



Upton Westlea Primary School Parents' Newsletter February 2023



What a great start to our Spring Term! We had very busy February and have enjoyed every minute of it with great master pieces made during the class Art Days and amazing participation in Dress to Express Day!

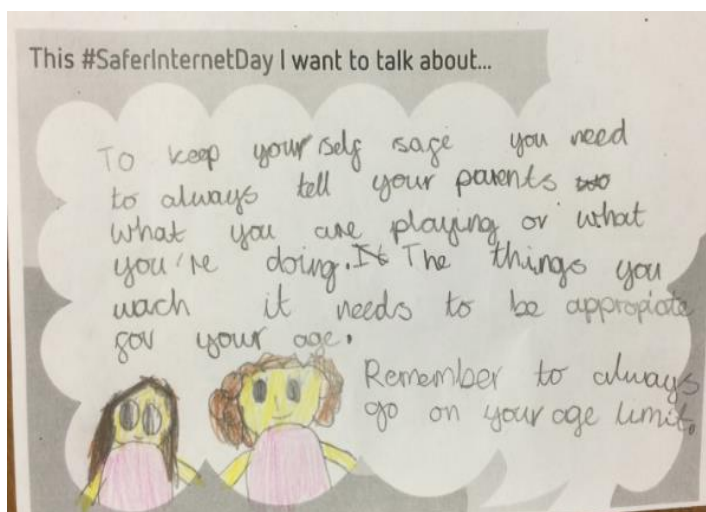
Year 1 Chester Zoo Trip

Year 1 had a wonderful trip to Chester Zoo, they had a great opportunity to handle animal artefacts. Later, we went and looked at where George Mottershead lived in the zoo. After lunch, we walked around the zoo to look at the animals.



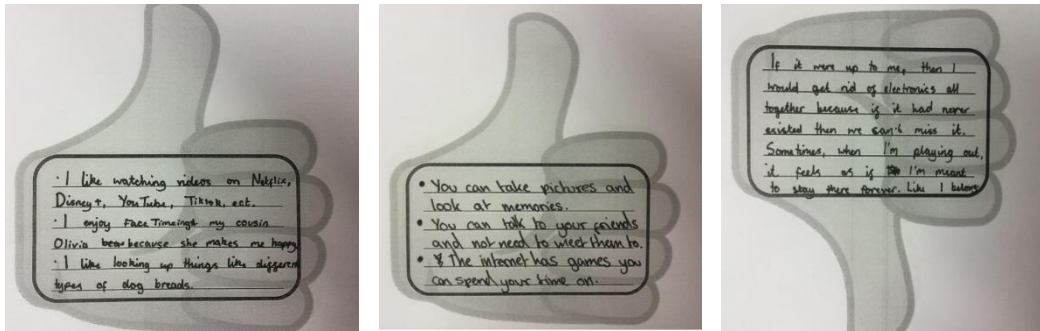
Internet Safety Day

On Internet Safety Day, Ash class discussed what information is private and should be shared online. We then played bingo and tried to find someone who likes each online activity.



Year 3 have taken their internet safety very seriously and have had some great discussions about what they use online and how they can stay safe. They came up with issues we need to talk about in relation to staying safe and what individuals should know about. They also completed posters for a competition on how to be SMART when online.

Year 6 thought about the things we love about the internet and the things we would change. Mature responses and a great discussion!



Children's Mental Health and Well-being Week

In Reception, we have been talking about being a good friend. We played circle games and learnt some new playground games to play with our friends.



During children's mental health week, Ash class talked about what things make us, us and how we all have things in common. We talked about how our likes and interests can connect us to others.



For children's mental health week, Year 3 looked at ways to connect with one another and the planet. We also connected with each other through taking part in some dancing and fun stained glass window display work, topped off with Dress to Express day where the children explained why their clothes were important for them and an expression of themselves.

The theme was 'To Connect' so Year 1 all designed their own paper dolls and connected them together.



Children in Eden took part in various activities for Children's Mental Health week, including sharing ideas on how we can be positive about ourselves and celebrate how unique we are. We also thought about important people and how we are connected to them.

I am very pleased to announce that we raised £100.95p for the charity a Place 2 B from the Dress to Express Day. Thank you for all your kind donations!

Year 5 and 6 Football tournament

On Monday 13.2.23, nine talented footballers took part in a six aside football tournament at King George V Community Sports Hub, Blacon. The format for the tournament was three groups of five teams with the groups winners progressing to the semi-finals as well as the best second placed team out of the three groups. After an impressive semi-final finish at the last tournament in December, we went into the fixtures in high spirits.

After a valiant effort by all pupils, we unfortunately fell narrowly short by finishing second in our group, however, meaning we just missed out on progressing as the best second placed team out of the three groups.

Yet again, all children involved demonstrated great team spirit by encouraging one another throughout the fixtures as well as showing sportsmanship to their opponents. It was a pleasure watching all children involved give their all in representing the school.

Art Days

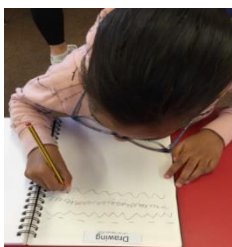
Reception



We went for a walk outside and collected sticks. We used these to make our own Stickman.



Year 1



Year 1 have been working on their drawing skills, looking at how to make different marks. They worked with a range of mediums to draw, make rubbings and paintings.



Year 2

Ash class really enjoyed their DT days, focusing on textiles. We explored existing puppets & designed, made and evaluated our own. We worked hard on using the running stitch and really enjoyed creating our final hand puppet!



Year 3



For art days this half term, Year 3 have gone back in time to the Stone Age. They have made some Stone Age dwellings, using skills such as methods of attachment and weaving.



Year 4

Year 4 had a lovely couple of days exploring and developing our drawing skills. We started by experimenting with patterns we can make and looking at the different shades of a colour and made our own colour strip. We then used our skills to draw our very own 'Escape from Pompeii' pictures linked to our English book.



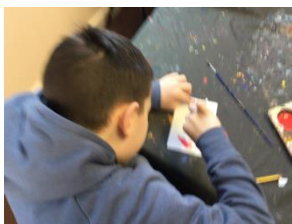
Year 5



The aim of our art day in Holly class was to design and build a toy using a CAM mechanism. Firstly, we researched about CAMs and found out how they are used to make things move. We looked at different style CAMs and discussed the different types of movement each CAM shape would produce. After that, we all designed our toys and focussed on what type of movement an eccentric CAM would give our toy. In the afternoon, we began planning the process of how the toy will be built and what complications we might face. The following day, we began decorating and building our CAM toy. The theme for our toys was Viking long ships and this related to our topic. We had a brilliant afternoon with lots of success. We evaluated our toys and decided what was successful and what we would change if we were to attempt this again.

Year 6

Year 6 had a great couple of days exploring the work of Vincent Van Gogh with a focus on his famous 'Sunflowers' painting. The children developed the technique of 'impasto' which involves scraping thick, acrylic paint onto their work using knives and forks. Some brilliant results!



Eden

The children based their Art on their class text 'The Dragon Machine'. They designed and made their own papier mâché dragons and clay dragon eyes and they were all very proud about the finished results.



Year 2 Local Area Walk



Ash class went on a walk around our local area to investigate the different uses of materials out and about. We spotted all sorts of materials being used in different ways and talked about why some people might choose that material.

What's been happening in Club?

This month in The Treehouse, we have been busy exploring the playdoh and playing with our new train track and trains. We enjoyed group games, in the river, on the bank was a favourite with all the children, and they all got to take turns to shout out instructions. With the weather being warmer we got to go outside and play football and explore the equipment.



Attendance Awards

Attendance continues to feature high on the school agenda. I am pleased to tell you that the winners of the attendance awards for the Spring 1 half term are:

96%+ winners – Olivia (Rec), Fares (Y3), Ishmael (Y6) – Well done!

They all received a £10 token.

March dates at a glance:

Date	Class	Event
2 nd March 2023	Whole School	World Book Day
8 th & 9 th March 2023	Whole School	Parent's Evenings
14 th March 2023	Nursery	Phonics Workshop
20 th March 2023	Whole School	Science Week
22 nd March 2023	Year 3	Parent's to school afternoon
23 rd March 2023	Eden, Reception, Years 1, 2, 4, 5, 6	Parent's to school afternoon
23 rd March 2023	Year 3	Trip to the Blue Planet Aquarium
27 th March 2023	Year 3	Nature Day – Passion for Learning
31 st March 2023	All classes	Finish for Easter holidays at 1pm
17 th April 2023	All classes	School reopens after Easter Holidays

Thank you for your continued support.

V Field

To: Upton Westlea Primary School

I am in receipt of the January 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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