



Upton Voice

Upton-by-Chester High School Newsletter

May 2015

National Badminton Champions - 3 years in a row!

Our Under 16 girls badminton team has competed for the fifth year in succession at the finals of the Badminton England/Center Parcs National Schools Badminton Championships and last weekend, for the third year running, they were crowned National Schools Champions!

This is an amazing achievement for the girls, who played with such maturity, mental strength and competitive spirit throughout the finals, not only this year but for the previous four years of competing. They are a credit to the school, to themselves and their parents, who have also shown their support and commitment throughout.

Beth Newis, Alex Goodwin, Laura Williams and Rachel Barrett deserve huge congratulations and should be highly commended for their dedication and reserve, particularly throughout such a tough exam year. The PE Department would like to thank the girls and wish them all the luck for their upcoming exams and of course for their futures in the world of sport!

Mrs Lynch



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Mrs P. Dixon — Headteacher

Goodbye and Good Luck!

This half term we have said our goodbyes to Year 13 who are now completing their final exams, after all of their hard work and commitment spanning 14 years of education; what an achievement! I really enjoyed joining them at their Prom and seeing them all in their finery, a lovely occasion.

We are also saying goodbye to Year 11 who have reached the end of Key Stage 4 and I look forward to welcoming many of them back in September when they join our Sixth Form. They too have been studying hard and also attending the many extra Exam Briefings provided by their teachers.

Year 12 are currently on study leave but will be back in June to start their A2 studies; they can't escape yet!

I would like to wish all of our Year 11, 12 and 13 students the very best of luck with their exams and I look forward to seeing them all on their results days in August.

May I also say thank you to the many parents and carers who completed the OfSTED Parentview questionnaire for our recent inspection. The results show that parents/carers have an overwhelmingly positive view of our school, based on over 200 responses, about which the Ofsted inspectors were highly complimentary. I look forward to sharing their report with you next half term.

With best wishes for a safe and happy half term holiday,

P. Dixon

Volunteers at Chester Half Marathon

On 17th May some of our Year 10 students, along with Miss Clarkson, Mr Winskill and myself, gave up their Sunday morning to volunteer at the Chester Half Marathon.

Students sorted over 2000 bags left by runners so that they could ensure the swift return of the belongings to tired runners at the end!

They did a sterling job and we are very proud of our students excellent citizenship. Thank you for making us proud.

The company sponsoring the event will also donate some funds to the school which will be put into our Oxfam Youth Group fund so that we can use it to help less privileged people, spreading the love even further.

Mrs Smale
Head of RS



Pictured left to right: Miss Clarkson; Harrison Hibbert; Michael Johnson; Tim Hudson; Will Davies; Mrs Smale; Lizzie Osborne; Rhianna Salmon; Bethan Ankers; Holly Chambers; Esther Johnson; Jess Paget; Mr Winskill

The Theory of Flight at Airbus

On Tuesday 12th May ten Year 9 students visited Airbus, Broughton to gain an insight into the 'Theory of Flight.' Chester Zoo were also present at the day and they gave a presentation about natural flight, how birds/animals have adapted to their environment and the development of flight in the animal kingdom.



Students were then given a guided tour around the East factory by a group of graduate students employed by Airbus. Once students had gained knowledge about the 'Theory of Flight' they were given the task of designing and creating their own glider which they used to compete against another local high school.

The experience the students gained was highly rewarding as they were given the opportunity to develop and demonstrate their skills in team working, communication, project management as well as developing aerospace specific knowledge.

Miss Stanley
Head of Year 9 (Acting)



Ski trip to Pila 2016

In February half-term 2016, there will be another trip to Pila, Italy.

Letters are available from Mrs Mitchell in CES or can be found on the school website under Parents - Letters to Parents.

The deadline to pay deposits has been extended until Tuesday 2nd June 2015. Beginners and accomplished skiers all welcome.



Democracy Competition Winners - meet our future MPs???

Mrs Dixon recently gave assemblies to each year group on the subject of democracy and about both the General and Local elections. Students were then invited to enter a competition to give their opinions on the General Election explaining who they would vote for and why, and to write persuasively enough to get others on their side.



Mrs Dixon commented, 'It was a really difficult decision as there was such a high quality of entrants, but of the several hundred submissions, the winners are Becky McGrath 7X5Yu; Katie James 9X1Me and Jonathan Hughes 10X2Me. The runners up are Jack Langham, Joe Stockley and Jess Pace from 7X5Yu. I was delighted to receive so many entries which clearly shows that democracy and the right to express your opinion is alive and well amongst the students at Upton High!'

The winners were invited to join Mrs Dixon for refreshments at breaktime and they will receive Headteacher Commendations.

Excellent feedback following a visit from the SSAT (Schools' Network)

We were recently visited by the Director & CEO of the SSAT (The Schools' Network) and their Programme Coordinator for Subjects & Teaching and Learning. We are applying to become a TEEP Ambassador School which will provide us with a quality mark of innovation and improvement in teaching and learning.

TEEP stands for Teacher Effectiveness Enhancement Programme and further information on TEEP at Upton can be found here:

<http://tinyurl.com/uptonteeep>

The visit involved observing lessons, asking pupils what they were learning, how they were learning and why it was important. There was then an opportunity to meet with both staff and pupils in a more informal setting.

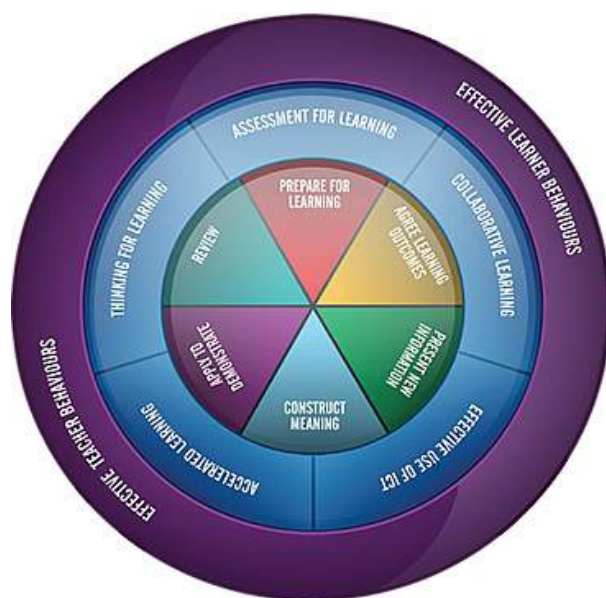
We were delighted to receive the wonderful feedback below from the visit and see how highly regarded our school is on a national scale.

".....it was abundantly clear that you are doing so much with TEEP and that your student programmes are having a significant impact on the whole school and extended community. I have requested that SSAT teams contact you regarding Student Leadership and potentially a case study, which could lead to an opportunity to showcase at a national event."

"I was hugely impressed by the TEEP practice I saw in the brief observations, both in classroom climate and in the obvious planning to nurture the effective learning behaviours in your students."

"Thanks again, it was an absolute pleasure to immerse ourselves, however briefly, in your wonderful school."

Mr Keegan
Second Deputy Head



Football Tour to Madrid

On 24th April over 50 students embarked on a fantastic football tour to Madrid. In an action packed, fun-filled first day we looked around the National Football Museum and took part in a training session with Rayo Vallecano, before watching their Under 14 Team take on Real Madrid Under 14s. We then headed off to visit the spectacular Bernabeu stadium, home of Real Madrid. During the evening we took in a La Liga match in the more humble surroundings of the Coliseum Alfonso Perez, home of Getafe. The home side went down 1-0 to Levante, with our Chester FC supporters in the group making themselves heard in the crowd.



Day 2 was game day! We visited a local club to play some matches against Spanish opposition. It was perfect British conditions with torrential rain which our students saw as an advantage to us. The B team picked up a fantastic 3-2 win and the girls a 4-0 win, with the A team securing a hard fought 2-2 draw. The Spanish coaches were quick to complement all our students on their hard work and teamwork during the games and noted that we didn't give their players any time on the ball. Afterwards we went back to the hotel to dry off before we headed out again for an afternoon of bowling.

The morning of the final day threw up an unexpected surprise when we bumped into Spanish National Team Manager Vicente Del Bosque in the lobby of our hotel, who was happy to pose for pictures with our students. We then went to have a training session at the fantastic facilities of Atletico Madrid, before heading off to the shops and then our flight home.

A big thank you to all the staff who facilitated this trip, with a special mention to Mr Medland for all his hard work. Well done to the students for making the trip such a memorable one.

Mr Owen



Hall Competition to design signage for the Mathematics Department

Thank you to all students who took part. The Mathematics Department have been bowled over by the great designs and the very positive attitudes displayed.

Congratulations to all the students who made valid entries, each receives 5 points for their Hall.

Maathai $2 \times 5 = 10$
 Mendes $9 \times 5 = 45$
 Suu Kyi $44 \times 5 = 220$
 Wood $4 \times 5 = 20$
 Yunus $81 \times 5 = 405$

The top ten were as follows:

10th place, 10 points: Zoe Deegan (Yunus)
 9th place, 20 points: Laura Richards (Yunus)
 8th place, 30 points: Lucy Hickson (Yunus)
 7th place, 40 points: Amelia Eaton (Yunus)
 6th place, 50 points: Sam Gorniak (Wood)
 5th place, 60 points: Liam Lowe (Maathai)
 4th place, 70 points: Anya Brattley (Mendes)
 3rd place, 80 points: Millie Thompson (Suu Kyi)

After long discussions in the Mathematics Department it has been decided to award two first prizes, 100 points each:

Bethany Astle (Yunus)
 Nathan McKew (Suu Kyi)

Both designs will be used on classroom doors. The top ten designs, plus other bright and interesting designs will be used in a display within the Mathematics Department area.

The Hall points totals are as follows:

Maathai $10 + 60 = 70$
 Mendes $45 + 70 = 115$
 Suu Kyi $220 + 180 = 400$
 Wood $20 + 50 = 70$
 Yunus $405 + 200 = 605$

Congratulations to Bethany, Nathan and to Yunus Hall. The main reason Yunus won through was that they participated more than any other Hall.

Mr Biard
Head of Mathematics



Zoe Deegan, Amelia Eaton, Lucy Hickson



Sam Gorniak



Nathan McKew



Bethany Astle



Liam Lowe, Laura Richards, Millie Thompson, Anya Brattley



Attendance Stars

Here are details of our recent Star Forms in terms of attendance. Well done to all!

Research suggests that the greater the attendance, the greater the achievement. Too many days off school will affect GCSE grades and future job prospects. Attendance should always remain above 95% to allow pupils to achieve their full potential.

Follow this link (<http://tinyurl.com/uptonattendance>) to our Attendance page for details of our Attendance Policy and helpful national advice on raising and maintaining children's attendance.

Star Forms for April:

7x5yu Mrs Mitchell 97.6%



8y2yu Mrs Scutter 99.0%



9y1yu Mrs Rogers 97.5%



10y3ma Mr Eunson 97.2%



11x3me Ms Kam 98.3%



Other Star Forms to date in May:

7y5yu	Dr Rees	98.6%
7y1ma	Mrs Johns	97.5%
8x4yu	Mr Tock	99.8%
8x3wo	Miss Bennett	98.8%
9x3su	Miss A. Thompson	98.8%
9y1yu	Mrs Rogers	97.5%
9y2wo	Mrs Sievers	99.0%
10y4me	Miss McKeivitt	99.5%
10y1wo	Mr Bell	99.6%
10y3ma	Mr Eunson	99.6%
11X3ME	Ms Kam	100%

The ESAA Athletics Competition in Warrington

This competition against other schools from Cheshire was new for us this year and was learning experience for all involved, it requires teams to earn points for their performance times and distances. It was a true team effort as all pupils had to compete in two events, meaning athletes were likely to compete in an event that was not their major strength. The attitude and commitment from every pupil was outstanding, with everyone giving every event their best shot.

Outstanding performances included Michael Ozoemelum in 100m, Charlie Queenan in Discus and our shot putter Mac Johnston storming the 300ms!

Well done to all involved, top effort.

Mr Medland
Head of PE Department



Matthew Webb (Javelin)



Charlie Queenan (Discus)

Football

Chester SFA U14s attended the Cheshire Alcock Cup Finals at Middlewich Town FC and beat a spirited Knowsley team 7-0. The Chester team featured two of our Year 9 boys, Ben Kelly and James Lally. Congratulations to them both.



Dates for your diary in 2015

17th June — Sports Day

25th June — Open Evening

9th July — Year 10 Parents Evening

14th July — Awards Evening

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

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

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