



Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School

Parents' Newsletter March 2025



Message from Mrs Carruthers:

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

Staffing

It is with real sadness that we say 'Goodbye' to Mrs Wright. She has secured a 'Lead Practitioner' role at Maple Grove starting after Easter. Mrs Wright has been at Upton Westlea for 9 years and during that time has transformed our Eden provision, supported many children and their parents and been a highly valued member of staff. We wish Mrs Wright all the best for the future, Maple Grove are VERY lucky to have her.

Homework

After Easter we will be changing the format of homework being sent home. We will no longer be sending weekly English and Maths tasks, instead we'd like the children to concentrate on their Reading, Times Tables Rockstars and Spellings. Ad hoc work will be sent home to support learning in class e.g. Year 6 will be given old SATs papers, Reception and Year 1 additional phonics tasks etc. Optional half termly projects will also still be set.

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 really enjoyed the stories of The Three Little Pigs, Gingerbread Man and The Billy Goats Gruff. They all turned into amazing, talented engineers building bridges with blocks, crates, and other things to get across the river! They even then tried their bridges out by walking across them using some fantastic balancing skills. They have also helped to plant some lovely plants in our garden and look after them each day, watering them when needed.

Reception: We have had a fun half term in Apple Class making traps for the evil pea and wearing our superhero capes. We have been thinking about real life superheroes too; we've been making police motor bikes with the crates and writing up reports in the police station, keeping Apple Class in order!! We enjoyed having our family visit and making superhero healthy kebabs.



Year 1: Willow Class have worked incredibly hard in Maths to learn all about multiplication. It has been tricky at times but they all gave it their all. We have also enjoyed learning all about the UK, its countries, capitals and surrounding seas.

Year 2: March has been another very busy month in Year 2! We have really enjoyed exploring our book -Major Glad Major Dizzy in English and have been building up to our final diary entry piece at the end of the unit. We have really enjoyed the history we can see in the book and have found it very interesting to see the changes since the Victorian times. We have had A LOT of questions throughout this unit 😊 The children have also loved working with Elenka from the Storyhouse in our sessions looking at the Great Fire of London! The children have re-enacted the events, learnt songs and dances and learnt so many facts about the fire.

Year 3: This month, Hazel Class have thoroughly enjoyed our Chester Zoo workshops. We have been monitoring animals with identification apps and binoculars, discussing native and non-native species as well as looking after the habitats by doing some litter picking. We also thoroughly enjoyed World Book Day where we read books to our Nursery children and completed some WBD crafts.

Year 4: In March, Birch Class have enjoyed learning about their volcanoes topic in Geography. They all really enjoyed learning about Pompeii last half term and have enjoyed furthering their understandings throughout this topic. The children have all had lots of fun during our workshops with Chester Zoo this month where they have learnt about animals in the UK and their habitats as well as how we can help protect them and we are all really looking forward to our upcoming trip to the zoo.

Year 5: Holly Class have been so busy this month!

We managed to complete our mobiles in art where we took inspiration from Alexander Calder. The children really enjoyed this activity and created some fantastic mobiles.

In English, we have continued our learning about Canadian Astronaut Chris Hadfield and have started writing our biography on him.

Lastly, the children have thoroughly enjoyed their Forest School sessions where we have been looking for mini beasts, building shelters and much more.

Year 6: Oak Class have had a busy half term. We have thoroughly enjoyed all our Zoo workshops with Alex and Phil from Chester Zoo which has tied in well with our Science topic of evolution and adaptation. We cannot wait for our trip to the zoo in the final week of term!

World Book Day was great fun with some great outfits and book sharing - our class had such a lovely time listening to the year 2 children read and reading to them.

Eden: We enjoyed our Parent to School event where we used a gorgeous book called 'The Extraordinary Gardener.' The book follows themes of imagination, colour and nature and this encouraged the children to share their own experiences. We created our own art work and planted seeds to create our own 'cress heads'. The children then created their own 'Extraordinary garden' sign. They enjoyed sharing stories of their 'Garden of Eden' project with Mr Ellinson in Forest School and they were so pleased to know they had raised money for school funds. What an achievement! Our Mini and Mighty Oaks children have enjoyed their workshops with Chester Zoo and all children are eagerly anticipating our whole school trip to the Zoo next week. Our Seedling and Little Acorn children have continued to enjoy their Intensive Interaction sessions and are developing key Speech and Language skills with their motivational resources each and every day.

Whilst I say Goodbye to you all at Upton Westlea, I would like to say a huge 'Thank you' to all the wonderful children, staff and families here for having me as a Teacher for the last 9 years. It's been a complete privilege to be the Eden teacher and watch the children flourish, as well as being part of the wider school community. I have loved my time here and will take very fond memories, skills and experiences with me - Mrs L Wright

Headteacher Awards for March have been awarded to...

Phoebe (Y3), James (Y5)

Dates for April 2025:

Date	Class	Event
1 st April 2025	Reception to Year 6, Eden	Visit to Chester Zoo
2 nd April 2025	Whole School	Easter Lunch
2 nd April 2025	Reception to Year 6	Easter Movie Night – 'HOP'
3 rd April 2025	Whole School	Easter Bonnet Parade
3 rd April 2025	Whole School	Easter Egg Tombola after School on the main playground
4 th April 2025	Whole School	School finishes @ 3.10p.m.
7 th – 22 nd April 2025	EASTER HOLIDAYS	
23 rd April 2025	Whole School	All children return to School @ 8.40p.m.
24 th April 2025	Hazel Class – Year 3	Working with our Storyhouse Practitioner on the 'Iron Age'.

Thank you for your continued support

K Carruthers