



Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School

Parents' Newsletter February 2025



Message from Mrs Carruthers:

Huge CONGRATULATIONS to our Sparkly Box Readers for Spring 1:

Rory (R), Rachael (Y1), Harry (Y2), Dominic (Y3), Reagan (Y4), Violet (Y5), Jessica (Y6), Bryn (E) – Well done to you all and 'Keep Reading!!'

Thank you to everyone who supported our 'Mad Hair Day' on the 14th February – some of the hairstyles were absolutely incredible – how you had time to be so creative in the morning is beyond me!!!

Here are just a few of the fantastic hairstyles we saw.....



Don't forget to check out our website filled with lots of information about school and what your child is learning:

[Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School: A Warm Welcome to Upton Westlea](#)

Class News:

Nursery: Blossom Class had Healthbox in to talk and show about keeping our teeth clean. Sarah showed how many cubes of sugar we are supposed to have a day and how many were in different foods and drinks. We were all very shocked and then sad to find out Haribos have 25 cubes of sugar per large share bag!

Reception: This month Apple Class have been continuing with learning our phonics and writing. We looked at Mr Ellinson's clip of the fox on our school grounds and wrote some information all about foxes in an information sheet. The children went on a Gruffalo hunt and used sticks to make a Gruffalo child. In Maths we have been using the balances and talking about part and whole. In EAD (Art), the children have been using paint independently to mix their own colours. Healthbox also visited to show us how to brush our teeth and also how much sugar is in the food we eat.

Year 1: Willow Class have been very busy in February with Art and DT days. The children learnt about collage and produced a large lion collage which they made from paper they created themselves. For DT, the

children put on their Wonka hats and experimented like Heston to create their own chocolate bar with packaging. It is safe to say the children were very excited!

Year 2: Ash Class have absolutely loved their English book *The Dragon Machine* and their class novel *The Dragon Sitter Disasters* this half term! Their ideas, discussions and then their writing were filled with imagination and amazing vocabulary! The children enjoyed their Geography unit on maps, especially using the compass to find their way around the school grounds. The final week saw an Art day all about drawing with control using a range of media and on different surfaces and two DT days focused on wheels and axles and Henry Ford! Their final products were very fiddly and not all the wheels worked as well as we hoped, but the children tried again and evaluated their vehicles well.

Year 3: Hazel Class enjoyed bringing their Stone Age knowledge to life in their art and DT days by sculpting a Stone Age village out of junk and also creating a pneumatic stone age creature using syringes and tubes. They also made music through Scratch for their computing day where they programmed instrument sprites to play a tune.

Year 4: February has been lots of fun for Birch Class. We continued with our Forest School lessons where we learnt some Roman games as well as made stretchers to carry each other on! We learnt about John Douglas in our Art and DT Days and enjoyed painting pictures of famous architecture in Chester, where the children mixed their own colours. We also had a Computing Day on the last week of half term and the children enjoyed programming their own codes to make colourful patterns.

Year 5: Holly Class have been extremely busy. We completed our independent writing and children really enjoyed creating their own myths. As well as this, we have been extremely busy with making our carousels in Computing. To do this, the children worked really hard understanding how to programme a motor using crumble. Lastly, in our Art days, we discovered a new artist called Teesha Moore and created our own collages in her style.

Year 6: Oak Class had two very productive Art days at the end of the half term. We studied the life and work of Vincent van Gogh and tried to replicate the many vibrant colours he used in his later work. We used thick, acrylic paint to create texture and our finished 'Sunflowers' paintings are pretty impressive.

Eden: February began with Children's Mental Health week and Eden talked about what makes us happy and what we can do when we feel sad. We discussed who we can turn to for help and the children made posters to show their understanding. We discussed our usual routines and why we have them, such as relaxation after lunch. We talked about why we do it, as we sometimes forget the reasons for this. We reflected on different ways we can self-regulate and children gave their preferences. We did our 'Zones of Regulation' 'check ins' as usual, but spent time talking about why we had chosen different answers and what we can put into our tool kit to make ourselves feel differently. Towards the end of the week we also did the Amasing 'Find your happy creative wellbeing' workshop and the children thoroughly enjoyed singing and dancing away. The following week, we began our sewing project where we made our own colour emotion puppets. We practised simple stitch techniques and the overall results were fabulous. We talked about people who love us and how we can feel loved. The children made little cards to show their appreciation to loved ones. After a wonderful half term week off with our families, we are back re-establishing rules and routines and ready to complete the rest of the Spring Term.

Attendance Awards for Spring 1:

Oliver F (Y6), Khalid (Y5), Medina (Y3)

Dates for March 2025:

Date	Class	Event
Tues 4 th March 2025	Whole School	Eden Seed Sale after school
Wed 5 th March 2025	Ash (Y2), Holly (Y5), Oak (Y6)	NSPCC Workshops
Thurs 6 th March 2025	Whole School	World Book Day
Mon 10 th March 2025	Eden, Blossom (N), Willow (Y1), Ash (Y2)	Family Member to School – Science Focus
11 th , 18 th , 25 th March 2025	Reception to Year 6	Chester Zoo Workshops
Wed 12 th March 2025	Apple (R), Hazel (Y3), Birch (Y4), Hilly (Y5), Oak (Y6)	Family Member to School – Science Focus
Mon 17 th March 2025	Whole School	MAD SCIENCE Assembly
Wed 19 th March 2025	Whole School	Parents Evening 3.20 – 5.20p.m.
Thurs 20 th March 2025	Whole School	Parents Evening 2.00 – 3.00p.m. 3.20 – 4.00p.m.
Fri 21 st March 2025	Whole School	Down Syndrome Day – Odd Socks Day & Gingerbread Sock biscuit Sale

EARLY NOTICE – Whole School trip to Chester Zoo on Tuesday 1st April. As we are part of Chester Zoo's 'Greener Futures' Project the trip will be FREE!! ☺

Thank you for your continued support

K Carruthers