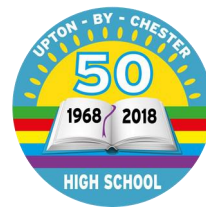




Upton Voice



Upton-by-Chester High School Newsletter

July 2019

Awards Evening

On Tuesday 9th July we held our annual Awards Evening. This is always a special occasion which recognises the hard work and excellence of our pupils. It was great to see the Hall packed with parents and staff celebrating our pupil's achievements. Our guest speaker, Robert Quick, is a former pupil who joined Upton when it opened in September 1968. The audience were also treated to two musical performances by Anna (Year 9) and Bella (Year 12) accompanied by Miss Thompson. Below are just a selection of the award recipients and photos from the evening.



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Memories of Upton-by-Chester High School 1968-2018

On Friday 12th July we held a wonderful celebration event to mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of the school. The celebration was the culmination of a year-long Oral History project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The centre piece of the project is a new website which has been launched to showcase the history of the school's first half-century. A group of our current students have been actively engaged in interviewing former students and staff about their time at the school. Entitled 'Memories of Upton High School', a number of alumni have been interviewed on camera and all of the interviews can be viewed on the website <https://www.uptonfifty.co.uk/>

The event included a photographic exhibition showcasing the history of the school and a drinks reception and speeches from a number of guests. Speakers on the evening were Mrs Dixon; Dr Michael Bird from Chester University, who spoke about the importance of Oral History; Mr Ciaran Doherty, lead teacher on the project; year 9, 10 and 11 students Libby, Eleanor and Issy, who spoke about the skills they developed during the project; Mr Robert Quick, a pupil of the first cohort to attend the school in 1968 and Cllr Martyn Delaney, Deputy Lord Mayor of Chester. Also in attendance was Chris Matheson MP.

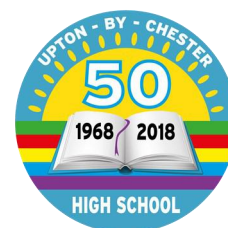
A short film of the celebration event can be viewed here: <https://www.uptonfifty.co.uk/about/>

Congratulations to all the students for their successful work on the project: Hattie, Ruby, Anna, Josh, Libby, Toby, Eleanor, Tara, Ella and Issy.

We are still gratefully receiving any archive material relating to the 50 years of the school. To find out more, contact uptonfifty@uptonhigh.co.uk



**Funding raised by
The National Lottery**
and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



Dear Parents, Carers, Students, Staff, Governors and Friends of Upton High School,

We are now at the end of another academic year (where does the time go?!) providing us with the time to reflect on the past 3 terms, and just how much we have achieved.

Some of the key highlights for me have included our highly successful Ofsted inspection in May and the very positive and complimentary judgements they have made about us, fully endorsing us as a good school with many outstanding features. It is such a relief to know that, all being well they will not be returning for another 4 years!

I was also extremely proud that we received the Cheshire Secondary School of the Year Award. I had the privilege to attend the presentation ceremony with Mrs Smale and some of our superb students, to receive the award from guest speaker Lucy Meacock, herself a former Cheshire school pupil.

We have this year been celebrating our 50th anniversary, and we have seized the opportunity to reflect on the enormous impact that Upton High School has had on so many people.

The oral history project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and expertly led by Mr Doherty and the History Department, has been a wonderful chance to bring our history alive and has energised the school. The recordings, pictures and films made by our current students, of alumni and staff, has been delightful to listen to. Miss French has curated a fascinating archive collection of photographs and memorabilia from across the 5 decades, which is currently on display in our foyer, and this will be shared with our local community in the coming months as we plan to tour it around various local venues.

Our celebration event was a truly memorable occasion and we welcomed back former staff, students and families, as well as local VIPs, all of whom have achieved so much as a consequence of their association with our amazing school. It has been touching and humbling to share in their memories and to hear what a positive force Upton-by-Chester High School has been in their lives. Please take the time to look at our website www.uptonfifty.co.uk and enjoy.

Finally we will be welcoming back our A level and GCSE students on August 15 and 22 respectively and wish them all the very best with their results.

With my very best wishes for a peaceful, safe and happy summer holiday and I look forward to working with you all again in September.



Mrs P. Dixon
Headteacher

Women in Sports

On Wednesday 3rd July a group of Year 9 girls went to Chester University to take part in a Women In Sports day. They participated in team building activities including one pupil walking a tightrope (that the rest were holding!), and a variety of sports. They also listened to an inspirational talk by World Champion Inline Skater Jenna Downing. Each of the girls took a lot away from this fantastic experience which was organised by Higher Horizons.

Miss Peatfield
PE



Secondary School of the Year

We were thrilled to be announced as the Winner of the 'Secondary School of the Year' Award at the Cheshire Schools Awards on June 11th.

Mrs Dixon and Mrs Smale and some of our students attended the awards ceremony at the Queen Hotel in Chester which was hosted by Lucy Meacock. We were nominated for 'Best School in the Community' and 'Best Secondary School.' A huge thank you to our whole school community for all their hard work and support.



Sports Day

Well done all Upton pupils for an amazing sports day. Behaviour, attitude & effort was excellent throughout, records fell left, right & centre, & the sun was out! What a day!

The PE Department



Send us a postcard

Over the holidays please send the Geography Department a postcard from your travels either here in the UK or further afield. Let us know where you are visiting and what Geography you have seen.

Mrs Mitchell
Head of Geography

Send your postcards to:

Geography Department
Upton by Chester High School
St James Avenue
Chester
CH2 1NN



Physical Geography Photo Competition

This year the Geographical Association's photo competition is 'Wonderful Physical Geography'. Over the summer this would be a great opportunity for students to get outside and explore. All the details can be found via the link:

<https://www.geography.org.uk/2019-physical-geography-photo-competition>

Physical Geography photo competition 2019 Theme: 'Wonderful Physical Geography'



This year's competition is about highlighting how physical geography is wonderful, inspiring, spectacular, astonishing, extraordinary or any combination of these.

To enter, submit a photo (of your own) that shows how physical geography is wonderful.



This could be a feature or something that captures a process. Your photo doesn't have to be something on a grand scale but might equally be a small-scale feature of physical geography.

It might also be something seen in an urban environment as much as a feature of the countryside or a 'wild' area. And it could be taken locally, or from somewhere further afield.



You have up to 250 words to describe what physical geography your photograph shows and to explain how and why it is wonderful.

There are some examples, plus other tips for creating a good entry on the website.



The competition is open to any school student in years 7-13 during the academic year 2018-19; there are two categories - Y7-9 and Y10-13.

Entries will be judged on both the photograph and your description.

Prizes

Courtesy of Páramo Directional Clothing Systems (www.paramo.co.uk)

1st prize - Men's Ostro or Women's Alize Windproof Jacket

2nd prize - Fuera Smock

3rd prize - Páramo Beanie



All winners and entries judged as Highly Commended will receive a copy of Longman's Student Atlas from the Geographical Association and a certificate. Prize winning photographs will feature on the Geographical Association website and in *GA Magazine*.

Entry deadline: Monday 30 September 2019

More information, terms and conditions and tips available at:

[geography.org.uk/2019-physical-geography-photo-competition](https://www.geography.org.uk/2019-physical-geography-photo-competition)



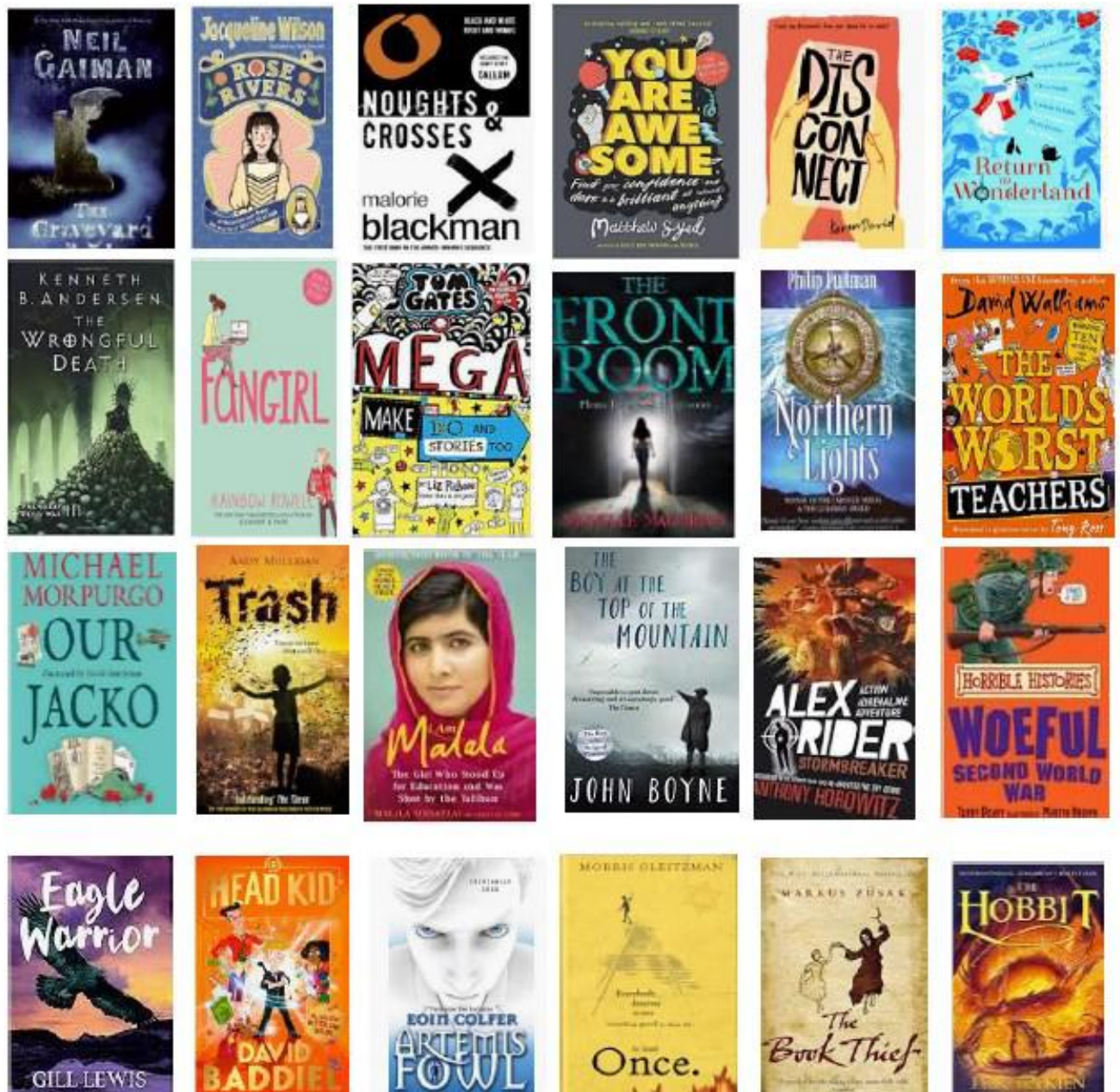


Summer Reading Challenge



Choose any 5 books from the bookshelf

below. Write your answers to the questions below, related to the books you have read. Submit these to Mrs Gough (E3) or your English teacher in September for a chance to win a £25 voucher. Happy reading!!



Summer Reading Challenge

Neil Gaiman – *The Graveyard Book* From the opening lines, Gaiman hooks his readers with a distinct narrative voice and vivid setting. Explain how both of these elements help the reader to enjoy the book.

Jacqueline Wilson – *Rose Rivers* Describe in detail the relationship between Rose and Clover. What does Rose learn from Clover about the world outside?

Malorie Blackman - *Noughts and Crosses* What awful things happen to Callum's family and why do you think this is? Do you see *Noughts and Crosses* as a book about racism or a love story most?

Matthew Syed - *You are Awesome* What do you think led the author to write it?

Patrick Ness – *The Knife of Never Letting Go* What exactly is Todd on a journey for? What drives him forward?

Keren Davies - *The Disconnect* Describe Avi in as much detail as you can. Focus particularly on his relationship with mum.

Various Authors - *Return to Wonderland* What happens in Wonderland without Alice there?

Kenneth B Andersen - *The Wrongful Death* Describe the relationship between Lucifer and Jehovah. What is the cliff-hanger at the end of the novel?

Rainbow Powell – *Fangirl* Why is it so hard for Cath to write about herself?

Liz Pychon -Tom Gates *Mega-Make Do and Stories Too* How does Tom keep himself busy over half term?

Michelle Magorian -*The Front Room* How does the writer build up tension in at least two episodes in this novel?

Philip Pullman – *The Northern Lights* Which aspects of Lyra's character did you warm to, and which didn't you like? Why?

David Walliams - *The World's Worst Teachers* Which parts of this book do you find the most funny, and why?

Michael Morpurgo - *Our Jacko* Write a comparison between this book and another by the same author.

Andy Mulligan - *Trash* Do you agree with the boys at the mission school: that education is not useful in their situation?

Malala Yousafzai - *I am Malala* After Malala is shot, her family relocates to England. What problems or complications do Malala and her family encounter while living abroad?

John Boyne - *The Boy at the Top of a Mountain* Write a letter to the author, asking him what influenced him to write the book. You might wish to also write about the impact that the novel has had on you.

Anthony Horowitz - *Alex Rider (or any book from the series)* Design a fact file of the protagonist (Alex Rider).

Terry Deary - *Woeful Second World War* List the ten most compelling facts you have learned.

Gill Lewis - *Eagle Warrior* How do Bobbie and her gran save the eagle?

David Baddiel - *Head Kid* List 5 facts about the main character

Eoin Colfer - *Artemis Fowl* Describe the magic that is used in the book. How does magic affect the outcome?

Morris Gleitzman - *Once (or any in the Felix series)* Knowing Felix as you do by the end of the novel, make a prediction of how you think his story might continue to unfold or end.

Marcus Zusak - *The Book Thief* With which character do you have the most sympathy?

J.R.R Tolkien - *The Hobbit* What is the most challenging part in Bilbo Baggins' quest?

Clothes Swap

Following on from units of work on Resource Management & Climate Change, Year 10 Geography students set up a clothes swap. Understanding the amount of water used to make garments and the impact that the industry has on the environment, the students have thought about their consumption.

Another clothes swap will follow in the Autumn term.

Mrs Mitchell
Head of Geography



Where can Geography take you?

General entry criteria KS2, KS3 and KS4 students will produce an A3 poster. KS5 students will produce a 1,500 word essay or an Esri Story Map (containing no more than 1,500 words). All entries must clearly illustrate where geography can take you.

For further details follow the link below:

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/young-geographer-of-the-year/>

Young Geographer of the Year

The Ryman National Enterprise Challenge

Four of our Year 9 students spent Wednesday 10th July at Wembley Stadium, having qualified for The Ryman National Enterprise Challenge Grand Final.

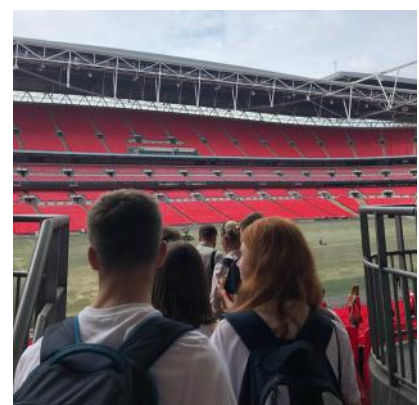
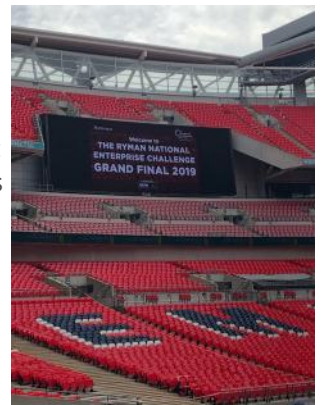
Holly, George, Holly and Oliver were tasked with creating a new event to encourage young girls to get involved in football from a young age. They created a campaign called 'Football for All' and it was this that secured them the position in the final, due to them being amongst the top performers in previous heats.

This project started for the group before Christmas and in true Upton spirit, they have shown real commitment and dedication at every stage of this competition as they have had to spend a lot of their own time working on their campaign.

On the final day there were some butterflies, due to the grand setting of Wembley and the daunting prospect of pitching to four successful entrepreneurs but all four students more than rose to the occasion and did themselves and our school proud.

The team may not have finished the day in pole position but have certainly come away with a once in a lifetime opportunity and a new set of skills and experiences that will prove invaluable as they go forward.

Mr Quirk and Ms Tobias



Fallen for the Fallen

Last year our staff and pupils contributed to this local project commemorating the end of World War I. Miss French and the Art Department created some amazing poppies for the World War 1 centenary trail in Upton and the Countess Park and our pupils contributed to a stunning mural which was exhibited in Chester Cathedral.

Andy Scargill, Chair of the Friends of the Countess of Chester Country Park, has informed us that the project Fallen for the Fallen has won the Best Project Award at the recent Land Trust Awards. He is also negotiating with the Council to move the Fallen for the Fallen mural into an empty unit in the Forum Shopping Centre near the market. With the renewed success of the market, this will make it an excellent site.

In other good news, there is now a poetry corner in a small copse of ash trees in the Countess Park.



Geography Fieldtrip to the Nant Ffrancon Valley

In June Year 12 Students visited the Nant Ffrancon valley in Snowdonia to explore this amazing relict glacial landscape. Students walked from Ogwen Cottage to the spectacular Cwm Idwal, taking in views of the Idwal slabs and moraines. In the afternoon the students collected data from the banks of the River Ogwen to establish whether the deposits were glacial or fluvioglacial in origin.



Visit to Morrisons' regional distribution centre in Gadbrook, Northwich

Following a talk from the Morrisons organisation in April, we were invited to visit their regional distribution centre in Northwich. Morrisons is the fourth largest chain of supermarkets in the UK and this regional distribution centre serves North West England and North & Central Wales.

We had the opportunity to see the various departments on the site and interact with staff. We were introduced to the term 'ambient' i.e. produce we all have in our cupboards at home which does not require storing in a fridge i.e. tinned beans and crisps. In the ambient department we saw the Lorries bringing in the goods from the manufacturers and then how the staff move required goods to the various dispatch bays before they go out to the supermarket. The goods are stored on high racking and we watched how the fork lift trucks loaded and unloaded the goods.

We headed over to the fresh department, where all refrigerated items are stored, here the temperature is kept at 3 degrees by massive ammonium cooled fans. We saw how they dispatched all the chilled goods including meat & dairy within a short time frame. We visited the lorry maintenance bay where they service and repair the lorries and trailers. We learned that Morrison's lease many of their Lorries and how the servicing of lorries and the trailers is a specialist role.

Before leaving site we reviewed the number of people involved in the process of distribution and were amazed that the tin of beans from the manufacturer will have been involved in some 10 checks/procedures before it appears on the supermarket shelf for us to purchase!

Louis
Year 9



Dates for your diary

Wednesday 4th September 2019 — First day of term

Friday 25th October — Inset Day (school closed to pupils)

Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November — Half-term break

Monday 4th November — First day of term

Friday 20th December — Last day of term

Monday 23rd December to Friday 3rd January — Christmas break

Monday 6th January — First day of term

Please check our website for our latest news and any changes to the school calendar.

<http://www.uptonhigh.co.uk>

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