



Upton Westlea Primary School Parents' Newsletter October 2024



Message from Mrs Carruthers:

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

Thank you to all those parents and carers who attended our first 'Family Members to School' afternoon – we had over 100 family members attend, all participating with a 'Reading' focus. Please find below some lovely quotes from parents:

'Great session – was lovely to see how well my daughter is doing in class'

'Fantastic tasks today, a great way to learn – very interactive'

'Loved spending time with my child and being creative together – very well run and prepared session'

'Loved spending time with my child in the school environment, looking at how the class interacts together and with the teacher'

'All the events were really good and enjoyable'

'It was great getting to spend time with my child in the school setting. Getting a glimpse into what tasks / activities they do during the day'

'Lovely to see my child in the school environment with her teachers and peers. Nice to see the link with what they are learning to the activities'

'Loved watching the assembly'

'Fantastic event – I always enjoy these days'

'I enjoyed it all and I can't believe how much you teach in a day'

'It was fun and entertaining – I really enjoyed it'

'It was nice to see story time and the children engaging'

School News:

WOW, WOW, WOW what an amazing performance we had of 'The Tempest' from the Storyhouse. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and made the following comments:

'It was inspiring for those who want to be actors in the future'

'We should do it again in a few months'

'It was better than having to read all the chapters in a big book – it was a fun way to know the story'

'It was funny and a good way to learn Shakespeare'

'I think it was amazing because 4 actors did all the roles'

'It was very funny'

'I liked the question session at the end because I want to act'

'I liked how we could take part – it was really fun'

Class News:

Nursery: Blossom class had lots of fun colour mixing, exploring, splashing, splatting and brushing! The children used all of their muscles to brush with the big brushes and smaller brushes. They even tried using branches from the trees and bushes! We also came across a problem because the shower curtain didn't hold the paint. "Oh! Where's it gone?!" one child asked! Luckily Miss Shepherd came to the rescue with a plain white sheet and the children were very excited to splatter the paint onto it, brush marks and we even had a few hand prints!

Reception: This term, we have been learning our Little Wandle phonics and are starting to write simple words. In Maths we are solving practical problems with numbers up to 5. We are still learning how to be a good friend and have enjoyed some lovely stories especially about Isaac the hedgehog who needed to find a warm cosy home.

Year 1: Willow class have been enjoying exploring our school grounds using aerial photos to identify the different areas. They then produced their own maps of school with a key. We have also had a great time testing our sense of taste and smell.

Year 2: Ash Class have had a very busy month! One of the main highlights was our trip to Grosvenor Estate to spend time with the grounds keepers and their team! We took part in pond dipping, hedgerow walks, worm digging and nature hunts. We learnt so much and asked A LOT of questions! Year 2 have really enjoyed their Science unit on animals and their habitats this half term! Forest School has been another highlight that has supported our learning about animals and their habitats.

Year 3: Hazel Class have enjoyed reading week this month...we have read in all sorts of strange places, read to the Nursery children and also enjoyed making a 'Book in a Jar' during our Family Member to School afternoon. We also enjoyed watching the Tempest production by the Storyhouse...what a treat!

Year 4: This month, Birch class have enjoyed our History sessions with Jess from Storyhouse. We have enjoyed learning about Chester and the historical landmarks in the city. We have also had our first art days of the year and enjoyed making bookmarks using our sewing skills. In Maths, the children have been trying really hard to learn the times tables up to 12x12.

Year 5: The children in Holly Class have ended this half term very well. We have completed our diary entries in the role of Annie Edson Taylor - the heroine of Niagara falls - and the children have really enjoyed learning all about her incredible feat. Also, we have further expanded our knowledge of multiplication looking at multiples, factors, common factors and much more! Lastly, the children produced some fantastic artwork in the style of French artist Claude Monet. Well done year 5!

Year 6: Oak Class thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the Military Museum and learnt so much through the various workshops including how to deal with an incendiary bomb (in the form of a potato)! Carrying on with our History theme, we spent a day cooking a meal using rations. We have some budding chefs and restaurant critics in Year 6 and everyone was able to suggest ways to improve our meal which links with our design and technology evaluating strand.

Eden: Eden enjoyed our Family Member to School event early in the month where each group engaged in different activities. Our Seedling and Little Acorn children enjoyed a stay and play session with their parents and then all were involved in a Bucket Therapy session. Mini and Mighty Oaks used the book 'Silly Billy' By Anthony Browne to create their own worry dolls. We shared our Zones of Regulation with parents and showed them how we check in throughout the day. To end the half term, Mini and Mighty Oaks enjoyed their local area visit to Upton Library and park and the morning was finished off nicely with some yummy treats at Cafe Number One.

Headteacher Awards this month have been awarded to...

Jannat (Y5)

Attendance Award winners: Reuben (Y3), Freya (Y1), Eric A (Y6)

Reader Awards: Ella (R), Mahdi (1), Lena (2), JJ (3), Ophelia (4), Aggie (5), Dominik (6), Erin (E)

Well done to you all ☺

Dates for November 2024:

Date	Class	Event
4 th Nov 2024	Whole School	Return to school – 8.40a.m. start
8 th Nov 2024	Whole School	SCARF Workshops
11 th – 15 th Nov 2024	Whole School	Anti-Bullying Week
12 th Nov 2024	Whole School	Odd Socks Day
13 th Nov 2024	Whole School	National Roast Dinner Day
14 th Nov 2024	Hazel Class – Year 3	Visit to Pizza Express, Chester
15 th Nov 2024	Whole School	Children in Need
18 th – 22 nd Nov 2024	Whole School	Parliament Week
18 th Nov 2024	Birch Class – Year 4	Lantern Workshop
18 th Nov 2024	Oak Class – Year 6	Visit from Caroline from the Military Museum re. Purple Poppies
20 th – 21 st Nov 2024	Ash Class – Year 2	Residential to Delamere Forest
19 th & 20 th Nov 2024	Whole School (Ash Class 18 th & 19 th Nov)	Parents Evenings
21 st Nov 2024	Blossom Class – Nursery Apple Class – Reception	Handwashing workshop with Healthbox
28 th Nov 2024	Birch Class – Year 4	Lantern Parade in Chester
29 th Nov 2024	Whole School	Non Uniform Day

Early Notice – Friday 6th December 2.30 – 4.00p.m. Xmas Fair and Jolly Jumper Day

Thank you for your continued support

Ms K Carruthers