



Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School Parents' Newsletter April 2024



Message from Mrs Carruthers:

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

We have now entered our final term and what a busy term it is going to be!!!

Free School Meal Entitlement

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 or call into the office where the staff will be happy to guide you through the simple process.

Class News:

Nursery: Blossom class have had an eventful week back! We have been sharing the story 'Naughty Bus' and the children have really loved it! They have made their own buses from large cardboard boxes, drawn buses with windows, built TALL cities with wooden blocks and bus stops of people waiting but the Naughty Bus drove straight past!

Reception: Our baby caterpillars have arrived. The children have learned about The Life Cycle of a Butterfly. We have looked through a non-fiction book and used the Contents page and Index to find out all about the tiny eggs. The children have already noticed how much they are growing.

Year 1: Willow Class have had a great few weeks back. They have been very busy learning about making moving pictures. They worked in groups to make a moving picture book to share with Nursery. Year 1 were very excited to share their work with Nursery.

Year 2: Ash Class began the new term by completing their design and technology projects- making vehicles with wheels and axles. After looking at Henry Ford, the children designed, made and evaluated their vehicles. We also completed our printing art days. First, we explored different printing tools and then we made our own printing plates for collagraph printing.

Year 3: Hazel Class have settled in well to the Summer Term and have begun to explore our new topic of 'journeys'. We have prepared a class assembly on resilience, which we performed to the entire school and have begun working with the Storyhouse on our history topic, Iron Age.

Year 4: Birch Class have come back to school very well after the Easter break. They have enjoyed reading our new books in English 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' and 'Rainforests in 30 seconds'. The children have learnt lots of new facts about rainforests from these books and in their Geography lessons and they are excited to learn even more. They have also started learning about money in Maths and they have used all of their decimals skills to answer some tricky questions!

Year 5: Since returning to school from the Easter break, the children have continued their learning on decimals and also started learning about percentages. In English, we are focussing on the book called 'The Paperbag Prince'. The children have produced some fantastic discussion and ideas around what we have seen in the text so far. Holly class were very excited to begin their brass band practice which will now take place every Wednesday afternoon.

Year 6: Oak Class have started the term with great enthusiasm and have been working incredibly hard for their SATs which they will sit in May. Also, many children in Oak class continue to give up part of their lunchtimes to be Playground Leaders, supporting the younger children in playing games and being active.

Eden: As part of our Autism Awareness/Acceptance month, Eden have been reflecting on what makes us unique and what it means to be part of the autistic spectrum. We have created posters and art work to spread awareness and understanding in the hope we can encourage wider acceptance.

School News:

We were lucky to have MAD Science present an assembly on 22nd April. The children were so engaged with the activities shown. I also feel we have some 'Budding' Scientist, the questions and interactions the children displayed were fantastic ☺

Film Night and Easter Egg Raffle were a great success. In total we raised over £400 – this money will go to towards Jess our Storyhouse practitioner who is currently working in Year 2 on the 'Great Fire of London'

Spring 2 Attendance Awards:

Eric (Year 5), Alfie (Year 1), Tara-Rose (Year 4)

Headteacher Awards:

James (Y4), Eric E (Y5), Macie (Y5), Daniel (Y6), Sami (Y1)

Special 'Shout Out' to Jessica (Y5) who raised a phenomenal £383 for Autism Awareness Week – Huge Congratulations ☺

Dates for May 2024:

Date	Class	Event
7 th May 2024	Oak (Y6), Holly (Y5), Birch (Y4) & Hazel (Y3)	KS2 Fire Safety Awareness Training
8 th May 2024	Whole School	Cricket Day

9 th May 2024	Representatives from Y3 & Y4	Robotics Workshop @ The Firs
13 th – 16 th May 2024	Oak Class (Y6)	SATs Week
16 th May 2024	Whole School	'Tex Mex' menu
22 nd May 2024	Willow (Y1), Ash (Y2) a.m. Hazel (Y3), Birch (Y4), Holly (Y5), Oak (Y6) p.m.	SPORTS DAY
23 rd May 2024	Blossom (Nursery), Apple (Reception) a.m. Eden p.m.	SPORTS DAY

School closes for half term at 3.00p.m. on Friday 24th May 2024

Thank you for your continued support.

K Carruthers