



Upton Primary Newsletter

15th February 2019

Upton-upon-Severn CofE Primary, Nursery and Pre School and Riverboats SureStart Children's Centre, working together to support the local community

**Our School Vision is to offer inspiration to young lives
'Anything is possible, we can all succeed'
'To inspire ... To aspire'**

We can learn from Job in the Old Testament who was given God's protection.

He said:

Young and old greeted me with respect; I was honoured by everyone in town.

Job 29:8

Remember, we too should respect those we meet and treat them as we would wish to be treated.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

In one of our December Newsletters I shared with you the release of the formal results by the DfES for the KS2 tests. I explained that our school has achieved 78% for this year which is a combined score for the reading, writing and maths. Each year this combined result depends on the children achieving in all three areas of reading, writing and maths. There are many variable factors and reasons why individual children may not necessarily achieve in all three areas and we monitor our children not simply on what they achieve in the test but on the progress they may throughout their time in our school. These progress measures are also an important feature of children's educational achievement and ensures we are all treated as individuals.

To have achieved the 78% level is exceptionally good and we are delighted that the hard work of the entire team, including our children, has been reflected with this result. It was with great pleasure that on Wednesday of this week I received a letter from Harriet Baldwin MP (Member of Parliament for West Worcestershire) which stated that she had been contacted by the DfES informing her that we had performed well in the reformed KS2 tests. She wrote "This is wonderful news and I wanted to pass on my best wishes and thanks to you and your colleagues who have worked so hard to achieve this success." It was indeed wonderful news for us and we were all delighted to receive the official letter of congratulations. This shows the culmination of all the children's hard work with the support of the Upton staff team and I would like to thank them all, and the parents/carers, for their continued support as we strive 'to inspire to aspire'.

YEAR 6 - CADBURY WORLD VISIT



Last Friday, as part of their Aztecs project, Years 5 and 6 visited Cadbury's World in Birmingham. The children learnt about many aspects of Aztec life including how they used the cocoa beans to make hot chocolate, which was later brought to Europe by the Spanish. They then had a fun and interactive tour around the exhibitions learning how chocolate was made before walking through part of the factory and tasting some of the produce!



Whilst the trip had a substantial educational value, if you ask the children which part they enjoyed the most, they will shout as one, "FREE CHOCOLATE!"



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CELEBRATIONS OF LEARNING

RECEPTION

We are looking at different ways of engaging our parents and on Wednesday the Reception classes celebration of learning was a unique and amazing event entitled 'Stargazing'. We had a number of superb telescopes that were brought into school and set up on the field. We would like to thank Mrs Cooper, Mr May, Mr Perris and Mr Barker for letting us use their telescopes.



There was a campfire and some unbelievably delicious hot chocolate which both the children and adults thoroughly enjoyed. However, without a doubt, the highlight of the evening was actually looking through the telescopes. We were looking at the surface of the moon and it was stunning to see the intricate detail. The other thing that was extremely notable was that although we know the moon moves, we were amazed at the speed that the telescopes had to be repositioned. This took the grown ups, who usually see the moon through the naked eye, by surprise.

The event was well attended with nearly a 100% turnout and also other family relatives enjoyed the experience.

YEARS 1 AND 2

We welcomed family and friends to see the magnificent things our children have made.

Each class had a challenge:

- Year 2 made a plane to see which could fly the furthest (Jenson won)
- Year 1 had five pieces of rubbish and had to make the most magnificent model they could

YEARS 3 and 4 (Year 4's own interpretation)

On Tuesday afternoon Years 3 and 4 held their celebration of learning about 'Rumble in the Rainforest'. Mrs Davies introduced the sharing assembly as sadly Mrs Malpass was away. Year 4 performed a poem called 'The Tyger' by William Blake. The class recited the poem in groups adding their own different actions and style to the verses.

The parents who attended all had smiles on their faces and thought it was brilliant how one poem could be performed in two different ways.

We were delighted with how well the afternoon sharing with Years 3 and 4 went. Following the performance Year 4 parents came and had a look at our wonderful displays on the rainforest and our fabulous work recorded in our books on this topic, and the Year 3 parents were invited to take part in a very tricky rainforest quiz. The Year 3 children took great delight in finding out what their parents did not know.

YEARS 5 AND 6

On Friday morning, parents/carers of Year 5 and 6 were invited to view the children's Aztec Bake Off creations. Each child was given a bar of chocolate to create something with over the course of a week. This formed part of our work on the Aztecs, who were the first civilization to cultivate cocoa beans. The children were asked to create something from chocolate and entries included chocolate art and a variety of different baked items. Mrs Wills was asked to judge first and second place and prizes were awarded to Liliah and Nancy (first prize) and Isabella and Morgan (second prize).

The children have really enjoyed the topic of the Aztecs and in particular the gruesome nature of this civilization.



- Toby (Year 5) for a brilliant piece of homework
- Ruby (Year 5) for scoring maximum marks on her weekly maths tests for three weeks in a row.

They joined the Headteacher's Tea Party today.

BAKE-OFFS

We had lots of amazing cakes for our first inter-class bake offs yesterday.

Thank you so much to everybody from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 for running the cake sale with a total of £180.55 being raised. We will announce which class has raised the most after the third sale in May.

Next cake sales:

Years 3 and 4 - Friday 12th April

Years 5 and 6 - Friday 24th May

RAGS2RICHES

Rags2Riches collection will be on Monday 4th March. Bags are being sent home in book bags today. If you need extra bags normal bin bags may be used. Please leave any bags by the playground gates on the morning of Monday 4th March.

Thank you everyone from Mrs Julie Wills and the Upton Team

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ACHIEVEMENTS

We like to celebrate our children's achievements within school and also at any other out of school activities they attend. We are therefore delighted to share with the school community that four of our Upton-upon-Severn pupils recently passed their Primary Ballet exams. They attend Sway Dance School.

We would like to extend our congratulations to the girls who can be seen proudly displaying their Certificates below. The girls who passed were: Rosie, Jessica, Alana and Madison. Unfortunately Madison was not present when the photo was taken but she also has a lovely certificate.



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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Positive Parenting Programme / group

A helping hand for all parents

Family Support Worker Caren Fereday would like to invite you to a 4 week Positive Parenting Programme for parents of children aged 2 to 10 years.

Triple P is a parenting and family support group that aims to prevent behavioural, emotional, and developmental problems in children by enhancing the knowledge, skills and confidence of parents over this 4 week programme.

Session One: What is Positive Parenting?

Session Two: Promoting Children's Development

Session Three: Teaching New Skills and Behaviours

Session Four: Managing Misbehaviour and Parenting Routines

Group Sessions:

Hanley Swan Primary School

Tuesday's 1.30pm to 3.00pm

March 5th, 19th and 26th and April 2nd

Upton-upon-Severn CofE Primary School

Friday's 9.30am to 11.00am

March 8th, 15th and 22nd and April 5th

Refreshments will be provided together with a calm, friendly and fun atmosphere. If you would like to book yourself a place on either group please contact either school or Caren Fereday on: 07920 783992

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HELP NEEDED!

Oscar Saxelby-Lee, a Reception child at Pitmaston Primary in St. Johns, has been diagnosed with Leukaemia and needs a stem cell donor in 3 months. Please help us spread the word that a **DKMS registration event is being held on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March at Pitmaston Primary School** from 9.00am to 3.00pm. If you are unable to attend on either of these days you can also request a swab pack online at: <https://www.dkms.org.uk/en/registernow>

They are asking everyone between the ages of 17 to 55 years, who are in good health, to go to the registration event being organised by DKMS and support them in trying to urgently find a stem cell donor. This involves a simple, pain free swab to see if you are eligible. Please share this with all your friends and family – they desperately need to see you there!

Pitmaston Primary School are also raising funds to support the parents of Oscar Saxelby-Lee, a 5 year old boy in their Reception class. Please donate to the JustGiving Crowdfunding Page to help make this happen and read his story by clicking on the following link:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/hand-in-handforoscarsaxelby-lee?utm_id=2&utm_term=4K7epRawW

KYUSHINDO JUDO CLUB FOR CHILDREN AGED 5 to 11 YEARS

UPTON-UPON-SEVERN PRIMARY SCHOOL,
SCHOOL LANE
UPTON-UPON-SEVERN
WORCESTERSHIRE, WR8 0LD
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON
4- 5PM



TRADITIONAL STYLED JUDO DOJO INCORPORATING TRAINING IN-
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TECHNIQUES.

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KYUSHINDO JUDO SOCIETY/ INDEPENDENT MARTIAL ARTS SPORTS ASSOCIATION. £4 PER SESSION
EMAIL: paul.kyushindojudoclub@gmail.com OR RING PAUL ON: 07591726269
FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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54 Ideas for Parents to Get Worcestershire Talking!

Speech, language and communication skills are important for all children, not just those with identified needs. These fun activities will engage families, heightening their awareness of speaking and listening and in turn develop language skills that are so important to literacy and learning.

The following list is designed for settings or schools to use in newsletters or on their website. The ideas can be used as a pick and mix, and used flexibly as you wish to.

Suggestion for an introduction to newsletters or websites:

- Here is a list of fun ideas to develop your child's language and communication skills as well as helpful tips and advice.
- The ideas don't cost anything and can be played anywhere when you have a few moments, such as when you are walking down the street, in the car, on the bus or in a doctor's waiting room. By developing your child's speaking and listening you will be supporting their reading, writing and learning.
- If your child speaks more than one language do these activities in your home language as a strong home language provides a foundation from which other languages can grow. So get talking!

Ideas

1. **Learning words.** As adults we need to know about 30,000 words. Most of these words are learnt in childhood. Children are programmed to learn words; they just need to hear them. Reading to your child is one way to expose your child to more words. If you come across an interesting word in a book try and use it again in a conversation with your child.
2. **Listening skills.** For children to develop listening skills they need to practice them. In busy family lives there is often little quite time. Try and reduce distracting noise. If no one is watching the TV, turn it off. There's enough volume in most homes without music on as well. Do a little every day to develop listening skills. One simple idea to get you started is: when you lose your mobile phone in the house, call it from the landline and ask the kids to find it.
3. **Cooking.** Do some cooking with your child. It involves co-operation, planning, reading and listening. All things you need to succeed in school. As well as being great skills for life.
<http://www.cookuk.co.uk/children-index.htm>
4. **Outdoor listening game.** This listening game that works best outdoors. Stand still and ask everyone to close their eyes. Listen to the sounds that you hear. One player names a sound that they can hear. Everyone points to the sound. Then on the count of 3 everyone opens their eyes. Are you all pointing in the same direction?
5. **Explaining.** Listen to your child explaining how they do a favourite activity. Explaining how to do something is good practice for the type of speaking that your child needs to do in school. Ask your child to talk about how they made a Lego model, how they play a computer game or a board or card game. Try and listen without asking too many questions.



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