



Upton Westlea Primary
School
Parents' Newsletter
September 2018



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

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Miss Key, Miss Jones and Mrs Redman to our Westlea team. They are already proving an asset to our wonderful team. I'd also like to welcome back Mrs McCracken and Mrs Field following their maternity leave. Mrs McCracken has taken on the role of KS2 lead and Mrs Field has been appointed our new Deputy Headteacher.

Good News!



I am delighted to tell you that Mrs Woollen has given birth to a little girl. Penelope Grace was born on the 22nd August at 1.43p.m. weighing in at 7lbs 8ozs. Huge congratulations to Mrs Woollen and her husband. Both Mum and baby are doing well and we are looking forward to their first visit to school.

Mrs Wright has just started her maternity leave and we look forward to hearing her happy news in the very near future.

More Good News!!

Before the Summer holiday we put a bid into the National Lottery for funding to support our development of the outdoor play area. I am delighted to tell you that our bid was successful. The school council are now in the process of discussing designs and the equipment they would like. Watch this space!!

A message from our Chair of Governors, Mrs Sarah Cocks:

"On behalf of the governing body of Upton Westlea I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our children and parents, especially the many new families who have recently joined us at the start of this academic year. I am extremely proud to have been elected as the new Chair of Governors and I look forward to helping Mrs Carruthers, and the rest of the leadership team in school, in ensuring that the children benefit from the highest standards of education and care.

I wish everyone associated with the school well for the upcoming year and look forward to meeting many of you at the various school events I attend."

Pupil Voice



At Upton Westlea we take the views of the pupils seriously. To ensure the pupils have a voice we have five groups. They are the 'School Council', 'Eco-Council', 'E-Safety Council', the 'Behaviour Champions' and the 'Learning Champions'. All five groups meet regularly with an adult representative and through these meetings they make decisions that affect the rest of the school. This year we have also added Art and Sports Ambassadors from our Key Stage 2 classes. The chosen pupils for this year are:

School Council – Lola, Isaac, Florence, Jack H, Darcy, Molly, Mariah, Cacie, Hope, Zaki, Millie and Brandon.

Behaviour Champions – Nicholas, Khadija, Honey, Ben, Josie, Alicia, Marcel, Alisha, Shannon and Abida.

Learning Champions – Sarah-Louise, Arwand, Adam, Lucas, Krystal, Isobelle, Rufus, Evie, Olivia and George.

Eco-Council – George, Lily, Thomas, Gracie, Jensen, Nikita, Maisie, Katie, Petal, Aaron, Tanya and Jack.

E-Safety – Tia, Lucy, Emily, Lucas, Justin, Georgina, Sonnie and Sienna.

Sports Ambassadors – Harry, McKenzie, Luis Adriano, Matthew, Kayden, Lauren, Nelson and Pearl.

Art Ambassadors – Noah, Dhuha, Olivia, Atharv, Rowan, Ava, Litiana and Lily

Test and assessment results

KS2 test and assessment results 2018

	Achieved the expected standard and above	Working at Greater Depth (Teacher Assessment)
Reading	79% (National 75%)	35% (National 28%)

Writing (Teacher Assessment)	76% (National 78%)	24% (National 20%)
English - Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar	86% (National 78%)	38% (National 34%)
Maths	79% (National 76%)	31% (National 24%)
Reading, Writing & Maths	69% (National 64%)	17% (National 10%)

KS1 Tests and Assessments 2017

	Achieving the expected level (teacher assessments supported by tests)	Working at Greater Depth of understanding (Teacher Assessment)
Reading	75% (National 76%)	0% (National 25%)
Writing	66% (National 70%)	9% (National 16%)
English - Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar	N/A	N/A
Maths	59% (National 76%)	0% (National 22%)

Menus

Edsential provide the catering for school and run a three weekly cycle maintaining their meat and vegetarian options. At the end of the summer term the children were asked to vote for their favourite menus whilst in school. The menus can now be found on our school website.



On Thursday 4th October we will be having an 'Italian' lunch and encourage all children to try a school dinner. The children will be able to have Spaghetti Bolognese, Garlic bread and selection of pizzas served with potato wedges and Fresh Salad from the salad bar. To finish off the children can have a delicious cake / cookie or ice cream and choose from our Fresh Fruit Platter. To drink, the children will have an option of milkshake, juice or water.

We are also using this opportunity to invite our Year 2 parents to join us for lunch. Parents from other classes will be invited throughout the year.

Friends of Upton Westlea

The 'Friends of Upton Westlea' (PTA) is a charity run by parents and staff from the school. Their purpose is to raise funds for additional resources and activities for the children of our school. They organise, and run, fun events for all the children and families, whilst actually having fun themselves. We have some fabulous volunteers who give time and energy to the Friends of Upton Westlea, but always welcome new volunteers and ideas. Please come and join. Fun events last year included 'Upton Westlea's Got Talent, Halloween Disco, Christmas and Summer fairs plus much, much more! If you can spare some time Mrs Lisa McCluskey (Chair) would love to hear from you.

PE

As the weather has been so mild lately a lot of our PE lessons (particularly the ones that take place on Tuesday with SGSports) will be taking place outside. Please can you ensure that your children have an outdoor PE kit as well as an indoor one (i.e. jogging pants / leggings and a warm hoodie). Thank you for your support.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

As from the start of term payment for breakfast club and after school club needs to be paid in advance of your child attending unless otherwise authorised by the Headteacher. Unfortunately, the club has been running at a loss due to unpaid bills. We obviously want to maintain this provision but this can only be done if bills are paid. If you need to book a place as an emergency and it has to be done on the day the bill will need to be settled when you pick your child up that night. If you are experiencing difficulties in paying please do contact the school office.

Late collection from class at 3.00p.m. – if you are any later than 3.10p.m. your child will automatically be put in after school club and you will be charged. Please be prompt to pick your children up as staff do have to attend many meetings after school and they do provide numerous 'free' after school clubs. Thank you for your support in this matter.

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Parent Meetings for Years 1-6

A huge 'Thank You' to all those parents who attended the parent meetings at the beginning of term. The staff hope you found the information helpful. If you missed the meeting the information shared can be found on your child's class page on the website.

'Walk My Journey' Project with Matt Baker



Over the past couple of weeks, children from Upton Westlea have taken part in a Walk My Journey project. The project is about displaying an important message about refugees and asylum seekers; their journeys and the reasons they flee from their homes, careers and loved ones.

Walk My Journey is an ambitious live street performance and film involving more than 700 children and we are fortunate to be one of the 27 primary school taking part in Chester and across Cheshire. The children have been involved in workshops which includes learning songs for the film and gaining more of an understanding about refugees and their journeys.

On Thursday 29th November, children will be performing during Chester's lantern parade at 7pm.

Healthbox – Packed Lunch Pals – Year 1

Willow class had a visit from Healthbox! They came and told Willow class all about healthy foods and why it is important to be healthy. They looked at keeping their teeth healthy and what would happen if they ate too much sugar, Did you know a child aged 5 can only have 5 spoonfuls of sugar a day and a grown up can only have 7! Then the children tasted some rainbow foods, they had peppers, couscous, courgettes, raisins, sweetcorn, tomatoes, spring onions and apricots. YUMMY!!



Plastic Free Assembly



Helen Tandy from 'Plastic Free Chester' came to talk to the whole school about how they can help reduce the amount of plastic bought and used in Chester. She gave the children three practical ways in which they could help:

- By using 'bags for life' when shopping instead of plastic bags.
- Using refillable plastic water bottles rather than using single use water bottles
- Using paper (or even metal) straws. The children were impressed that McDonalds are changing to paper straws.

Following on from the assembly our Eco-Council met up with Helen and discussed what they could do in school – they came up with the following ideas:

- Draw up a list of plastic things we use in school once or twice and another list of those plastics we use all the time over and over again until it breaks.
- Think about what we use and can we stop using them, do we have to laminate everything for example.



Healthbox – Emotional Well-being – Year 2

Mrs Field wrote – On Friday 21st September Year 2 worked with Health Box, we worked together about feelings and our well-being. The children learnt about the different emotions including anger, sad, happy and disgust. The children made posters about themselves and how they feel, they drew a self-portrait and stuck captions on them including "I am great" and "I am special". The children really enjoyed the session and said the main message they got from the session was "It is okay to always let your feelings out."

Jeans for Genes Day

Friday 21st September saw children and adults come to school in something denim to show their support for 'Jeans for Genes' day. This is a national charity that helps children with genetic disorders. I am delighted to say the children had an enjoyable day, they felt proud and privileged to be able to help others and we raised a super £168.00.

Reception Children start full time.

Our fantastic Reception children started full time on Monday 24th September. They have settled into full time education very well and, as such, are a credit to their families. Praise however, must be given to Mrs Clements and Mrs Holmes and their staff in the Reception class who are doing an absolutely first class job in moulding the children into kind, caring and thoughtful learners.

COMING UP IN OCTOBER

Bikeability – Year 6

On Tuesday 2nd October some of our Year 6 children are taking part in a Bikeability programme. The children will begin on the playground and then progress onto the road under the instruction of the Cycle Experience instructors – Good Luck to them all.



NSPCC Assemblies



On Monday 15th October a representative from the NSPCC, Kristy Messham will talk to the children in assembly. She will give the children lots of important information and advice on how to stay safe. She will then provide workshops for Years 5 and 6 related to 'Speak Out, Stay Safe'.

Harvest Festivals

School will be holding two Harvest assemblies in October. They will take place on Wednesday 25th October at 2.00p.m. and Thursday 26th October both at 9.30am.



Football Tournament @ Goals, Chester



Some of our children will be representing Upton Westlea at a tournament at Goals, Chester. This will be their first competitive matches of the season and we wish them lots of luck!!

Art Days

LET'S GET MESSY!!!



On Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th October the whole school will be participating in two 'Art Days'. Each class will research a different artist and produce an individual display to be put up in the hall. The children will use a variety of materials and techniques. Miss Dalton will be sending out more information nearer the time but the children will be asked to wear clothes on those two days that you do not mind getting MESSY – acrylic paint will be involved!!!

Halloween Disco

The 'Friends of Upton Westlea' Halloween disco will be on Thursday 25th October. The infant disco runs from 5.00pm. to 6.00pm. The junior disco starts at 6.15pm and finishes at 7.15pm. There will be prizes for the best Halloween costume.



REMINDER:

INSET day on the 26th October – School is closed for the children.

Thank you for your continued support.

K Carruthers

To: Upton Westlea Primary School

I am in receipt of the September 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 regards to school life.

Signed:

Child's Name: Class:

Comments:

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October dates at a glance:

Date	Class	Event
2 nd – 5 th October 2018	Oak Class – Year 6	Bikeability
3 rd October 2018	Birch Class – Year 4	'Walk my Journey' Project @ Chester Racecourse
4 th October	Ash Class – Year 2	Parents Lunch @ 12.00
8 th – 12 th October	All classes except EYFS	Library Visits
15 th October 2018	Holly and Oak classes – Year 5 and 6 Parent workshop @ 2.00p.m	NSPCC Workshops
17 th October 2018 @ 2.00p.m.	All classes	Harvest Festival
18 th October 2018 @ 9.15a.m.	All classes	Harvest Festival
19 th October 2018	Representatives from Years 5 and 6	Football Tournament @ Goals, Chester
24 th & 25 th October 2018	Whole School	Art Days
25 th October 2018	Blossom, Apple, Willow & Ash Classes @ 5.00p.m. – 6.00p.m. Hazel, Birch, Holly & Oak Classes @ 6.15p.m – 7.15p.m.	Halloween Disco

