



Upton Heath Church of England Primary School.
Upton Lane, Chester, CH2 1ED. 01244 972970



18th February 2022 Newsletter

Dates for the next two weeks in school

Mon 21st Feb	Tues 22nd Feb	Wed 23rd Feb	Thurs 24th Feb	Fri 25th Feb
Half term break all week. School reopens Monday 28th February.				
Mon 28th Feb	Tues 1st Mar	Wed 2nd Mar	Thurs 3rd Mar	Fri 4th Mar
Week 2 menu Fair Trade week		House of Dance	World Book Day House of Dance	

Please note that temporarily the steak pie will be replaced by gammon.

A new millionaire, and a multi-millionaire!

Two new members have joined the Upton Heath Millionaire's Club!

Congratulations to Oliver Hardacre in Birch class, who has read a million words since September, and to Santiago Smith in Birch class, who has read just over 2 million words since September! This means that Oliver is now part of our Millionaire's Club, and Santiago is our first multi-millionaire reader!

Our Accelerated Reader reading programme tracks words that the children read and adds them to their word count once they pass the book's quiz. You can check on your child's current word count by logging into your Home Connect account. We will also be looking to see who our 100% quizzers are so please keep reading!

Oliver has received a certificate, a free book of his choice and his photo will be displayed in our Millionaire's Row display area in the library. Santiago has received a millionaire and multi-millionaire certificate, two free books of his choice and his photo will be displayed in our Millionaire's Row display area. He will also be the first to wear our coveted multi-millionaire badge! We wonder who our next Millionaire's Row member will be...!



VIRTUAL ETHOS CONFERENCE 2022

The Ethos Team took part in the annual virtual ethos conference on Monday, with lots of schools from around Cheshire. The theme of this year's conference was 'Love' and we took part in discussions and activities on Love God, love your neighbour and love yourself. There was lots of discussion, bible study and reflection, as well as some fantastic crafts. Everyone had an amazing time and the children enjoyed sharing our work with the other schools.



Off to the netball County Finals!

Following the Bee Netball Festival last week, the festival organisers selected one team to go to the County Finals in March. Out of the schools that took part, it was the Upton Heath team they chose. Well done girls. We are very proud of you!



Songs of the Vikings

Year 5 have enjoyed learning to play Viking Sagas about Gods and Goddesses on the glockenspiel.

EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 took part in our Anima celebration day this week. We dressed up as our favourite sounds/characters, held a special parade together and took part in lots of exciting Anima Phonics activities across the day. Don't we look fabulous?

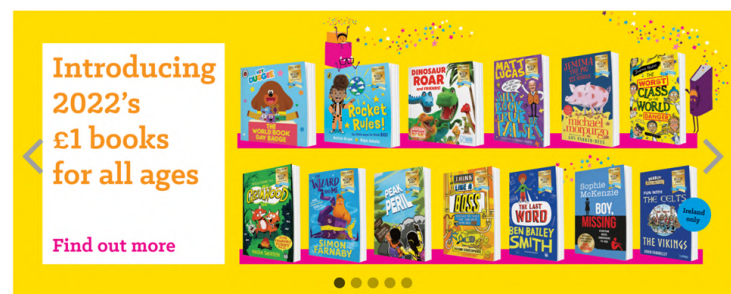
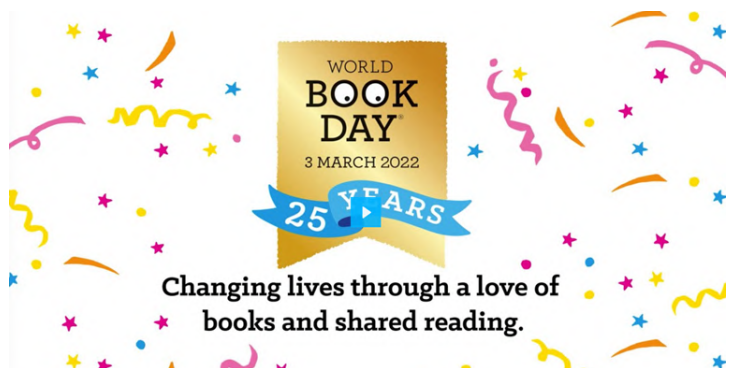


On Thursday 3rd March we will be celebrating World Book Day. This year marks World Book Day's 25th anniversary and the theme/message for all children is 'you are a reader'!

We are very much looking forward to celebrating in school this year and would like the children to come to school on Thursday 3rd March dressed up as a character from a book.

We will be taking part in lots of reading and book activities during the week.

On Friday 18th February the children will receive their £1 book token. Click on the [link](#) to explore the £1 books available this year.



'On pain of death, all men apart!'

On Wednesday 16th February, our Year 6 Shakespeare cast went to the Floral Pavilion to perform their Romeo and Juliet play. Like true professionals, they smashed their tech and dress rehearsals in the afternoon before enjoying their packed tea whilst the excitement for the big night built. Needless to say, they made everyone in the audience proud! The delivery of lines, the magnificent acting and the awesome dancing made the performance come to life. The stage was full of energy which brought joy to the whole audience. We're so proud of all the children for their fantastic effort and commitment to their Shakespeare journey.



Learning about the stone age...and investigating rocks!

Year 3 have been learning about life in the STONE AGE.

We role-played the jobs stone age people would have had to do and made pic collages of stone age animals. We went to the mini woods and looked for threats and assets for stone age survival.

We also enjoyed investigating the properties of rocks and identifying them using an identification key. We used vinegar to check which ones fizzed. We also tested for permeability and hardness. We observed the rocks carefully, looking for crystals, sand grains and layers.



Free events for half term

As part of an Arts Council England-funded "Crimes and Capers" festival, CWAC is holding events over the Half Term that may be of interest to you. All the events are free and bookable [here](#).

- **Emma Beswetherick's Playdate Adventures** Join author Emma Beswetherick as she leads a workshop on her very own Playdate Adventures series which follow the adventures of three best friends and their cat Thunder on a playdate, where the magic of their imaginations make their pretend adventure come to life. Tuesday 22 February 2.30pm Online, Ages 5 +
- **Capers Story Hunt** Get ready for a virtual entertainment experience like no other as scavenger hunting and storytelling collide in a jam-packed session which is fun for all the family. Let your little one's imaginations run wild as they join storyteller John Kirk for a comical capering adventure, sharing a classic folk tale on the way. Thursday 24 February 2pm online. Ages 3+
- **Dommy B's Best Adventure Ever** When Dom and his Mum move home, Dom has to go to a new school. Leaving behind friends and familiarity, he arrives ready to share his exciting rhymes about meeting a magical goblin and what happened at the lake when he attempted the greatest bike stunt in the world. How far will Dom go to gain acceptance from the coolest kids in this new school? Creating a whole fantastical world on stage with only his words and imagination, CBeebies *Rhyme Rocket* poet Dommy B explores the challenges and triumphs of making new friends when everything around you is different and strange. Monday 21 February 2.30pm Ellesmere Port Library. Ages 5+

February Half Term

CAPERS

★ THE PLAYDATE ★
ADVENTURES

We're going on a
STORY HUNT

The Story of
**DOMMY B'S
BEST ADVENTURE
EVER!**

ticketsource.co.uk/cwaclibraries

Cheshire West & Chester Council
Libraries



Saturday morning at 9 am at Blacon High School for age groups 7/10 year olds, email to confirm your place. Info@nwpanthersnetball.com

**NW PANTHERS
NETBALL**

ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

GIRLS FOOTBALL - UPTON JFC

Year 2 Girls

We currently have spaces in our U7 age group

Sessions are 9 - 10am on Saturday mornings

Training is tailored to this age group and is run by qualified DBS checked coaches

The girls will be able to play in Cheshire League fun festivals in May & June

Please call 07748 185423 for more information

We have spaces in other age groups, so please get in touch if you're interested

Upton JFC is your local community grassroots football club.

We are affiliated to Cheshire FA & 3 Star Accredited by the FA - the highest level.

Follow us on twitter @Uptonjfc or visit our website www.uptonjfc.org

STARS OF THE WEEK

ACORNS: Dolly Walmsley for her enthusiasm with her reading! Oliver Lynch for his fantastic writing about being a baby in the past.	CONKERS: Declan Keighery for his consistent efforts in reading. Erum Kapur for always being ready to listen and concentrate at carpet times.	ASH: Lauren Mountford for spelling rainbow words correctly in her writing. Well done Lauren! Molly Bird for her super participation and enthusiasm in maths and for great work measuring.
YEW: Elizabeth Davies for beautiful writing retelling the story of 'The Lion Inside' Eleanor Holden for amazing reading with beautiful expression for different characters	WILLOW: Theo Stocking for working hard in maths and phonics Isabella Cakirer for her fantastic effort in all her work, including her own version of the Dragon Machine story.	SYCAMORE: Maraia Matai for always being kind and helpful in the classroom! Archie Kelly for writing and editing his dragon machine story independently!
BEECH: Euan Turner for for trying hard on Numbots and making great progress. Evie Kelly for her fantastic effort in her Dragon Machine story ensuring she applied lots of different features to make her writing exciting to read.	HAWTHORN: Elsa Hardacre for working hard at everything she does and for her wonderful story writing in English. Henry Gray for his hard work on multiplication in maths. He is such a focused and positive learner.	JUNIPER: Lucas Charlton for his cheerful resilience. He works very hard and when he makes mistakes he is happy to correct and redraft. Alaya MacPherson for working hard in all lessons with enthusiasm, perseverance and positivity.
LIME: Holly Roberts for her hard work and determination with multiplying in maths this week Belle Thomson for her enthusiasm and progress in reading and quizzing	HAZEL: Archie Aldom for becoming a more confident reader and showing enthusiasm when reading with Mrs Will. Prisila Aminio for writing a fantastic thank you letter to Mrs Massey that described the fun she had last week.	ELM: Dylan Johnson for his enthusiasm and engagement in our Spanish lessons. Elsie Taylor for her music performance of our Viking saga 'Loki the Joker'
BIRCH: Bella Turnbull – tries her best all the time. So polite and respectful. Always kind. Zak – Fantastic effort in handwriting. Always smiling, polite and respectful. Great perseverance.	CHESTNUT: The Shakespeare crew for their enthusiasm and creativity in our Shakespeare lessons. A huge well done!	OAK: The Shakespeare cast for an exceptional performance of Romeo and Juliet - they made me incredibly proud!

Mrs Morris' Award for Acts of Kindness: Sofia Ball-Lee, Grace Novak, Elizabeth Rose, Isabella Sanderson, for being so kind and helpful to their friend, Cyrine.

Letter from Mr North

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term has certainly tested our resilience and perseverance, but finally we have reached the half term break. Thank you so much for your support and efforts during such a challenging time. I must give praise to our children and our staff, who have excelled in very challenging times. Teachers and HLTAs, have had to be very resourceful and adaptable, especially when teaching face to face and also providing Home Learning activities. Together we have managed to achieve a great deal and also come through those challenges relatively unscathed. I trust that you have found your meetings with your child's teacher informative and useful, please don't hesitate to get in touch with them, should you require further time.

Our Year 6 children performed at the Floral Pavilion, New Brighton this week. They were presenting Romeo and Juliet and they were absolutely amazing. We have a reputation of being one of the best schools to support Shakespeare for kids and our children exceeded that reputation. They represented our school so well and did themselves proud. Feedback from the staff who have worked so hard behind the scenes to support the children, and those family members who were able to attend has been incredibly positive. Congratulations go to the children, who continue to impress and make me so proud to be their Headteacher.

Thank you also for supporting our Anima Phonics dressing up day, what fun the children and staff have had!

I am delighted to say that we have had further sporting success this week, with our Year 3 and Year 4 girls getting through to the County Finals next month! An excellent outcome and one that they should be very proud of. Our Year 2 and Year 3 children will be going on their residential visits to Tattenhall next half term, I know that meetings have taken place and all will be excited about going, if you have any last minute questions please do get in touch with your child's class teacher, via Seesaw or when dropping-off or picking-up to arrange a convenient time to chat.

The first week back after the half term our curriculum will include a focus on Fair Trade Week, so keep an eye for some really fun and interesting activities.

Today is also a happy, sad day; as we say farewell to two of our colleagues. Miss Golledge, who has been working with us for a couple of years as a Teaching Assistant. Maria is moving onto another role in a school local to where she lives. I want to take this opportunity to thank her for her service, expertise and support. We also say goodbye to Mr. Rodgers, who is retiring this week. I want to thank John for his fabulous support, commitment to our school and our children and his sense of humour. I know that many of you have given and sent messages to him, but I know that he will be missed and that we all wish him well for the future. He knows that he is always welcome, and I suspect that he won't be a stranger for very long!

I am delighted to let you know that Mr. McCloud, our new site manager, will be starting with us on Monday 28th Feb and Mr. Codd will be joining the team too. Mr. Rafferty, will remain with us until the 3rd March and will be returning to his duties nearer home.

COVID-19 measures:

As we enter a new phase to how the Government are approaching the COVID-19 pandemic, and the fact that we have come through a tough time with the number of cases throughout school, we will be reviewing our measures and systems the first week back after the half term break. Should there be any changes implemented that impact on our families we will let you know. The one-way system will continue to be in place, so please do adhere to this, as it makes managing between 400 and 700 people in a half hour time frame much easier. Please keep your children with you, as you travel around the school and follow the one-way system.

I hope that you will have a superb half term with the family, that you keep safe and have a great time. Our UHPS deserve a well-earned rest and time to recuperate and have some quality time with their families too. Thank you so much again for all of your positive comments, thoughts and kind words, they are very much valued and appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Conrad North. Headteacher

Leave of Absence Request

Leave of absence during term time will not be authorised unless the reason meets the exceptional criteria. In response to your leave of absence request, a decision will be made and a letter sent to you within 5 working days. If leave of absence is authorised, a date to return must be agreed with the Headteacher. A child who is absent longer than the agreed date can be legally removed from the school register and the parent may be liable to prosecution. When the leave of absence is 'unauthorised' and a child incurs 10 unauthorised absence marks in a term, i.e. five school days, the Local Authority may be informed and a fixed term penalty notice may be issued. The current rates payable by parents are £60 where the amount is paid within 21 days and £120 where the amount is paid within 28 days. This charge is per parent/carer per child. If the fixed penalty notice remains unpaid this could lead to prosecution in the Magistrate's Court.