September 2022 #ProudtobePicknalls Volume 10, Issue 1

Picknalls Pages

A very warm welcome to our new and returning families.

It has been lovely to see how well everyone has settled in and we've really enjoyed our first few weeks together.

I am very confident that this will be yet another successful year and I look forward to sharing our achievements with you.

As always if you have any issues or concerns don't hesitate to contact us on 01889 228700, office@picknalls.staffs.sch.uk or headteacher@picknalls.staffs.sch.uk

Mrs A Tapp
Headteacher

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Dates

- September
- October
- November
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Flu Vaccination

On Monday 17th October 2022 all children from Reception to Year 4 will have the opportunity to receive their annual flu vaccination administered by the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS)

You should have recently received an email about our with an attached letter with further information and a link to their online consent form which must be completed by Monday 10th October in order for your child to receive their vaccine.

If you haven't received the email or have lost the details you can download a copy from our website's 'Letters' page.

Parent Volunteers

We are thrilled to be able to invite parent volunteers back into school again.

If you are interested in helping one of classes for a few hours a week by listening to children read or helping to prepare resources please express your interest to our Parent Volunteer Co-ordinator, Mrs Cornes by emailing her:

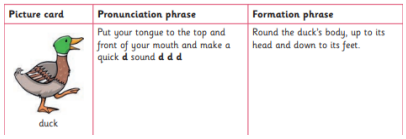
lcornes@picknalls.co.uk

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 you, hopefully, have attended one of our parent workshops to introduce you to our new approach to learning phonics– Little Wandle.

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised is a complete systematic synthetic phonics programme (SSP) developed for schools by schools. Based on the original Letters and Sounds, but extensively revised to provide a complete teaching programme meeting all the expectations of the National Curriculum.

Although this is a whole school initiative, it is primarily aimed at children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. For the first few weeks we will be embedding the teaching of reading in school therefore your child will not initially bring home a reading book.



Our website's 'Useful Websites' page includes a link to this site and more.

The parent packs which were given out during the workshops will be added to the website soon so look out for notifications when they become available.

Connected Curriculum

Our annual curriculum plan is now available to view on our website. This gives a brief description of the 6 topics each year group will be looking at this academic year. You will now have received this half term's parent information sheet which gives more detail on the different aspects of the curriculum. Please use this to talk to your child about their learning and support us in further home learning. You will receive a paper copy of this every half term and they can also be found on the year group pages of our website.

Nursery- 'At the...'
Reception– 'At the ...'
Year 1–'Who lives in a place like this?'
Year 2– 'The Island of Struay'
Year 3– 'Stone Age'
Year 4– 'Vikings'

School Development

We have lots of exciting new projects and strategies being put into place which will continue to drive Picknalls forward in many areas.

Our School Development Plan 2022-23 can be found on our website and outlines the aspects we are focussing on improving this year. We look forward to sharing our progress with you throughout this year.

Happy Hours@Picknalls

Happy Hours provides before and after school child care and runs a holiday club during most of the school holidays for 3-12 year olds.

Their opening times during term time are:
7:00am–9:00am
3:30pm–6:00pm

Please remember that as they are a separate facility to the school we can't take bookings or check if your child is on their register at anytime.

Please speak to them directly to register your child and you will then be able to book your childcare sessions online here.

Bookings must be made online at least 24 hours in advance.

There is a link to their booking page on picknalls.com homepage or you can ring or text them between 7am-9am and 3.15pm-6pm on 07518 383775
Alternatively send them a Facebook message here

NB: Please do not park at the top of the drive during morning drop-off we have had near misses with cars turning round where children are walking

Picknalls Arrangements

Staggered start and finish times – We have decided to continue staggered timings to minimise the numbers of families on site at any one time, to support the use of the leisure centre car park and keep the arrival/departure process calm and safe for children. Please only arrive on site between your child's allocated times and not before:

8.40am-8.50am drop off and 3.20pm pick up

Year 2 – Drop off Reception playground gate
Year 4 – Drop off bottom Key Stage 1 gate

8.50am-9am drop off and 3.30pm pick up

Reception – Drop off top Reception playground gate
Year 1 - Drop off bottom Reception playground gate
Year 3 – Drop off bottom Key Stage 1 gate with a KS2 member of staff

8.30am-11.30am morning session and 12.30pm-3.30pm afternoon session

Nursery – Nursery door only with Miss Goodwin, Miss Durose, Mrs Holt and Mrs Talbot
Nursery session times are not compulsory therefore if you have siblings higher up the school you are able to drop off/collect at the sibling's time if required.

Please arrive during your 10-minute time slot only and no earlier. If you have siblings in other year groups, please arrive at the end of the first slot which will mean you are on time for the second slot. Anyone arriving before their time slot will still be required to queue at the appropriate gate listed above. Children who arrive late must be brought up to the main reception to be signed in. Children must be brought directly to their child's gate by a parent or carer and must not be left to walk unsupervised up the lane, dropped off at the first large gate or left at the entrance to the school and come up the drive unsupervised. Similarly, parents/ carers must be on the playground to collect at the end of the school day. We cannot allow children to walk unsupervised to the main gates to meet parents. Children are the responsibility of the school only when they have entered the gates on to the playground. We are not responsible for children walking down the lane or onto the car park. Dogs are not to be brought on site or tied to the main gate and left unattended.

Safeguarding

We had our first INSET day on 5th September during which all Picknalls staff renewed their Level 1 safeguarding training.

If you have any concerns about a child do not hesitate to speak to any of our Designated Safeguarding staff: Mrs Tapp, Mr Cope, Mrs A Jones, Miss Harris or Mrs Plant. Alternatively please contact Staffordshire Children's Advice and Support Team:

Tel no.	0300 111 8007	
Lines open from:	Mon-Thurs	8.30am-17.00pm
	Fri	8.30am-16.30pm

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility

Or use the secure web enquiry form at any time:

Emergency Duty Team (for out of office hours referrals for children):

0345 6042886

If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding please do not hesitate to contact us immediately on 01889 228700 or office@picknalls.staffs.sch.uk

If you believe a child is at risk of immediate harm, this must be reported to the police on 999 or 101.

Leisure Centre Parking

We are very fortunate to be able to use the Uttoxeter Leisure Centre (ULC) carpark for free at the beginning and end of school times.

The agreed times for use are:

- 8.20am-9.15am
- 3.10pm-3.45pm

If you need to use the Leisure Centre carpark at any other time of day you must obtain a ticket from one of the machines.

N.B To our dismay we have been told by the Leisure Centre staff that they have occasionally seen one or two of our pupils using parts of the carpark as a toilet! Please use the facilities either at Picknalls or in the ULC and help us to maintain good relations with our neighbours.

Emergency School Closure Procedure

It may seem like a long way off but it is only a few weeks before Winter will be with us again! We would like to remind you of our procedure regarding snowy weather. If after severe weather it looks as if staff from outlying areas will have difficulty in getting to school a decision will be made as quickly as possible by the Headteacher and Chair of Governors.

This decision will be made after consultation with other ULT schools.

- Closure will be the last resort
- A notice will be posted on the school website
- Priority one parents will be made aware of the closure via text message from'Teachers2Parents' (Please make sure we have up-to date mobile phone details)
- The Staffordshire County Council School Closure list will be updated
- Parents can sign up on the Staffordshire County Council website for free email or text message alerts
-

EARLY CLOSURE

If the school has to close early – breakdown of heating system, flooding, emergency etc., a decision to close the school early will be made by the Headteacher with the approval of the Chair of Governors and the CEO of the ULT.
As many parents as possible will be contacted.
Parents are requested to consider this possibility and make the school aware of alternative arrangements should they be unable to take their children home themselves.
No child will be sent home unaccompanied.

Free Milk for Under 5's

All children under 5 are entitled to a free drink of milk every day they are in school.

If you would like your child to continue to receive daily milk after their 5th birthday you can pay every half term through ParentPay.

Please contact the office for more information.

School Games Mark

The School Games Mark is a government led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. Participating in this process allows schools to evaluate their PE provision and assists them in developing an action plan for future progress.

We are delighted to announce that we have gained a Gold award for our P.E. provision from last year. Congratulations to Mrs Jordi, our P.E. Leader and all staff involved for all their hard work towards this.

Congratulations and Welcome!

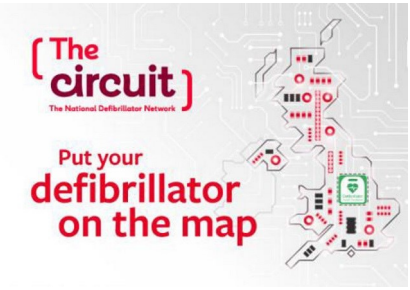
You may already know that our Picknalls family is about to expand as Mrs Cornes is expecting her first child at the end of this year. We know you will join us in congratulating her and her husband, Mr Cornes, as they look forward to meeting their new addition.

Miss Charlesworth will be covering Mrs Cornes maternity leave. She is a newly qualified teacher who worked her final placement in Class 2 with Miss Harris last year so she is already accustomed to Picknalls and recognisable by many of you. We wish her luck in her new role and are confident that she will be a valuable member of the Early Years team.

Due the success of our wonderful Nursery we have had our highest intake this September and so have been able to appoint Mrs Talbot as a new full time, Teaching Assistant.

We are very pleased to welcome our new staff and wish them both the best of luck in their new roles.

AED on Site



Thank you to everyone who took part in our sponsored walk fundraiser for this and special thanks to **Lynn Grocott**, who ran a half marathon to help us reach our target. Due to your efforts we are the proud owners of a new defibrillator which you may have seen mounted on the wall next to the main entrance.

We are hoping that we never actually have to use it but are reassured that it's on site should we ever need it.

We will be offering family defib and CPR training in the future so please look out for details if this is of interest to you.

School Dinners

On 19th September 2022 the price for paid school meals increased to £2.55 per day, this is applicable to Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4) pupils not in receipt of income based Free School Meals (see below).

It is **extremely important** that you remember to pre-book your child's lunches using ParentPay. During registration at the beginning of everyday two registers are taken, one for attendance and one for meals. These are then sent to the school office and Mrs Simon has to check through both of them every morning before she can let the kitchen staff know what they need to prepare. A lot of time is wasted when a child's meal hasn't been pre-booked and if she has to deal with several cases every morning this causes a delay for the kitchen. Click here for a guide to meal bookings and the menu selector.

Please help us by completing your child's meal selection the evening before at the latest.

Thank you.

Free School Meals

Parents claiming some benefits can claim free school meals for any of their children who are registered at a Staffordshire school and who would normally be at school at lunch time. This is separate from the Universal Free School Meals which all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are automatically entitled to. School meals are a good way to ensure that your child eats well at lunchtime and you can save yourself time and money.

Even if you don't want your children to have the meals, claiming them helps their school. The more eligible parents who claim meals, the more funding the school receives.

Free School Meals
Are you entitled?

The current entitlement criteria are as follows -

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance. Please note the 'new style' job seekers allowance is not a qualifying benefit, as this is based upon payment of National Insurance contributions and not the household income
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance. Please note the 'new style' employment and support allowance is not a qualifying benefit, as this is based upon payment of National Insurance contributions and not the household income
- eligible for Child Tax Credit **but not** Working Tax Credit and the household income (as used by HMRC to assess tax credits) is not more that £16,190. **Please note:** anyone eligible for Working Tax Credit, or if you have a partner and they receive it, regardless of Income, you will not qualify
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- In receipt of the 4 week run on of working tax credit (this is where someone becomes unemployed or reduces their hours and so is no longer entitled to working tax credit but will continue to receive it for a further 4 weeks and is entitled to free meals during that time)
- Universal credit (provided you have an annual net earned household income of no more than £7,400 as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods). Your net earned income is your household income after taxes and deductions and does not include income from Universal Credit or any other benefits you may receive.

If you are eligible you can apply online here, alternatively please contact the office for assistance.

Harvest Festival

If you would like to send in a donation we will be collecting for the Renew Church foodbank once again this year. We have yet to finalise the date for this but it is likely to be in early October.
This is a local foodbank serving people in need in the Uttoxeter area.
They have sent a list of the types of items they can and can't use so that none of your generosity will go to waste:

ITEMS WE NEED FOR THE FOODBANK	
Tinned carrots	Tinned sweetcorn
Tinned potatoes	Tinned meat pies
Tinned chicken casserole	Tinned minced beef
Tinned fruit	Tinned rice pudding
Tinned custard	Microwave rice
Jars of Coffee	Instant hot chocolate
Tinned ham	Tinned corned beef
UHT (Long life) milk	
ITEMS WE CANNOT USE	
Anything that is out of date	
Anything that is damaged	
Anything that does not have a use by or best before date on it	
Anything that has been opened	

Renew Church Facebook page

We will inform you of the collection date as soon as we know.

Harvest Festival Meal

The kitchen are offering a Harvest Festival Theme Meal on Wednesday 5th October:

On the menu is:

Main Course
Harvest Chicken Casserole
Or
Vegetable Pie
With
Mashed Potato, Yorkshire Pudding, Carrots and Broccoli

Dessert
Apple and Rhubarb Crumble

If you would like your child to have a meal please remember to book on ParentPay as soon as possible .

Macmillan Cake Sale

Friday 30th September is this years 'Macmillan Fundraiser'. Due to the its success last year we will once again be holding a pre-ordered cake sale. All orders will then be available for collection at the bottom of the school drive when you collect your child from school on Friday 30th September.

Look out next week for an order form.

The cake sale would not have been possible without the amazing Brenda Righton who regularly gives up her time and resources to provide her delicious cakes.

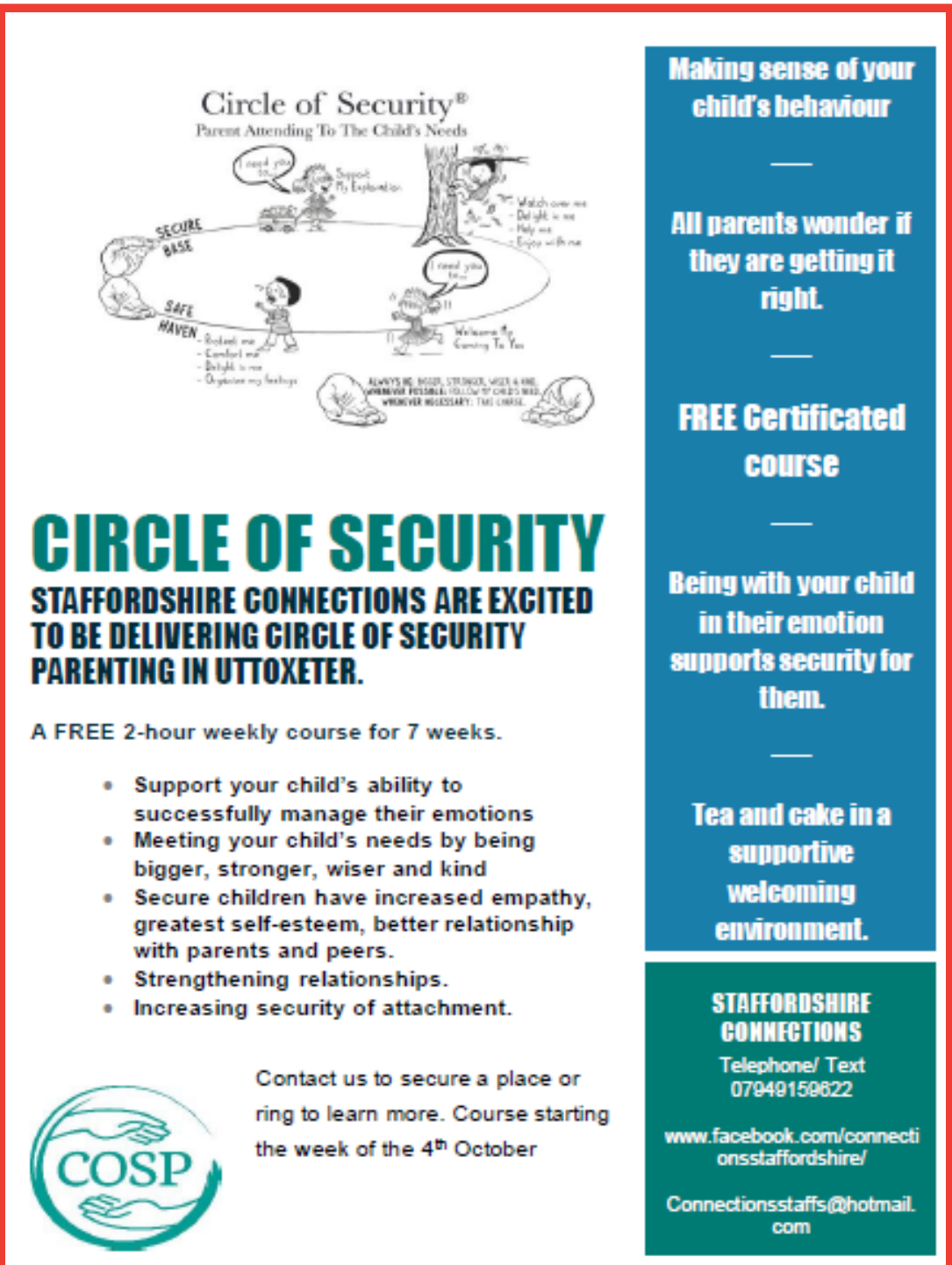
Thank you so much Cake Lady!

Well–Being

Emma McCullagh, a Circle of Security facilitator and an expert in mental health and well-being is offering a therapeutic reflective parenting course that looks at the needs of the child at the Heath Community Centre. The is free and lasts for 2 hours per week for 7 weeks on the following dates:

- Tuesday 4th October -1:00pm–3:00pm
- Tuesday 11th October -1:00pm–3:00pm
- Monday 17th October -1:00pm–3:00pm
- Tuesday 1st November -1:00pm–3:00pm
- Tuesday 8th November -1:00pm–3:00pm
- Wednesday 16th November -1:00pm–3:00pm
- Wednesday 23rd November -1:00pm–3:00pm

Please see the flyer below and contact Emma on 07949159622 for further details



Uttoxeter Heath Community Centre

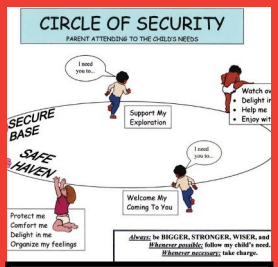
Uttoxeter Heath Community Centre

Circle of Security Parenting ™

COSP

Raise a resilient & secure child

Circle of Security Parenting



Staffordshire Connections

WELL-BEING

Picknalls.com Well-being

Useful Links

Here are some links we think you might find useful and a brief description of each:

SIMS PARENT	SIMS Parent helps keep your children safe. In an emergency, up-to-date information helps schools meet their safeguarding obligations. Manage what information the school holds right from your phone. You will need an invitation from us to access this.
ParentPay	We use ParentPay for the vast majority of payments made to school. You can also view the current menu and book your child's lunch. Read their FAQ's here.
Parent View	Ofsted Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think of our school. The questionnaire can be completed at any time.
	We have several social media accounts to help keep you up-to-date with what's going on in school. We love to see your photo's from home too! Email us on instagram@picknalls.co.uk

Contact Us

Picknalls First School
Oldfields Road
Uttoxeter
Staffordshire
ST14 7QL

01889 228700

office@picknalls.staffs.sch.uk
headteacher@picknalls.staffs.sch.uk
governor@picknalls.co.uk
Instagram@picknalls.co.uk

www.picknalls.com

Uttoxeter Learning Trust

Happy Hours–book your before and after school care:
07518 383775
Happy Hours Facebook page

Governors Corner

On behalf of the governors, welcome to another school year. Hopefully your child(ren) have settled in to their year and are enjoying learning. For those unfamiliar with what the governing body of the school is, we are a number of volunteers responsible for holding the school to account. The governing body consists of parent-elected and staff-elected governors, along with co-opted governors, that can be appointed when vacancies in our skills occur.

If you ever have an issue with the school that you wish to discuss, then please don't delay in contacting your child's class teacher in the first instance or the headteacher if you would prefer, or, if you feel unable to do either, the governing body. Our e-mail address is governor@picknalls.co.uk – we will try to respond within 48 hours (but please remember that we do have 'proper' jobs and families that take up our time and so may sometimes take slightly longer to get back to you) and we aim to close out issues within 28 days.
Please do not hesitate to come back to me or Mrs Tapp if you have any further questions.

We look forward to working with you this year,

Paul Johnson, Chair of Governors

Attendance

Being part of a Multi-Academy Trust we must work with an external Educational Welfare Officer (EWO), who regularly visits our school to monitor the attendance of all pupils. We have to record absences as being either authorised or unauthorised. If a child falls below 97% attendance this triggers our system to automatically generate a letter of notice. The wording of the letter is generic and doesn't take any personal circumstances into account.
If you receive a letter notifying you that your child's attendance has fallen below 97% it doesn't mean that you are about to be issued with a Penalty Notice but if you have any concerns please speak to Mrs Tapp or ask to make an appointment with the EWO, Ann-Marie Jackson.

Please remember to inform us when your child is absent from school for any reason, such as:

- Absence due to illness etc
- Planned late arrival
- Medical appointments during school time (please include supporting documents)
- Different to normal pick up arrangements (except booking into Happy Hours)
-

You can email us directly at attendance@picknalls.co.uk or call 01889 228700 as soon as possible on the first day of illness.

Please remember that we are unable to make bookings for Happy Hours and that you must contact them directly by ringing 07518 383775 or visit their Facebook page.

Future Dates

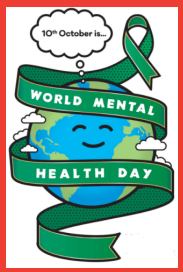
The following dates are the key events we have planned so far for this term.
Every fortnight we will email you with an update of this list.
Further dates can be found on the school websites home and 'Calendar' pages so please check these regularly.

September 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
26	27 Year 3 - Trip to Wolseley Centre	28	29	30 Macmillan Fundraiser		

October 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5 Harvest Festival Themed Meal	6	7	8	9
10 World Mental Health Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Whole School Flu Vaccination 3:30pm–Parents' Evening	18 Dragon Big Write Week–Activity Week T-Rex Experience	19 3:30pm–Parents' Evening	20 Last day of half term	21 INSET Day–no pupils in school	22	23
24	25 Half Term Holiday	26	27	28	29	30



Uttoxeter Learning Trust
Registered Office Address:
Uttoxeter Learning Trust
Thomas Alleynes High School
Dove Bank, Uttoxeter, Staffs
ST14 8DU
Company number: 10547353

office@picknalls.staffs.sch.uk
picknalls.staffs.sch.uk 01889 228700

We're Good with Outstanding features
'Pupils behave exceptionally well.' Ofsted, Jan 2020
Ofsted Good Provider

Future Dates—Continued

November 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
31 Back to School	1 Am: Tempest Photography Whole School Individual and Family Group	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Remembrance Day	12	13
14	15	16	17 Pudsey Ramble fundraiser for CIN/Picknalls	18 Children in Need Day	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Anti-Bullying Week

December 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2 3.30-5.30-Christmas Fayre	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Year 4 Party Year 1 Performance	13 Year 1 Party Year 2 Performance	14 Year 2 Party Year 3 Performance	15 EYFS Party Year 4 Performance	16 Year 3 Party EYFS Performance	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

More details will be available nearer the time

Christmas Holiday

Christmas Holiday

January 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3 INSET Day	4 INSET Day	5 Back to school	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15

This years INSET days, where school is closed to the children, are:

- Monday 5th September 2022
- Friday 21stOctober 2022
- Tuesday 3rd January 2023
- Wednesday 4th January 2023
- Monday 17th April 2023

Uttoxeter Learning Trust

Registered Office Address:
Uttoxeter Learning Trust
Thomas Alleynes High School
Dove Bank, Uttoxeter, Staffs
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Company number: 10547353

office@picknalls.staffs.sch.uk
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