



Parent E-Bulletin – Spring Term Week Commencing 13th February 2023

Please find below quite a packed newsletter for this week. Due to the amount of information, I am saving my news until next week and will update you on the things that have been going on in the school.

Mr Cummins
Headteacher

Increasing concern regarding vaping

Dear Parents/Carers

As you have probably read in national headlines, we are aware of an increase in learners choosing to use vape devices, including in our local area. This is something that, as a school, we are deeply concerned about, from both the perspective of potential immediate dangers and side effects, as well as the unknown long-term health risks.

We would like to draw your attention to the following website, designed to support young people (and their parents) if they have started to use a vape device regularly.

<https://teen.smokefree.gov/quit-vaping>

It is illegal for stores to sell vaping products to under 18s and illegal for under 18s to use vapes. Worryingly, we have become aware of shops in Chester that are selling disposable vape devices to underage children. Of even greater concern is that some products they are selling are often illegal or counterfeit devices. It may be helpful to read the BBC article linked below to familiarise yourself with the characteristics of legal and illegal equipment.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-64319417>

If you could report any illegal devices, or shops selling to underage children, to Trading Standards then we would appreciate this. (Link below)

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/business/trading-standards>

Upton-by-Chester High School continues to take a clear stance that these devices must not be brought on to, or used, on site. Learners who are found to be vaping, or in the immediate presence of learners who are vaping will be sanctioned accordingly. Toilets are typically places where learners may attempt to vape and staff monitor these areas closely, so that they remain safe spaces for all learners to use.

If you have any concerns or questions related to this matter, then please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor, in the first instance.

We appreciate your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K McCarthy

Deputy Headteacher

Send My Friend

Two of our Year 10 learners have been selected to be Send My Friend to School Campaign Champions. They had to apply and go to an interview and have been selected with only 10 other schools from across the whole of the UK, so only 20 young people! Their role is to help others across the world receive a quality education. They will be at the forefront of this year's global campaign, Education in Emergency, and will use what they learn during various training sessions and events to take the campaign message to the heart of government. They will visit parliament, sharing knowledge and strategies for change with influential MPs.

We are excited to see the learners' campaign to make positive change to education across the globe, integral to our school motto, learning to shape the future. Watch this space for updates.

For further information go to sendmyfriend.org.

Mrs K Smale
Head of RS

Tesco Gift Cards (FSM)

We are pleased to confirm that £20 Tesco gift cards will be issued to parents / carers of every learner on roll who is in receipt of FSMs. This is in lieu of free school meals for your child(ren) for the February 2023 Half-Term holidays, and is financed through CW&C's Household Support Fund. All gift cards will be accessible from an email sent to be sent to you at noon on Tuesday 14th February 2023 from tescogiftcards@cashstar.com. If you have not received the email from Tesco by Thursday 16th February please email finance@uptonhigh.co.uk and we will investigate and resolve the matter for you.

Stay Safe @ Upton February 2023 Focus: Sexual abuse and harassment

Please use the link below to view our latest Stay Safe @ Upton bulletin which is focusing on sexual abuse and harassment:

[Stay safe bulletin February 2023 Sexual abuse and harassment](#)

Year 11 Leavers Hoodies

A quick reminder that the online shop for this year's Year 11 leavers hoodies is now open and can be accessed by clicking the link below if you wish to order one. The shop is due to close at 11pm on Monday 20th February:

<https://www.leavershoodies.com/uptonbychester-high-school-2023-leavers>

HPV Clinic

If there are any learners who missed their HPV vaccination in school there will be an HPV clinic during half term on Thursday 23rd February 2023 9.30am until 12.30pm at the Children's Centre in Blacon. Please call to book (walk in appointments will not be available) on 01244 397470.

Sixth Form Applications

The application deadline for our 'Outstanding' Sixth Form is fast approaching. We have already had a high number of applications from our own Year 11 learners and Year 11 learners from other schools. To apply for our Sixth Form please complete our Google form that can be found here: <https://forms.gle/RR87qy1tTYWbjKU57> or on the Sixth Form part of our website where you can also find more information about the courses we offer. The link for the Sixth Form part of the website can be found here: <https://www.uptonhigh.co.uk/page/?title=Sixth+Form&pid=119>

If you need any assistance with completing the online form, or you want further information regarding course suitability then please get in touch with myself at lewisp@uptonhigh.co.uk
We look forward to receiving your applications before February 17th and working with you closely over the coming years.

Mr Lewis
Director of KS5

Careers and Next Steps

Click on the link below to see the latest information

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ab57VM41x7_yzr0Q19PUj0r4KoWn--X2iSfZR7Kl_yc/edit?usp=sharing

Information from External Partners

Andrew Millar - Guitar Lessons

Please use the link below to find out more about Andrew Millar Guitar lessons which are available at Upton-by-Chester High School – the link includes a contact form if you wish to enquire about lessons for your child.

<https://amguitarlessons.mymusicstaff.com/Register-interest-in-lessons-and-student-form>

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

Next week, some of our learners are performing at Theatr Clwyd in Tip Tops production of Joseph.

Tickets are available here:

<https://www.theatrlwyd.com/event/joseph-and-the-amazing-technicolour-dreamcoat#dates-and-times>



“TEEN CHAT”

Thursday 16 February

6pm to 8pm

Upton Pavilion, Wealstone Lane



Shout out to the young people of Upton.

The Parish Council has access to funds to provide ‘teen’ equipment at the QE II Playing Field, Wealstone Lane.

Following on from previous chats, please call in to tell the council what type of equipment you would like

Pancakes and soft drinks supplied to help the ideas flow.....



All enquiries, please contact the Clerk at:

clerk@uptonbychester.org.uk

Upton-by-Chester and District Parish Council

A colorful poster for the Junior Bake Off competition. It features a blue sky with a sun, clouds, and a white tent on a green field. The text is in various colors and fonts. At the top, it says "JUNIOR BAKE OFF" in large red letters. Below that, it says "...IS LOOKING FOR THE UK'S BEST YOUNG BAKERS AGED 9 - 12" in green. At the bottom, it says "WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK" in blue, "APPLICATIONS CLOSE SUNDAY 12th MARCH 2023" in red, and "Enquiries: applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk" in green.

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

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KLA/LCU