



Upton Westlea Primary
School
Parents' Newsletter
October 2018



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

Good News! Another Girl!!!



I am delighted to tell you that Mrs Wright has given birth to a little girl. Tillie Rose was born on the 3rd October at 7.30p.m. weighing in at 8lbs 1oz. Huge congratulations to Mrs Wright, her husband, Millie, Maisie and Thomas. Both Mum and baby are doing well and we are looking forward to their first visit to school.

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

"The governors recently met for their first meeting of the year. This was a strategic planning meeting, where we discussed and set targets within the School Improvement Plan for the coming academic year. We also set governor roles, with each governor being linked to both a class and subject(s).

We also welcomed Leanne Lowton to the governing body; Leanne lives and works in Upton and we are sure her skills and experience will be an asset to the governing body. We are also looking to recruit new parent governors so please keep an eye out for elections taking place after half term."

Free School Meals Reminder

The Government has said that schools will receive extra funding for every pupil eligible for free school meals.

As a school we want to encourage as many parents as possible to apply for free school meals as any additional funding will be essential in maintaining the standards we expect for our children.

Registering does not mean your child has to swap from their packed lunch if that is preferred, but school will not receive the extra funding if your child is not registered.

This money is used by school to pay for a whole range of things that enable your children to fulfil their potential. That includes everything from extra teaching staff, personal

tuition, money towards visits and visitors, extra equipment, specialist teaching, free extra-curricular school clubs etc.

If you think you may be eligible, please phone CWAC on 0300 123 7039.

Safety Quest visit Year 5



On 28th September, Year 5 enjoyed a visit to safety quest at Cheshire's interactive life skills centre. The trip began with the children scoring 50% on the interactive safety quiz. The children impressed the volunteers with their safety knowledge as most schools score between 43-46%. They learnt a great deal about keeping themselves safe. The class learnt, how to be safe on a farm, near water, traveling, online, at home and around a building site. They practiced putting each other into the recovery position and found out how to prevent fires at home. The children were shocked at the destruction a fire could cause in the reconstruction. At the end of the day they retook the quiz scoring an amazing 99% - Well done Year 5.

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon



A huge thanks to everyone who attended our MacMillan Coffee Afternoon, I am delighted to say we raised £167.00 – thank you for all the donations of cakes. As there were so many left over the children enjoyed a cake sale the following week 😊



Photos at school events

Due to new data protection procedures within school and the increased number of pupils who are not allowed their photos taken we kindly request that parents no longer take

photos and/or videos during school events. Wherever possible we will give parents time at the end of an event e.g. Christmas plays / celebrations for you to take photos of your own child. Thank you for your support in helping us to safeguard all the children in our care.

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

On Thursday 4th October we had an 'Italian' style lunch. The children and parents from Year 2 could sample Spaghetti Bolognese, Garlic bread, a selection of pizzas served with potato wedges and Fresh Salad from the salad bar. To finish off the children and parents could have a delicious cake / cookie or ice cream and choose from our Fresh Fruit Platter. It proved to be a very successful lunch with lots of full tummies!!!



Bikeability – Year 6

On Tuesday 2nd October some of our Year 6 children took part in a Bikeability programme. The children began on the playground and then progressed onto the road under the instruction of the Cycle Experience instructors – They all did really well and should be extremely proud of their individual achievements.



'Walk my Journey' update



Representatives from Year 4 and 5 are continuing to work hard on their songs for the 'Walk my Journey' celebration in Chester on 29th November 2018.

Library Visits

All the children from Years 1 to 6 have enjoyed their first visit of the year to Upton Library (Year 1 even snuck in a walk around their local environment on their way down!!!) All the children enjoyed looking at the books, listening to the librarians and researching their class topics.

Year 3 visit Techniquest, Wrexham

Honey and Nikita wrote: "On Wednesday 10th October, Hazel Class went to Techniquest in Wrexham. A man called Ross met us as we got off the bus and took us to our first room. He told us the rules before we were allowed to explore all the fancy stuff. We were allowed to play with any of the stuff in the room! It had problem solving activities and a really cool air machine that could make a ball float in thin air! After we had a go on everything, we went for our snack. After our snack, we met a guy called Kev and he told us lots about the human body (most of it we already knew from our science lessons). We did lots of activities with him. In one of them we had to guess how much sugar is in different foods. Did you know that sweets are almost 100% sugar?! After our lunch, we went to two more rooms. In one of the rooms there was a mirror maze. This was really fun and we bumped into our reflections a few times. Once we had finished, we went home. We were very tired after a super 'sciency' day."



NSPCC Assemblies



On Monday 15th November the school had a visitor from the NSPCC. In the assemblies our visitor talked to the children about the right to feel safe. She explained the job of the NSPCC and how they help to keep children safe. During the assembly the children discussed who they can talk to if they are worried or unhappy both in school and at home. They were taught actions to help them remember the phone number for Childline.

The main messages to come from the assemblies were:

- Keep speaking until something changes and we feel better.
- Speak out, Stay Safe
- I, You and We all have the right to speak out and stay safe.
- Whatever your worry you can talk to someone.

Harvest Festivals

Thank you so much to everyone who attended and contributed to our Harvest Festivals – they really were a great success. We like to do things a bit different at Westlea and I have to say I've never heard Harvest songs sung to Queen's 'Bohemian Rhapsody' and George Ezra's 'Shotgun' before – absolutely phenomenal – Well done to everyone 😊



Eco-Council work on the 'SuperTrees' project

Our Eco-Council walked down to Upton Pavilion to start work on the 'Supertrees' project that is being developed on the roundabout near the new bus station in Chester. The project is looking at 'plastic' and how it is damaging the earth. The children were given the opportunity to talk about the dangers and then do some art with their recycled plastics. Three murals are being produced as well as the 'Supertrees' and some of our children will be participating in the actual construction – it is very exciting.



Football Tournament @ Goals, Chester



Huge congratulations to Jack, Nelson, Nathaniel, Harrison, Corey, Kayden and Rufus who showed great determination and team work when playing in the tournament at Goals. Their 'true grit' and enthusiasm saw them through to the final of the 'Bowl Competition' which they WON!!! Well done boys and Mr Newman – a wonderful afternoon – it was a pleasure to watch you all 😊

COMING UP IN NOVEMBER

Bonfire Lunch

On Monday 5th November we will be having a special lunch to celebrate Bonfire Night. The menu will include 'Hot Diggerty Dogs', Jacket Potatoes, Cheesy Beans and much much more!!



Year 2 Residential to Delamere



The Delamere residential visit is always eagerly anticipated by the children and this year promises to be no different. The opportunity to spend two days and one night away from home is not one to be missed and I look forward to hearing about all the fun the Year 2's will get up to in the forest. The children will be leaving school on 8th November and returning on the afternoon of November 9th.

Anti-Bullying Week

On Monday 12th November we will be celebrating 'Anti-Bullying' day. The School Council would like all children to wear 'Odd Socks' on that day – they will be sending out a letter nearer the time.

From Monday 12th November through to Friday 16th November school is taking part in National Anti-bullying week. We will be putting our full effort into this week to



further help our children develop strategies for dealing with the bullies of the world.

Year 4 Lantern Making



As part of their 'Walk My Journey' project Year 4 and representatives from Year 5 will be making lanterns for the parade on Tuesday 13th November. The children will be going 'big and bold' so you can see them at the event on the 29th!!

Parent Evenings

The first parents evenings of this academic year will be held on Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th November for all year groups.

Chester Zoo



Huge thanks to Miss Dalton who has managed to secure zoo tickets for all the children from Reception to Year 6. The whole school will be visiting the zoo on Wednesday 21st November. Lots of letters have already gone out and thanks to all the parents who have offered to help. Final arrangements will be sent out nearer the time.

Family Member to School Week

Our first 'Family Member to School Week' is scheduled for 26th till 30th November. All sessions will begin at 1.30pm, apart from the Nursery session which will begin at 10.15a.m. on Wednesday 28th November.

Monday 26th November – Year 2 p.m.

Tuesday 27th November – Reception, Eden and Year 6 p.m.

Wednesday 28th November – Year 4 and Year 5 p.m.

Thursday 29th November – Year 1 and Year 3 p.m.

More details will be available nearer the time. Obviously if you have more than one child and their family member to school sessions are on the same afternoon please feel free to spend time in both classes.

Parliamentary visit from Rachael Dodgson

We are delighted to be inviting Rachael Dodgson from the Houses of Parliament to Westlea to work with our KS2 children. All of KS2 will be attending an assembly and then Years 5 and 6 will be participating in a workshop on 'My Party Election' and Years 3 and 4 on 'Bill to Law' – it sounds like a very exciting morning!!

Year 1 Firefighter visit



Willow Class are delighted that our local fire men and women will be visiting them on Tuesday 27th November. They will have the opportunity to dress up and look in the fire engine. If they are lucky they may even get to press the siren (watch out neighbours!!!) and have a go with the hose!!!!

Lantern Parade in Chester

Thursday 29th November sees the results of all our hard work with the 'Walking my Journey' songs and lanterns being shared with the residents of Chester – it will be an amazing night. 😊

Xmas Fair



The 'Friends of Upton Westlea' will be holding their annual Christmas Fair on Friday 30th November at 3.15p.m. There will be all the usual favourites with stalls, raffles, tombolas, refreshments and of course the chance for the children to visit Santa. Please come along and support the school. Remember 100% of the money raised will be ploughed back into activities for the children of Upton Westlea.

REMINDER:

We return back to school on Monday 5th November 2018

Thank you for your continued support.

K Carruthers

To: Upton Westlea Primary School

I am in receipt of the October 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:

.....

.....

.....

.....

November dates at a glance:

| Date | Class | Event |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5 th November | Whole School | Bonfire Lunch |
| 8 th & 9 th November | Ash Class | Delamere Residential |
| 12 th – 16 th November | Whole School | Anti-Bullying Week |
| 13 th November | Willow, Ash, Hazel, Apple, Oak classes | Ambulance Man visit |
| 14 th & 15 th November | Whole School | Parents Evenings |
| 21 st November | Apple, Willow, Ash, Hazel, Birch,, Holly, Oak and Eden classes | Chester Zoo visit |
| 22 nd November | Apple Class | Handwashing Session with Healthbox |
| 23 rd November | Whole School | Non-Uniform Day |
| 27 th November | Hazel, Birch, Holly and Oak classes | Parliamentary assembly and workshops |
| 27 th November | Willow Class | Fire Service Visit |
| 29 th November | Birch and Holly classes | Lantern Parade in Chester |
| 30 th November | Whole School | Xmas Fair |

