



# Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School Parents' Newsletter January 2025



## Message from Mrs Carruthers:

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

I would like to start this newsletter by wishing you all a belated 'Happy New Year' from all the staff and Governors at the school. Let us hope that 2025 sees us all healthy, prosperous and successful and sees our school continue to go from strength to strength. The staff and I would also like to thank you for all your generous gifts and cards at Xmas it was very thoughtful – Thank you.

# Thank You!

Don't forget to check out our website filled with lots of information about school and what your child is learning:

[Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School: A Warm Welcome to Upton Westlea](#)

## Class News:

**Nursery:** Blossom Class have been embracing our topic 'whatever the weather' this half term! What a variety of weather we have experienced in a few weeks... we brought the snow inside, we used umbrellas in the rain and the children watched the stormy wind blowing the trees outside.

**Reception:** The children have really enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year. We found out that 2025 is the year of the snake! We had prawn crackers for snack and noodles with chopsticks in the messy tray. During parents to school afternoon, we made snakes and tried to write our numbers in Chinese.



**Year 1:** Willow Class have been enjoying our topic of Chester Zoo and learning about animals in Science. We have been working very hard on learning our shape names in Maths. In English we have been learning that we can -er and -est to words to compare our book characters Lion and Mouse.

**Year 2:** Ash Class had a brilliant start to the New Year already with their positive attitude to all their work! They were hooked with our new book for English with the arrival of a mysterious egg! Their writing continues to improve as we introduce more and more elements such as spelling rules, past and present tense and sentence types. The children also really enjoyed the pantomime this month and are looking forward to all the things planned for 2025!

**Year 3:** This month Hazel Class have delved back in time to explore the Stone Age. We have been hunting and gathering as well as exploring fossils and different rock types. Ask us how we can use starburst sweets to explain the rock cycle! We have also performed a kenning poem to the whole school, called 'Stone Age Hunting' where we made our own props and put our own actions to convey the meaning of the poem.

**Year 4:** Birch Class have settled back into school well in the new year. They have been enjoying our new History topic about the Romans and reading our new English book 'Escape from Pompeii'. They have also been enjoying Forest School with Mr Ellinson where they have made shelters and taken part in Roman battles.

**Year 5:** The children have come back from our festive break determined and ready to learn. We have started our new book 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' and the children are really enjoying this. Alongside this, we have been reading different Norse myths which the children are keen to listen to. Also, we have continued our learning on fractions which the children have worked really hard on. Lastly, our sessions with the Storyhouse looking at the Vikings have started on Thursday afternoons which the children are so excited for and are thoroughly enjoying.

**Year 6:** Oak Class had a great morning having a tour of Storyhouse as part of their geography fieldwork. We are using the enquiry question 'why do people visit Northgate in Chester?' and so after the tour we looked at land use up and down that particular part of the city. More analysis to come in class!

**Eden:** Eden have had a busy start to the New Year and particularly enjoyed the blast of snowy weather. They took the opportunity to use their senses to think about how the weather made them feel and our Mini and Mighty Oaks rehearsed and recited a poem called 'Snow Day' as part of our whole school performance poetry day.

We now have a group of new horseriders and they have impressed us with the way they have positively approached this new routine. We are ending the month celebrating Chinese New Year and are taking part in art based activities to show our understanding. We are treating the children to a surprise Chinese New Year themed snack time which they will especially enjoy.

## Headteacher Awards for January have been awarded to...

All of Year 1 for an amazing assembly on Neil Armstrong, Piper (Y3),

## Dates for February 2025:

Date	Class	Event
3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb – 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2025	Whole School	Mental Health Week – 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'
7 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2025	Whole School	Wear Your Scarf to School Day

10 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2025	Holly Class (Year 5)	Watching a performance of 'Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang' at Upton High.
11 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2025	Whole School	Internet Safety Day – 'Too Good to be True'
11 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2025	Holly Class (Year 5)	Escape to Safety Presentation (Fire Safety)
13 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2025	Blossom Class (Nursery) and Apple Class (Reception)	Oral Hygiene Workshops from Healthbox
<b>17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2025</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>	
26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2025	Eden Class	Visit to Gordale Garden Centre TBC

Thank you for your continued support

K Carruthers