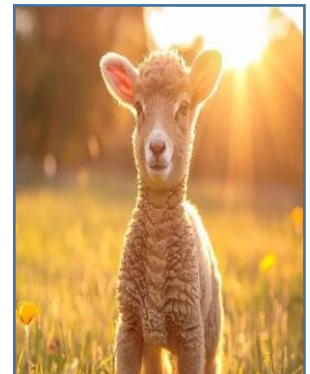
I can definitely feel that Spring is just around the corner...the lighter nights, and the lambs in the fields...

As we start our next half-term, the children will be busy, as always, learning about our CHAMPS value of the half-term **Manners and Respect**. We will be discussing this in whole-school assemblies on Mondays, and learning how this helps us in school and at home. I am very proud of the children in our schools for always displaying excellent manners and showing respect for others; this is often commented on by our visitors. We would love to hear from you if you would like to share some examples from home around this value.

This half-term, we will see the start of the class celebration assemblies. Thank you to those of you who have messaged in and spoken with Mrs Thomas (our RE and Collective Worship Leaders across the Federation), who planned these. We hope you enjoy the opportunity to share in the children's proud moments.

Please do check the calendar and messages from our admin team for events, dates and any calendar changes. As we are all aware, changes are unavoidable in a school, but we will always keep you informed.

Miss N Thornber and Team



Our CHAMPS values this half-term are

MANNERS and RESPECT

Monthly Attendance Summary

Jade Class - 98.94%

Amethyst Class - 97.08%

Obsidian Class - 98.48%

Whole School - 98.24%

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**.



Article of the Month – Article 12

You have the right to your opinion and for adults to take your opinion seriously.

Attendance News

Absences

Your child will miss out: Lots of exciting things happen in school every week. We have guest assemblies, themed events, focus weeks, pupil leadership meetings, exciting after school clubs and much more. Your child will miss social time with their friends, which can impact relationships among peers. Learning and development are progressive, and missed learning objectives can affect a child's ability to build on existing knowledge and reach next steps. **A whole week of absences equates to approximately 30 hours of lost learning across all subjects.**

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

February has been a creative month for Jade class as we all looked at colour mixing from primary colours to secondary colours and Year 1 made their own masterpieces based on their colour mixing knowledge!

We also enjoyed celebrating Valentine's Day, with talking about who is special in our lives and how we can show them that we love them.

Reception enjoyed learning about farms this month and what grows or lives on a farm. The children then made a farm house for us all join in with in our construction area.

In Year 1 math's we looked at 0'clock and half pasts with telling the time. They did an amazing job with understanding how to tell the time and often remind me when it is time for lunch!

Both Reception and Year 1 have done some amazing writing over the past few weeks, from drawing maps of farms to help the animals not to escape, to writing postcards to the Little Red Hen.



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



We have been working really hard in Amethyst Class. We have been using our new STAR approach to learning and it is really helping us.

Sit up straight.

Track the teacher.

Attention at all times

Respect to others.

In Maths we have been learning about fractions. In Year 2 we have been finding halves, quarters and thirds of shapes and of quantities. In Year 3 we have been learning about unit and non-unit fractions and understanding whole numbers.

In English we have been reading information books ready to write our own non-fiction books. We have been reading My First Book of Birds and learning lots of interesting facts about birds in our local area. We look forward to sharing these books with you when they are completed.

In Art, Year 2 children have been practising their colour mixing skills as well as their painting skills. In Year 3, we have been learning about the artist L.S. Lowry. We also learnt about perspective, tone and shade before creating our own masterpieces.



Obsidian Class Monthly News

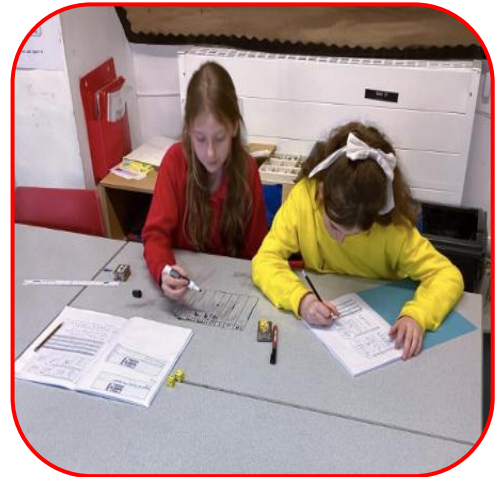
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Obsidian Class have really wowed me this week with their attitude to learning, CHAMPS approach to behaviour, and their willingness to adapt.

Miss Camp lost her voice for the last 2 days of the week and would like to thank everyone in Obsidian Class for not only ensuring we had a quiet learning environment so teaching was still possible, but also for how kind and compassionate they were!

In maths, we have been learning how to divide decimals - we did this practically by drawing out place value grids on our tables.

In English, we have been studying the main character in our text. To help understand how she was feeling at given parts of the text, we tried some acting freeze frames. I thoroughly enjoyed watching these - we definitely have some budding actors/actresses in the class!



Pupil Leadership Team News



Online Leaders

Following our Online Safety Week, the Online Leaders have created new posters to put up around school. We will be focusing on the safe use of the internet.



Sports Leaders

Miss Hindle (Kanga Sports) will be meeting with the Sports Leaders to discuss their next steps.



Happiness & Wellbeing Team

Our Happiness Ambassadors have had their training and are having a positive impact on the playground. Their yellow hoodies look amazing and they wear them with pride.



Rights Respecting Team

We are enjoying helping Mrs Wilkinson plan the weekly Rights Respecting assembly.

Last half term we updated some of our policies
Please visit our website for the full versions of our policies – the following are excerpts
<https://uppernidderdalefed.school/>

Parent, Carer & Visitor Code of Conduct & Behaviour Policy

Purpose and scope

At the Upper Nidderdale Primary Federation we believe it's important to:

- › Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- › Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents
- › Always model appropriate behaviour for our pupils

To help us do this, we set clear expectations and guidelines on behaviour for all members of our community. This includes staff (through the staff code of conduct) and pupils (through our behaviour policy).

This code of conduct aims to help the federation work together with parents by setting guidelines on appropriate behaviour.

We use the term 'parents' to refer to:

- › Anyone with parental responsibility for a pupil
- › Anyone caring for a child (such as grandparents or child-minders)

Our expectations of parents and carers

We expect parents, carers and other visitors to:

- › Respect the ethos, vision and values of our school
- › Work together with staff in the best interests of our pupils
- › Treat all members of the school community with respect – setting a good example with speech and behaviour
- › Seek a peaceful solution to all issues
- › Correct their own child's behaviour (or those in their care), particularly in public, where it could lead to conflict, aggression, or unsafe conduct
- › Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern

Behaviour that will not be tolerated

- › Disrupting, or threatening to disrupt, school operations (including events on the school grounds and sports team matches)
- › Swearing, or using offensive language
- › Displaying a temper, or shouting at members of staff, pupils or other parents
- › Threatening another member of the school community
- › Sending abusive messages to another member of the school community, including via text, email or social media
- › Posting defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments about the school, its staff or any member of its community, on social media platforms
- › Use of physical punishment against your child on school premises
- › Any aggressive behaviour (including verbally or in writing) towards another child or adult
- › Disciplining another person's child – please bring any behaviour incidents to a member of staff's attention
- › Smoking, vaping, or drinking alcohol on the school premises (unless alcohol has been allowed at a specific event)
- › Possessing or taking drugs (including legal highs)
- › Bringing dogs onto the school premises (other than guide dogs)

The above list shows examples of unacceptable behaviour, however, this is not exhaustive.

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Communications and Emails Policy

Objectives

All communications should:

- keep staff, pupils, parents and other stakeholders well informed
- be open, honest, ethical and professional
- use jargon free, plain English and be easily understood by all
- be acknowledged and / or actioned (all emails to be acknowledged – within 72 hrs in the first instance)
- Use the method of communication most effective and appropriate to the context, message and audience.
- be compatible with our core values and culture as reflected in our school vision and values

Roles and responsibilities

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring that communications with parents is effective, timely and appropriate
- Regularly reviewing this policy

Staff are responsible for:

- Responding to communication from parents in line with this policy and the school's ICT and internet
- Working with other members of staff to make sure parents get timely information (if they cannot address a query or send the information themselves)

Parents are responsible for:

- Ensuring that communication with the school is respectful at all times
- Making every reasonable effort to address communications to the appropriate member of staff in the first instance. The class teacher is first point of contact, the Family Support Worker, the Deputy Headteacher and then the Headteacher.
- Respond to communications from the school (such as requests for meetings) in a timely manner
- Checking all communications from the school
- Demonstrating an understanding that staff will not respond to communication outside of their individual working hours

Definition of communication

Good communication is much more than the exchange of information.

It involves the management of relationships and the need to involve people.

Communication is as much about attitude and behaviour as it is about message.

Address of staff members

When addressing, greeting, or referring to staff - refer to their professional names and not their first names in front of children.

Expectation

As a school we do not expect employees to be available by email during non-work hours.

Any communication that needs to be sent to parents using this system must be approved by the Headteacher and goes through admin emails.

All letters/communication is to be entered on CPOMS.

How we communicate with parents and carers

Parents should monitor all of the following avenues of communication regularly to make sure they do not miss important communications or announcements that may affect their child.

Staff should follow safeguarding policy in only communicating with parents via school email addresses and only using school devices for texts and phone calls.

Email and/or Teachers2 Parents communications will be used for:

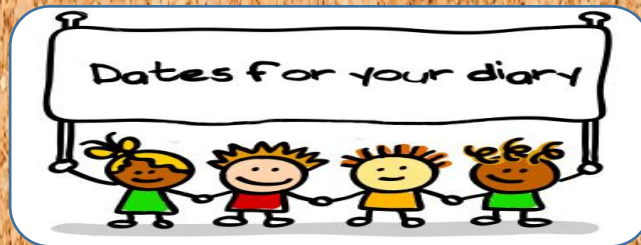
- Positive messages regarding the children
- General information sharing
- Upcoming school events
- Short-notice changes to the school day or normal routine
- Sharing reports and/or updates on matters in school specifically relating to their child/ren
- Scheduled school closures (for example, for staff training days)
- School surveys or consultations
- Class activities or teacher requests
- Emergency school closures (for instance, due to bad weather)

Emails will be responded to within 72hrs* This may be in the form of an acknowledgement in the first instance. *This excludes emails received after 3:30pm or before 9am and weekends/holiday

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