



Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School

Parents' Newsletter May 2025



Message from Ms Carruthers:

A very warm welcome to the ninth newsletter of the academic year for the parents and families of Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School.



VE Day and Times Table Rockstars Day ☺

Considering it's been such a short half term we have filled it with lots of exciting activities!!

All the children celebrated the 80th Anniversary of VE Day on Thursday 8th May. Mrs Davies and a group of children started by raising our VE Day flag at 9.00a.m. Mrs Davies then led an assembly introducing the children to VE Day, the celebrations that happened and why? The day culminated in all the children sharing the activities they had completed during the day, these included a VE Day dance, creating their own bunting, writing their own VE Day poems plus much more. Huge thanks to all the staff and children who dressed up.

A massive mention must be given to our Year 6 cohort who completed their SATs mid-May. They sat 3 Maths papers, 1 Reading paper, a Spelling paper and a Punctuation and Grammar paper. They were all absolutely AMAZING showing so much perseverance and resilience – Well Done to them all.

Our class photos were taken on the 16th May – as the weather was so lovely the photos were taken outside the old fashioned way with the children sitting or standing in rows. The Year 6 pupils had some additional photos taken as well to commemorate their final year at Upton Westlea.

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in a Dementia Awareness assembly – it's a tricky subject to discuss but all the children showed great maturity and this was reflected in the questions they asked. Well Done Y5 and 6.

Greener Futures Project with Chester Zoo (Mr Ellinson)

This half term we have welcomed Alex, from Chester Zoo, who has been running a Family Wildlife Club, through our joint Greener Futures Project. He has delivered sessions for parents and children on plants, minibeasts, birds and mammals. Through the club we have developed our site to be a more hospitable environment for many native species, including creating a new bug hotel and a dead hedge habitat – which

has already had a very inquisitive visitor! We will have our final session with Alex at the Zoo's nature reserve after half term.



Finally our school video has now arrived and is 'live'. Please click on the link below to see how AMAZING our school is..... Enjoy!! Any feedback would be appreciated admin@uptonwestlea.cheshire.sch.uk

<https://vimeo.com/1079561644/93d3b17e67?share=copy>

Please feel free to share the video with your family and friends ☺

Class News:

Nursery: Blossom Class were very lucky to have a visit from Doctor/Professor Hannah. She is a vet who works with lots of different animals. She brought with her 2 dogs Hector and Dottie who the children absolutely fell in love with!

The children learnt about dog safety and what to do when they meet people with dogs.

- 1 Ask if it is ok to stroke.
- 2 Hold your hand just by the dog's nose
3. Then stroke on the dog's head

They also learnt about some of the things a vet does.

They used a stethoscope to listen to the dog's heartbeat.

They dressed up in scrubs that vets wear and even bandaged up a toy dog!



The children got so much learning from the visit, and we are very grateful to Doctor Hannah for giving up her time to visit us.

Reception: This term we have been growing our own beans to see where we could go at the top of the Beanstalk. It has been so dry, we struggled to find bugs on our mini-beast hunt. We did find a worm, a centipede and some woodlice! But no slugs or snails this time. Finally, we are still finishing our Art; painting in the style of Eric Carle, who wrote The Hungry Caterpillar. Nursey really enjoyed dressing up in the Hungry Caterpillar costumes too.

Year 1: Willow Class have had a fabulous May! We have enjoyed learning all about plants through Science and in Forest School. We have our own little strawberry planter which as a team we looking after. Fingers crossed for some strawberries before the end of the year! We celebrated VE Day by learning what it stood for and how it was celebrated 80 years ago.

Year 2: Ash Class loved celebrating 80 years since the first VE Day this month! The children came to school dressed in red, white and blue and joined the whole school for an introduction assembly in the morning with Mrs Davies. She showed us pictures of the first VE Days and shared the reasons why we were celebrating. Two representatives from our class joined Mrs Davies and other children at 9am to raise the VE flag in front of our school and we all went to look at the flag later in the day. In the afternoon, we talked some more about VE Day and designed our own bunting for our street party. We made medals and at playtime we played classic 1940s children's game such as two-ball and hopscotch. Later in the afternoon, we had another assembly with the school to share what we had done in the day.

Year 3: Hazel Class have had a wonderful half term with Elenka from Storyhouse teaching us all about the Iron Age. She even choreographed a special VE Day dance which we performed in front of the whole school.

Year 4: In May, Birch Class have had lots of fun continuing our Rainforest topic. The children have all designed and written their own information boards to show all of the new facts that they have learnt, including facts about the climate, animals and plants.

We also celebrated VE Day in May by dressing up in red, white and blue and learning all about the celebrations that happened on the day 80 years ago! The children designed their own posters about VE Day and showed them in assembly.

Year 5: This half term Holly Class have continued to work very hard. We have completed our formal, persuasive letters to the council which the class have worked extremely hard on. Also, Year 5 have started our music lessons on Wednesday mornings which the children have picked up really well. Lastly, we have worked very hard in Art and DT stitching cityscapes and designing trainers based on our practitioner Tinker Hatfield.

Year 6: Oak Class have squeezed so much into this very short half term including their national tests. We had a great morning down at The Firs at the beginning of May to watch a play called 'The Snap Trap.' It was a fun, interactive and honest play about the benefits and dangers of mobile phones aimed in particular at children who are about to enter high school. Some very important messages shared. Even though we had learnt a bit about VE Day during our World War 2 topic back in September, we really enjoyed learning about the 80th anniversary of this important day on Thursday 8th May. We wrote some effective poetry using photographs from that day.

Eden: Eden have had a very busy month! We have enjoyed learning about VE Day on its 80th celebration. We created class bunting to celebrate the historic occasion and shared some of our work in assembly. In Science, we have enjoyed learning about the seasons Spring and Summer and developing our observational skills on spotting signs of the different seasons and recording the weather and rainfall. Paddington bear has been an extra member of Eden Class and we have thoroughly enjoyed learning about how he came to be called Paddington and his story with The Brown family. We all made and tried marmalade sandwiches!

Headteacher Awards:

All of Year 6 for being absolutely fantastic during SATs week.

Reading Awards: Reggie (R), Milo (Y1), Samuel (Y2), Lily (Y3), Jayda (Y4), Abigail (Y5), Azra (Y6), Ella-Grace (E)

Dates for June 2025:

Date	Class	Event
3 rd June 2025	Family Wildlife Club	Visit to Chester Zoo
4 th , 11 th , 18 th , 25 th June 2025	N, R, Y1 & Y2 parents	Story Sacks Course (Please sign up in the office)
5 th June 2025	Hazel Class (Year 3)	Last session with Storyhouse on the Iron Age.
10 th June 2025	Oak Class (Year 6)	Bikeability (7 children have signed up)
11 th June 2025	Representatives from Year 5	Careers Carnival @ Cheshire View
11 th June 2025	Reception and Year 6	Vision and Hearing Tests
12 th June 2025	Oak Class (Year 6)	First session with Storyhouse – Mayans
16 th , 23 rd June & 7 th , 14 th July 2025	Oak Class (Year 6)	'Skills to go BIG' sessions with Healthbox (Preparation for High School)
18 th – 20 th June 2025	Oak Class (Year 6)	Residential to Min-Y-Don
27 th June 2025	Whole School	World Views Day

N.B. We've had to change the date of Sports Day due to Year 6 transitions to High School. Sports Day for the whole school is now on **Thursday 3rd July**:

9.00 – 10.00 KS1 (Year 1 and 2)

10.00 – 11.00 EYFS (Nursery and Reception)

11.00 – 11.45 Eden

1.15 onwards – KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)

As such there are no longer 'Family Member to School' events happening that week – sorry for any inconvenience.

Thank you for your continued support

K Carruthers