



Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School Parents' Newsletter March 2024



Message from Mrs Carruthers:

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

Over 100 Family members attended 'Family Members to School' afternoon on 13th March 2024. The results of the completed questionnaires are below:

Class	Outstanding	Very Good	Good	Satisfactory
Nursery	8	1		
Reception	7	2		
Year 1	6		1	
Year 2	8	2	1	1
Year 3	9	4		
Year 4	5	9		
Year 5	5	4		
Year 6	5	6	1	
Eden	3	3		
Total	57	31	3	1

Some quotes from parents included:

'Really enjoyed today, lovely to see what the children learn and all the teachers are lovely'

'I enjoyed seeing the children interacting with each other and seeing them help each other with problems'

I liked how their learning has them thinking and talking to each other'

'I feel so lucky to spend this time with my child in school'

'Awesome afternoon - thank you'

Class News:

Nursery: Blossom Class have been sharing their favourite stories. The Three Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Man, We're Going on a Bear Hunt and Rosie's Walk.

They made a cave, a river, a swirling, whirling snowstorm and even mud! We couldn't go OVER or UNDER them so had to go THROUGH them! Some even had a barefoot walk along the grass... saying it felt 'crispy and crunchy' The children even found bear paw prints and collected and counted them.

Reception: Another busy half term in Apple class! Our theme this half term has been superheroes, we had great fun designing our own superhero underpants and planning what super powers we would have. A highlight for the children was sharing their work with you on Family Members to School day and making super healthy fruit kebabs.

Year 1: Willow Class have had a fantastic March, we enjoyed showing family members our Maths skills. The class have written some fantastic 'wanted' posters in English. To finish off the term the class have been learning

about Heston Blumenthal and carrying out science experiments with food. The children then designed their own chocolate bar.

Year 2: Another busy month in Ash Class! March has brought so many events that we have taken part in such as World Book Day where we had a lovely visit from Year 5 for reading time, Family Member to School afternoon where our family members supported us to collect data and create our own pictograms on J2Data, PSHE session with Emma from Young Carers who shared a lovely story and chatted to us about the jobs we do to help out at home and Red Nose Day where we wore something red. We also had parents evening and the book fair! The children have worked very hard on their final diary entries linked to the book Major Glad, Major Dizzy and have enjoyed sharing these out loud.

Year 3: Hazel Class have delved deep under the sea with our topic this half term, Big Blue Whale and have produced some wonderful fact files. This was topped off with a trip to Blue Planet with a workshop on identifying different species of sharks. This month we have also celebrated World Book Day where we did some shared reading with Nursery and Eden classes as well as designing our own World Book Day plates to showcase our favourite books. We have been loving the top 100 reads and our new Drop Everything And Read time (D.E.A.R.).

Year 4: This month has been busy in Birch Class! We have done lots of reading including on World Book Day when we visited Reception and read their favourite books to them. We all also enjoyed dressing up as our favourite book characters and recommending books to each other.

We continued discussing books when we visited the Book Fair last week. Everybody enjoyed looking through the books and finding their favourites. Some children visited again with their parents and have enjoyed reading their new books in class and at home.

In English lessons, we have been looking at the book 'When the Giant Stirred' which is about a volcano erupting on an island. We rewrote the book from the point of view of one of the characters. This book has tied in well with our geography topic this half term and the children have enjoyed further learning about volcanoes.

Year 5: Holly Class have had a very busy half term! We have been so interested in learning about the first moon landings and finding out all about the famous astronaut Chris Hadfield. In science, Year 5 have been learning all about space, the planets, the moon and much much more! We have loved looking into Florida and understanding all about different time zones around the world. Lastly, in our art days we have enjoyed creating a mobile solar system in the style of Alexander Calder.

Year 6: Holly Class and Oak Class had a visit from 2Engage theatre company at the end of term. The children watched a performance called 'SnapTrap' which was all about keeping yourself safe online. It was a fantastic afternoon with some very important messages.

Comments from our children:

"We know we have to stay safe online but it was good to get a reminder in this way."

"It taught me how to be smart on different devices and apps."

Eden: Eden have had a busy half term and have spent time focussing on their own personalised learning. We have been thinking particularly about friendships and how we respond to others. We have talked about keeping ourselves safe around grown ups and how to respond to grown ups we don't know. We continued this discussion to our use of the internet and choices we need to make to stay safe both in school and at home. We joined the rest of the school celebrating World Book Day and the children really impressed with their costumes and own clothing choices. We spent a lovely day, sharing our passion for books, playing games and celebrating our love of reading. We are ending a short, but very successful half term with a surprise Easter themed celebration snack time and Easter party.

School News:

A huge 'Thank you' to all the parents who supported our Book Fair this year. Parents spent over £843 which means school will receive books for every class library – Thank you so much for your support.

Again a big 'Thank You' for supporting Red Nose Day – we managed to raise £65 by wearing something **RED**.

And finally a massive £164 was raised via the 'Book Hamper' raffle – we really hope the winners have enjoyed drinking their hot chocolate whilst reading their new books ☺

Headteacher Awards:

Natalia (Y4), Eric E (Y5), Harper (Y3), Rhys (Y3), Ophelia (Y3), Samuel (Y1), Lottie-Leigh (Y1), Amara (Y2), Mosese (Y6)

Dates for April 2024:

Date	Class	Event
15 th April 2024	Whole School	School Starts after the Easter break
22 nd April 2024	Whole School	MAD Science Assembly
24 th April 2024	Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2	Playdoh Workshop (with children) Only 12 places available – please look out for a flyer!

Thank you for your continued support.

K Carruthers