



Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School Parents' Newsletter May 2024



Message from Mrs Carruthers:

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

First of all, I'd like to congratulate our Year 6 pupils on their effort and resilience during SATs week. It is never easy sitting 'tests' but they did it without fuss and just 'got on with it'. They really did us and their parents proud – Well Done ☺

Sun Protection

Fingers crossed the weather is going to get better and the sun will be shining more often!!!!

If this is the case can I please ask that the children come to school with a named sun hat / cap. Also on really hot days can sun cream be applied before the children come to school – Thank you

Class News:

Nursery: In Blossom Class this half-term, our topic has been 'On the move'. We have been looking at a variety of forms of transport including cars, boats and trains. We have made our own train station in the classroom and have been on our own journeys to visit loved ones. We have been looking at repeating patterns and have been learning the names of 2-d shapes and examining their properties. We were also lucky enough to have a visit from one of our parents who is a vet. She came in to talk to us about what vets do and how they help the animals we love. We even got to wear real stethoscopes and listen to the heartbeat of her beautiful dog Hector. We have been continuing our work on turn taking and being kind to one another. It has been so lovely to spend time in our outdoor area over the past couple of weeks. Here we have been planting some flowers and plants and helping to look after them so that we can enjoy them all summer.

Reception: Reception have had a lovely half term focusing on all things that grow. Our baby caterpillars have grown and now changed into butterflies and will be soon ready to be released. In the makeshift veggie patch (thanks Mrs Gittins) we have planted our seeds and all the seedlings are already appearing. It has been great to go outdoors regularly and Miss Shepherd has particularly enjoyed the minibeast bug hunts. We have also painted in the style of Eric Carle, the illustrator of *The Hungry Caterpillar*.

Year 1: Willow Class have been learning all about the moon landing and had lots of fun acting out the Apollo 11 mission. In class, we have also been learning all about plants and have enjoyed planting and watching our beans grow.

Year 2: Ash Class have continued to work really hard this month, especially on their writing! The children have really enjoyed their English book- *The Last Wolf*, and wrote some amazing letters to important people asking to plant more trees and explaining why they are important! Fingers crossed we get a reply from Mrs Carruthers, Mr Ellinson, King Charles and Princess Charlotte! Year 2 have also come to the end of their Geography unit on deserts- did you know not all deserts are hot!? The children have learnt a lot of information about the Sahara and Antarctica. We've ended the month preparing for sports day, having fun in art days looking at William Morris and DT days about Frank Lloyd Wright! We can't wait for next half term!

Year 3: Hazel Class have been escaping into the sunset this half term with some stunning sunset paintings for their art days...which they then turned into moving pictures with our levers and linkages DT lessons. We have thoroughly enjoyed our English book this half term (Journey by Aaron Becker) as well as the follow up books, Quest and Return. We have also now finished out swimming lessons for this year. I saw so much progress within the 10 lessons - well done Year 3!

Year 4: This month we have been very busy in Birch Class! In English, we have enjoyed reading our books 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' and 'Rainforests in 30 Seconds' to find out some interesting facts about rainforests. We then used books and the internet to research our chosen topics and published our own reports. In Art, we learnt about the American painter Edward Hopper and painted our own artwork in the same style as him. In DT, we learnt about British inventor James Dyson and his different inventions, including his first ever invention the 'Ballbarrow' and we enjoyed making our own.

Year 5: This half term Holly Class have enjoyed learning all about Landfill. We have created a persuasive leaflet about landfill and what alternatives are available. Also, in Maths the children have worked really hard looking at geometry and are now working on position and movement of shapes. As well as this, the class have continued to make incredible progress in their band sessions and have blown myself and Mrs Barraclough away. Lastly, the children in Holly class have begun swimming and enjoy developing our swimming skills.

Year 6: Oak Class completed their SATs last week and we were incredibly proud by their attitude, resilience and hard work. They have really given their all - not just last week but for the whole of the year. Well done year 6!

Eden: Eden Class have been looking at the text 'Journey' By Aaron Becker this half term and have been using the inspiration from the illustrations to link into our weekly Art sessions. The children have explored natural colours and how they mix and refine them using natural sources. The children have used red cabbage, paprika and turmeric to name but a few to create their own colour palettes. Earlier in the term, the children started to learn about the artist William Morris and then more recently used the natural colour palettes to create repeating patterns. The children thoroughly enjoyed the project and produced some beautiful art work.

School News:

KS2 had a visit from Cheshire Fire Brigade on 7th June. The firefighters explained the dangers of fire and even allowed the children to experience a 'smoke tent'. Unfortunately, the session was abruptly cut short as they were called out to a real incident!!

The whole school enjoyed a day of cricket on Wednesday 8th May. The children had the opportunity to bat and bowl and really enjoyed the sessions. We have some 'budding' cricketers at Westlea ☺

Reha and the kitchen staff did us proud on the 16th May - they created the most amazing 'TEX MEX' menu - the feedback from the children was great - I think they particularly enjoyed the curly fries and spicy salsa!!

Sports Days were unfortunately a 'wash out'!!!! We will hopefully arrange some new dates for the end of June/beginning of July.

Headteacher Awards:

Ella J (Y3), Scarlett (Y6)

Attendance Awards For Summer 1: Azra (Y5), Esme (Y4), Efron (Y1)

June Diary Dates so far:

Date	Class	Event
3 rd June 2024	Whole School	INSET DAY – Children do not attend school
4 th June 2024	Whole School	Children begin
5 th June 2024	Whole School	Tempest Class Photos
11 th June 2024	Representatives from Holly Class (Year 5)	Careers Carnival @ Chester Racecourse (Passion for Learning event)
12 th June 2024	Holly Class (Year 5)	Staff and pupils from Upton High visiting Y5.
14 th – 17 th June 2024	Oak Class (Year 6)	Residential to Min-Y-Don
19 th June 2024	Oak Class (Year 6)	Drugs & Alcohol workshop with Healthbox
25 th and 26 th June 2024	Oak Class (Year 6)	Transition days to Upton High
27 th June	Whole School	Sports Day (This is instead of Family Member to School)

Thank you for your continued support.

K Carruthers