



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



## 5th November 2021 newsletter

### Dates for the next two weeks in school

Mon 8th Nov	Tues 9th Nov	Wed 10th Nov	Thurs 11th Nov	Fri 12th Nov
Week 2 <a href="#">Menu</a> Whole school Maths week TTRS - KS2 England Rocks Competition				
Mon 15th Nov	Tues 16th Nov	Wed 17th Nov	Thurs 18th Nov	Fri 19th Nov
Week 3 <a href="#">Menu</a> KS2 Bebras competition		Nasal flu vaccination	Individual pupil photographs	

### Diary Dates

EYFS Nativity - 14th & 15th December 2021  
Christmas Lunch - Thursday 16th December 2021  
School Closes - Friday 17th December 2021

### SCHOOL JUMPERS/CARDIGANS

**PLEASE can you name your child's jumper/cardigan for school. We are inundated with lost property. Just a name on the label will be fine and then they can be returned to the children.**



With Remembrance Day next week, from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November we will be selling poppies and the following items in school on behalf of the Royal British Legion. Below are the suggested donation prices for the items we will be selling, there are limited amounts of each item in stock.

A member of the school Ethos Team will go around to the classrooms so please send any donations in with your child. We would suggest that younger children have the money in a small envelope with their name on.

Poppies – donation

Zip Pull – Suggested Minimum donation 50p

Reflector – Suggested Minimum donation 50p

Silicon Wristband – Suggested Minimum donation £1

Snap Band – Suggested Minimum donation £1.50



*Every Poppy makes a difference to the lives of our Armed Forces community.*

*100 years on, your support is as vital as ever as the impact of*

*Covid-19 continues to leave some of the people we support in urgent need of our help.*

*Every person, every donation, and every poppy counts.*

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At Upton C of E Primary we know that attending school every day is crucially important for all areas of learning and development. Each year we strive to improve the attendance of all pupils. We always encourage excellent attendance with our children and families and this term we have decided to present a weekly class award for best attendance. This will be celebrated in our Friday assemblies and in our newsletters.

THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE AWARD WAS PRESENTED TO...

**Juniper Class 99.1% Attendance**



**WELL DONE!**

### Year 3 Computing

Year 3 have been learning about computer networks and on Wednesday were taken on a tour of the school by Karl from Seven11 who showed them where all the devices in our school network are situated. We went into the server room to find the server and the switch and found out where the wireless access point is.



### West Cheshire AC Schools Cross Country Race Series



On Sunday 24th October, 84 children from Upton Heath travelled on a coach to the EPSV to take part in a match day clinic. Everyone had a fantastic day! The children took part in basketball skills activities, then were given some tea and had the opportunity to meet the Cheshire Phoenix players. This was followed by the children watching the pro-game in the

evening. Cheshire Phoenix won their game, beating Newcastle Eagles 99-84 (at least in part due to the incredible support from Upton Heath). It was an exciting game and an exciting day out. We are very proud of all our children, for representing our school so well.

The third race of the series will be held this Saturday (6th November), starting at 10am. Good luck to all those children who will be taking part.

## STARS OF THE WEEK

<b>ACORNS:</b>  Stars of the Week will commence in January for EYFS	<b>CONKERS:</b>  Stars of the Week will commence in January for EYFS	<b>ASH:</b> <b>Molly Murphy</b> for her super explanation of deciduous tree; <b>Stephen Fletcher</b> for great participation in Maths.
<b>YEW:</b> <b>Penny Green</b> for her consistent hard work and helpfulness; <b>Ellie Shaw</b> for working so hard in Year 1 and always following instruction.	<b>WILLOW:</b> <b>Rose Warren</b> for her fantastic owl knowledge and extra learning at home; <b>Freddie McWilliams</b> for making sensible choices and contributing to lessons.	<b>SYCAMORE:</b> <b>Archie Kelly</b> for returning to school with such a positive attitude towards his work; <b>Lorrin Muniu</b> for excellent reading during her home learning challenge.
<b>BEECH:</b> <b>Sophie Griffin</b> and <b>Cade Precious</b> For trying their best in English	<b>JUNIPER:</b> <b>William Bassett</b> and <b>Millie Hall</b> For fantastic letter writing this week.	<b>HAWTHORN:</b> <b>Harry Gibbs</b> for a wonderful first week back and for having such a positive outlook and working hard in every lesson; <b>Alex Jones</b> for a wonderful first week back and for his hard work in Maths.
<b>LIME:</b> <b>Itay Magal</b> for his excellent reasoning in Maths this week; <b>Bethan Faulkner</b> for being a wonderful team member in our drama work and for being a great role model.	<b>HAZEL:</b> <b>Mia Jenkins</b> for her amazing column addition work; <b>Cyrine Cheema</b> for always being ready to learn and trying her hardest.	<b>ELM:</b> <b>Jai Prakash</b> for his excellent behaviour and for being helpful and kind to his peers; <b>Elsie Taylor</b> for her clear explanations and responses in Maths lessons.



**BIRCH:**

**Olivia Zarac** has been incredibly hardworking, kind and helpful. Very well done!!

**Albiie Huckle** for helping to look after others at lunchtime and brilliant maths work this week.

**OAK:**

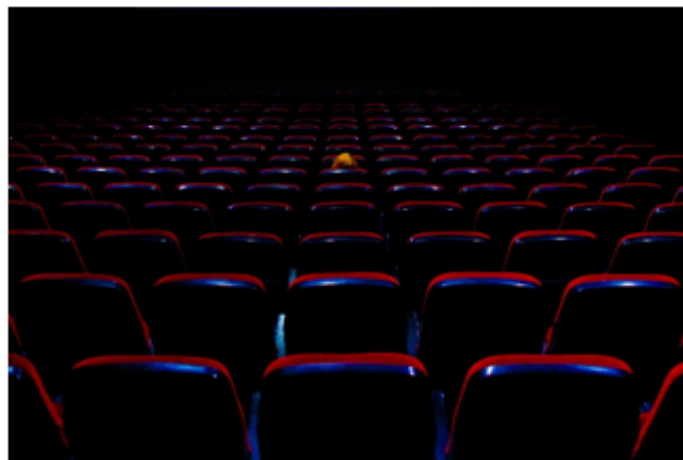
**Jareth Freemantle** for making a great start on our factors and multiples unit in maths;  
**Lillie Austin** for writing a wonderfully descriptive end of unit story.

**CHESTNUT:**

**Sofia Mangan** for displaying a love of reading;  
**Imogen Aldridge** for showing enthusiasm in continuing her coding learning at home.

## Mrs Morris' Acts of Kindness Award; - **Chiasa Walker-Etugo (Elm)**

### Upton Heath alumni star in Cinema in the Dark



Next Sunday, the **Chester Storyhouse** will host the live debut of three audio dramas by **Upton Heath alumni...** in the pitch dark!

At 1pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November, the **Storyhouse's** cinema will remove all distractions by turning the lights off, and 'screen' short dramas about aliens, clones and killer sharks.

The event will feature a live Q+A with: our very own **Miss Williams** (whose old old Year 6 class star in the productions), her partner

**Simon James** who wrote and directed the plays (Simon has previously written for actors such as Jude Law), and producer **James Mills** (originally from Chester, now works for Chalkboard TV).

Get tickets here: <https://www.storyhouse.com/event/cinema-in-the-dark> Please note: this event is only suitable for ages 12+.

### MINIBEASTS - Starring Eden-May Woolford, Ben Nelson and Eira Ainsworth

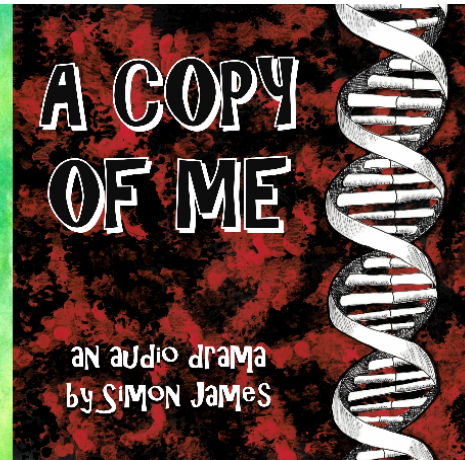
*Three primary school friends have found themselves on different tables, all because of their teacher's new 'minibeast' labelling system: they are now Butterfly, Moth... and Worm. After quickly working out the hierarchy of the learning groups, they start to realise that their designated minibeast may be a more permanent part of their identity than they first thought.*

### IMAGINATION GAMES - Starring Eleanor Melia and Harry Assinder

*Molly and Sam are best friends who battle robot armies and partake in space travel... all within the comfort of the children's home in which they live. Molly thrives on teaching Sam the craft of imagination, but will the same rules apply when it comes to creating a life outside of Brook Vale?*

### A COPY OF ME - Starring Ksenia Mangan

*Eve's family loses yet another member when her twin sister is killed by her father's genetically modified shark. But unlike their mother, who left long ago, this family member can be replaced – cloned back to life from old cells. Eve waits by the bedside to be the first to hear her resurrected sister's voice when she wakes up – or at least, that was the voice she was EXPECTING to hear...*



Artwork by Miss Williams!!



## Saturday Singing Club

**Saturdays** in school term time  
for primary school children, aged 5 - 11  
All welcome, no experience necessary

10am - 11.30am  
£3.50 per week  
in the Song School

Learn singing techniques, voice exercises and music theory through familiar songs featured in musicals and film and ranging from pop to church choir anthems.

For a Welcome Information Pack contact  
[ChesterCathedralSingingClub@Gmail.com](mailto:ChesterCathedralSingingClub@Gmail.com)  
or ring 07950 610055



### How does this sound?

- An hour and a half of singing, learning to read music and music games for your son or daughter on a Saturday morning
- Open to **all** primary school aged children, no experience necessary, only £3.50 per week
- An hour and a half free for you in the centre of Chester on a Saturday morning

This is Chester Cathedral's Saturday Singing Club and we are open for **all** primary school aged children to build confidence in singing, vocal technique, learn to read music and music theory. We play lots of musical games and we learn about a famous melody or composer each week. We are open for you this Saturday and all Saturdays in term time.

**Please call or email to arrange to visit and / or receive FAQs**

07950610055/  
[chestercathedralsingingclub@gmail.com](mailto:chestercathedralsingingclub@gmail.com)

We are ready to welcome you this Saturday.

05/11/2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Finally, Autumn appears to be with us, as we see the wonders of nature changing colour and leaves falling in true British weather style. I trust that you all had a fabulous half term break, feel refreshed and ready for the return to school. Your children have come back into school enthused and engaged and it has been lovely to welcome them back. Our team had a very productive INSET Day on Monday, refining and developing our curriculum for the forthcoming year. We have been re-aligning our coverage to ensure that the learning journey for our children is progressive and sequential. You will be able to see the updated curriculum statements on our website in the coming weeks.

It is Bonfire Night this evening and I am sure that you and your family will be out celebrating or hosting events. Cheshire West and Chester have sent links to schools to share with you, to enable you to have a fantastic time with your loved ones, but also to be mindful about being safe at all times. Take care.

### **Bonfire Night Events**

*'Firefighters in Cheshire are urging people to celebrate Bonfire Night, and the time around it, at an organised event this year, in a bid to keep people and property safe.'*

Cheshire Fire and Rescue have a Bonfire night - list of organised events in Cheshire which can be found here: <https://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/home/bonfire-night-list-of-bonfires-in-cheshire>

### **Organising Firework Displays**

Firework displays should be enjoyable and spectacular occasions – but they obviously need some responsible planning. If you are organising a major public event, you will clearly need a robust and detailed approach to planning as well as professional involvement. Further advice on organising firework displays can be found here: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/explosives/fireworks/index.htm>

### **Sparkler safety advice**

The Health and Safety Team also occasionally get asked at this time of year around giving sparklers to children. Sparkler safety advice can be found here:

<https://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/public-safety/campaigns/events/bonfire-and-firework-safety/sparkler-safety>

It has been brought to notice that at pick up time the children are quite regularly running around, playing on the trim trails and not necessarily staying with their parents or the trusted adult who is picking them up. Please can I ask that you continue to supervise your children, when you are picking them up, as there should be an orderly exit from school at the end of the day. This would be really helpful for those parents who are waiting for older siblings, or walking with buggies. Thank you for your support with this request.

You will be aware that COVID-19 cases continue to rise, especially in our local area. Public Health England (NW) continues to work closely with schools and have sent out recommendations to schools to monitor and manage the increased cases and to ensure that we, as schools and a community, continue to be vigilant.

We are at Stage 0 presently, which means that we are below the threshold of cases, which would mean us making some internal changes if we were to reach Stage 1 and further changes at Stages 2 and 3. The threshold position for schools is if there are 5 or more positive cases reported within the same class, or 10% of the school community about 43 cases across the school. If we notice an internal increase in cases, we will inform you as soon as practically possible. You may be interested in what we are doing at Stage 0, so below I have shared our checklist for your information:

### **Stage 0**

School below threshold case levels



- monitor case levels to determine whether threshold is met. This is done on a daily basis.
- issue regular reminders to parents/carers and staff to be diligent looking out for symptoms; if anyone has symptoms or is generally unwell with cold-like symptoms, headache and/or body aches – advise to get a PCR test
- 2 x weekly LFD testing for staff: All of our staff are asked to do this, including holidays. This is now part of our weekly lives, as we have done this for many months now.
- Suggest to parents/carers - LFD testing for a total of 10 consecutive days in addition to a PCR test (on day 3-5 after first exposure) for pupil household contacts (please see letter to headteachers dated 20.10.2021). A child can continue to attend school if their results (PCR & LFD) are negative
- if cases start to rise, reinforce messaging to staff and parents to look out for symptoms, incl. wider symptoms, and get a PCR test
- maintain good levels of ventilation, use CO<sub>2</sub> monitors where available to identify poor air quality. These monitors are now being sent out to primary schools. We have yet to receive ours, but once we have them, we will be monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> levels on a daily basis.
- maintain good levels of cleaning
- maintain good standards of hand hygiene (all staff and pupils). This is now an embedded part of our daily routines.

#### Early Years Outdoor development:

In the summer term of 2021, we were successful in securing some additional funding, via MBNA, to buy and install outdoor learning and play equipment for our Early Years team. Unfortunately, delays in supply and recent adverse weather conditions have meant that the installation of the equipment has been delayed, but after a meeting with the installation team this week, it has been confirmed, subject to no more delays, that work will start on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November. This will mean that part of the one-way system will be interrupted for about 2 weeks, whilst the work continues. There will be no large machinery and only the installation team will only use hand held power tools. We will be using Herris fencing to cordon off the work area to ensure that the children are safe during the installation and I am sure that the Early Years team will take loads of photographs and keep you up to date with the development. So my apologies for any inconvenience this may cause, but please be patient with us, whilst we complete this exciting project.

After school clubs are fully underway this week with Football, both girls and boys, Tri-Golf, TAG Rugby, Multi-Skills (AfA), choir (thanks Miss Wilkinson), Digi-Wizards, Catzclub (The Jewellery Box) and Forest School Club (Thanks Mrs Pearson and Mrs Buckland), all on offer. Huge thanks for Mrs Buckland, Ms. Hodge and the rest of the UHPS team for arranging and giving up their time to ensure that the clubs have been well organised and systems set up for the children to have a broad and diverse group of activities available to them. Thanks also to Mr. Deighton for supporting us with the running of our football teams, we have several football and Basketball matches coming up locally, so good luck to our sporting teams!

#### Up and coming events:

- We are in the process of arranging a fabulous whole school Maths Puzzle day event, to support and enhance our Maths Mastery approach, this will be for Years 1 and 2 and Years 3 – 6. Activities will be delivered to Year groups in the Hall. More details to come.
- We have invited “Mad Science” into school to conduct an assembly for the Key Stage 2 children. This leads on from their Science Workshops in Year 5 before the end of the last half term.
- Tempest are in school to take individual photographs (Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November).
- We are liaising with the church to see if we can use the church for a Carol concert led by our school Choir, who will also be singing in the local community, look out for details. We are hoping to be in a position to invite the parents of those children in the choir to attend, so fingers crossed we will be able to do this.
- The PTA have arranged for the school to do a couple of things, more detail will be sent out as soon as these arrangements are finalised. Unfortunately, we will not be holding a Christmas Fair, whilst there are still concerns about the rising number of COVID cases and the need to make decisions so far in advance. Consequently, Cher and her team of volunteers are working hard behind the scenes to see how we can raise funds for the school in a fun way in other ways.



- Reception will be leading their Nativities in the Hall in school and we will be inviting parents to watch this annual event, dates and times will be with you soon.
- Christmas Dinner will be Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December.
- We close for the Christmas Holiday at the normal time on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December and school will reopen for the Spring term on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. (Staff are in school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January for an INSET Day).

Yours faithfully

*Conrad North*

Headteacher

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### **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/carers per child. If the fixed penalty notice remains unpaid this could lead to prosecution in the Magistrate's Court.