

NEWSLETTER

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Reflecting on 2025 and Looking Ahead to 2026

As we reach the end of another year at Upwell Academy, it's a perfect time to pause and reflect on all that we have achieved together in 2025. This year has been filled with memorable moments, exciting learning opportunities, and a strong sense of community. We have celebrated successes, overcome challenges, and continued to grow as a school family.

Change has been part of our journey too. We have said heartfelt goodbyes to staff and children who have moved on to new adventures, and we have warmly welcomed new members of our team and our wonderful Reception class, who have brought fresh energy and enthusiasm to our school.

At this time of year, the nights are long and dark, yet it is also a season of light - a time for coming together, sharing joy, and creating magical memories for our children. While Christmas is a time of excitement and wonder, we are mindful that some families may face difficult times. Our thoughts are with everyone in our community, and we hope that kindness and support will bring comfort where it is needed most.

As we look ahead to 2026, we eagerly anticipate the days growing longer, the evenings becoming lighter, and the warmth of spring returning. With brighter days on the horizon, we look forward to continuing our journey together, embracing new opportunities and experiences.

On behalf of everyone at Upwell Academy, I wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a peaceful, happy New Year.

Chris Harris – Acting Principal

Latest House Points

Earth - 9352



Air – 10116



Water – 9978



Fire – 9378



**Key Dates
for your
diary**

**Children back on
Tuesday 6 Jan 2026**

**Y4 start swimming
6 Jan 2026**

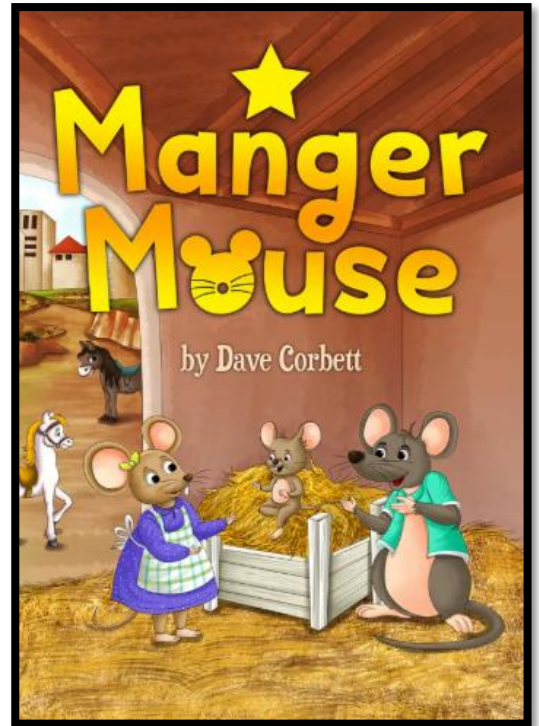
**Clubs start
w/c 12 Jan 2026**

Wonderful Nativity Celebration

This year's nativity production was nothing short of magical! Our talented young performers from EYFS and KS1 truly shone on stage, delivering a heartwarming performance that captured the true meaning of this special season. Their enthusiasm, confidence, and teamwork were evident in every moment, and we could not be prouder of their efforts.

The hall was filled with family and loved ones, creating a warm and joyful atmosphere that made the occasion even more memorable. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the children—it was wonderful to share this festive tradition together.

A huge well done to all the children and staff involved for making this year's nativity such a success!



Magical Pantomime Adventure

What a fantastic way to celebrate the festive season! The whole school enjoyed an unforgettable trip to the Corn Exchange in King's Lynn to watch the spectacular performance of *Jack and the Beanstalk*. The laughter, excitement, and sheer joy on the children's faces made it a truly special day—an experience they will treasure for years to come.

We would like to extend a heartfelt **thank you to FOSA** for generously funding the transport, making this trip possible for every child. Your support ensures that all our pupils can share in these wonderful opportunities.

A big thank you also goes to our dedicated staff, who stayed late to make sure every child could enjoy this magical Christmas experience. Your commitment and care are what make moments like these so memorable.



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Christmas Carols – A Joyful Celebration

Our KS2 children and school choir brought festive cheer to Upwell with a beautiful Christmas Carol service. Joined by family and loved ones, the children sang with enthusiasm and warmth, filling the church with the true spirit of Christmas.

The choir's harmonies were delightful, and the readings were delivered with confidence and meaning, reminding us all of the joy and hope this season brings. It was a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate.



Christingle Service: A Celebration of Light and Hope

Our Christingle Service at St Peter's Church was a truly special occasion for the whole school community. Families and friends joined the children in creating their own Christingles, each element rich in meaning:

- **The orange** represents the world.
- **The red ribbon** symbolizes the love and sacrifice of Christ.
- **The four cocktail sticks with sweets or dried fruit** remind us of the four seasons and the fruits of the earth.
- **The candle** stands for Jesus as the Light of the World, bringing hope into darkness.

After crafting their Christingles, the entire school gathered in the church for a beautiful service filled with reflection, song, and togetherness. The glow of the candles created a warm and peaceful atmosphere, reminding us all of the importance of love, light, and community during this festive season.



Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make this celebration so meaningful.



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A special thank you to Santa

Christmas week was filled with festive cheer as we welcomed a very special guest Santa Claus himself! The excitement was palpable as the children gathered to greet him, their faces glowing with anticipation.

Santa shared how delighted he was to read the wonderful letters our pupils had written. He spoke warmly about the creativity, kindness, and thoughtfulness that shone through every word. From heartfelt wishes for family happiness to imaginative gift ideas, Santa was truly impressed by the spirit of generosity and joy in each message.

He reminded the children that the greatest gifts are not always wrapped in paper but found in acts of kindness and caring for one another. Santa praised the academy for fostering these values and encouraged everyone to keep spreading goodwill throughout the festive season.



Thank you to our local community



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the amazing team at **Snap-On in King's Lynn** for their generous donation of chocolate advent calendars for each class at Upwell Academy this year.

Your thoughtful gesture brought so much excitement and joy to our pupils, making the countdown to Christmas even more magical. Acts of kindness like yours help create wonderful memories for our children and remind us of the importance of community spirit.



® We are also incredibly grateful to **Than at the local Post Office in Outwell** for his generous donation of sweets for every child in every class at Upwell Academy.

Your kindness brought smiles to all our pupils and added an extra touch of sweetness to the festive season. It's wonderful to see local businesses supporting our school community in such thoughtful ways.

Thank you for helping make this time of year so special for our children—we truly appreciate your generosity!



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