



Upton Westlea Primary School Parents Newsletter April 2018



Welcome

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

We find ourselves approaching a key part of the year for any school – test time!! Over the next few months all of the children in Years 1 through to Year 6 will be sitting tests in reading, writing and mathematics. For some year groups the tests are optional. For others they are statutory, which means that to comply with the law we must carry them out. **All of the tests whether optional or statutory are very important.**

Please support and help your children even more than ever over the next two months. It is really important that they do their very best and fulfil their potential.

Parent Parking Charter

PARENTS' SAFER PARKING CHARTER

The Junior Safety Officers, Parents and school have constructed a Safer Parking Charter. They want everyone who drives to Upton Westlea Primary School to sign up to the rules to help keep all of us safe. Please remember road safety is everyone's responsibility.

I hereby agree to abide by the guidelines outlined within the Safer Parking Charter, which has been established by the Pupils, Teachers and Cheshire West and Chester Council's Road Safety & Localities Teams. Some of the rules below have been developed by the children in their own words, to improve the safety of children and adults attending our school and improve the quality of life for those within the school environment. By signing up to this charter you agree to:

- Set off early so that you can take your time. Rushing has consequences!**
- Never exceed the 20mph speed limit that is set outside our school.**
- Never drop off on the yellow zig-zag lines because your child might be safe being dropped there but everyone else crossing will not be safe.**
- Do not stop or park on the yellow "School - Keep - Clear" and "zig-zag" markings during the times indicated on the yellow "No Stopping" signs outside the school (Usually Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm).**
- Park away from zig-zags and double yellow lines so children can cross safely. Do not park on any double yellow lines.**

Park nicely so people can get out of their driveways.

Never park on our pavements because pavements are for people.

Park away from our school and walk the last bit with your children, if you can. Walking is fun and a fantastic way to exercise.

Not to park in the staff car park if you DON'T have permission.

If your child is in year 5 or 6, once a teacher or an adult supervisor is present in the playground, then please return to your car so that drivers of younger children have space to park outside.

Park so that your child is able to leave the vehicle on the pavement side away from any conflict with traffic.

Avoid double parking, so as not to adversely affect the flow of traffic or access for emergency vehicles.

Some children come by taxi - if your child comes in a taxi then can you remind the taxi drivers to park appropriately outside school and not to exceed the 20mph speed limit.

Pay particular attention for children who may be at the side and rear of your vehicle when parking, dropping off or setting off.

Forward any concerns regarding dangerous parking and road safety in the school environment to the Head teacher or a Governor, who can then take appropriate action.

If at all possible walk to school

Think Twice – Park Nice!

I/we have read and understood Upton Westlea Primary School Safer Parking Charter and agree to abide by all the guidelines to help ensure the safety of all children.

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Unfortunately, the initial launch of our Parking Charter had to be delayed due to local elections.

We will now be launching our 'Parent Parking Charter' on Tuesday 22nd May. The School Council and our Safety Officers have been working with the local authority re. parking around school. A charter has been put together and will be shared with parents on that day as will our new banner 'Think Twice, Park Nice'.

Dads to School

The end of March saw our third 'Dads to School' event. What a great week we had. In total we had 75 dads come into school to share some learning fun with their children. This shows what supportive parents we have in our school and is another reason why we continue to make progress as a school. Of the 75 dads who joined they all completed a questionnaire and 99% judged the event as 'Good', 'Very Good' or 'Outstanding'.

Class	Outstanding	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Poor
Nursery	2	1				
Reception	6	2				
Year 1	3	10	1			
Year 2	5	10				
Year 3	7	4				
Year 4	6	3	1			
Year 5	2		1			
Year 6	2	5		1		
Eden	2	1				

Some quotes included:

'Had a great time – always enjoy these events'

'The event was great – nice to attend and see what the children do'

'Brilliant'

'I think the amount of effort the teachers have gone to is amazing'

Willow Class wanted to share what they did with their Dads – 'Our dads joined us this afternoon in Willow for dads to school! We had great fun blow painting a rainstorm, using marbling inks to make a starry night, colouring, reading, writing, building, playing in the water and measuring capacity!'



APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Year 4 Residential to Condover



Last week, Year 4 went on their residential to Condover and had a fantastic time. The visit gave the children the opportunity to experience new activities, such as Archery Tag, Rocket Launch, Lazer Conquest and Ariel Trek. It was pleasing to see the children flourish outside of the classroom. They represented the school brilliantly and supported one another throughout their stay.

Year 5 visit to Ruthin Prison



Year 5 took a trip to Ruthin Gaol where they learnt all about crime and punishment during the time of the prison. They saw the kind of cells the prisoners would be kept in, the conditions they would endure and what life would be like. They asked lots of questions- mostly about hangings and further punishment!!!

COMING UP IN MAY

Willow and Ash visit to Gordale Garden Centre



Year 1 and 2 will be visiting Gordale Garden Centre on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th May as part of their Science activities.

Family Bingo

BINGO!!! The PTA are organising a 'Family Bingo' night on Thursday 10th May between 5p.m. and 7p.m. – it is sure to be great fun. Lots of prizes to be won. Mrs McCluskey will be sending out more details in the near future.



Wheelchair Rugby

Oak Class will be having the opportunity to take part in a Wheelchair Rugby session with Sale Sharks on Wednesday 23rd May.

Special Menu days

We've got the Royal Wedding Picnic on Thursday 17th May.

The week commencing the 21st May the children will be having the opportunity to sample a meal from a different country every day including Greece, America, Italy, China and Great Britain – all very tasty!!

Important Information

As you are probably aware children's mental health and well-being has been highlighted in the news a lot lately. We have recently been advised that the NHS Trust for Cheshire and Wirral has launched a new out of hours advice line for children and young people. The advice line can be accessed by young people, parents/carers and organisations across Cheshire and the Wirral who may have concerns about a young person's mental health. The advice line can be accessed by calling 01244 397644 and is open from 5p.m.-10p.m. Monday to Friday and 12p.m-8p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Thank you for your continued support.

K Carruthers

To: Upton Westlea Primary School

I am in receipt of the April 2018 Newsletter. We value your comments:

Although the school is not able to respond to every comment, all comments are read. Please feel free to comment on any aspect with regard to school life.

Signed:

Child's Name: Class:

Comments:

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May dates at a glance:

Date	Class	Event
8 th May 2018	Willow Class	Visit to Gordale Garden Centre
9 th May 2018	Ash Class	Visit to Gordale Garden Centre
10 th May 2018	All classes	PTA Event - BINGO
23 rd May 2018	Oak Class	Wheelchair Rugby