



Parent E-Bulletin – Spring Half-Term Bulletin

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/ carers,

As we come to the end of this half term I would like to thank you all for your continued support as we work together as a school community.

There have been so many amazing events that have taken place this half term as a result of the hard work and dedication of our staff and learners. These include our fantastic production of Little Shop of Horrors, our event to recognise Holocaust Memorial Day and our very successful Charity Week in aid of the British Liver Trust where with your help we were able to raise over £3800.

I hope you have a restful and enjoyable half term break and we look forward to welcoming learners back for another successful half term.

I have included some key dates for the next half term below along with reminder of how to contact school should you have any queries.

Yours faithfully,

L Cummins

Headteacher

Key Spring Term Dates

Please find below the key dates for the second half of the Spring Term. Further information will follow for each of these events. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact school via the admin@uptonhigh.co.uk email address.

Date	Event
Monday 27 th February	Learners return to school normal time 8.40am
Tuesday 28 th February	Proposed Strike Day (National Education Union)
Thursday 9 th March	Provisional date for rearranged Year 7 Parents evening
Thursday 16 th March	Proposed Strike Day (National Education Union)
Thursday 16 th March	Year 7 Parents evening (may change due to strikes)
Thursday 30 th March	Year 10 Parents evening
Friday 31 st March	School closes for Easter Break normal time 3.10pm

Contacting the School

Home school communication is important to us at Upton-by-Chester High School. For most communication, you would contact the form tutor in the first instance.

In each year group we have a team of staff made up of a Head of Year and a Pastoral Support Manager. They can be contacted via email or through the schools. Their details are show below

Year Group	Head of Year	Pastoral Support Manager	Email Contact
7	Mr S Togher	Mrs S Maxwell	Year7@uptonhigh.co.uk
8	Mr S Wearden	Miss J Hewitt	Year8@uptonhigh.co.uk

9	Miss R Simpson	Miss C Carter	Year9@uptonhigh.co.uk
10	Mr M Jones	Mrs D Bowen	Year10@uptonhigh.co.uk
11	Mrs J Dey	Mrs A Wynne	Year11@uptonhigh.co.uk
12	Mr P Lewis	Mrs T Stickels	Year12@uptonhigh.co.uk
13	Mr P Lewis	Mrs T Stickels	Year13@uptonhigh.co.uk

Maximising Success Workshops

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may be aware, we held workshops in the school hall for Years 7, 8,9,10 and 12 on Thursday and Friday last week. The workshops' aims were to develop an understanding amongst our learners of how lessons are planned and taught by our teachers and the benefits of this to their learning and subsequent progress. The sessions were hosted by myself and our Head of Psychology Miss Banton. We also linked in some work with learners around metacognition and the importance of not only reflecting on *what* has been learned in a lesson but *how* it has been learned.

Put simply, metacognition is 'learning how to learn'. We introduced some basics of how working memory, attention, and retrieval practice all contribute to developing a strong long term memory. Hence improving recall and retention of knowledge, resulting in greater success.

Evidence based research tells us that learners who use metacognitive strategies can improve their progress significantly. I would like to share with you our Maximising Success Teaching and Learning Model and the key behaviours and activities that learners would be likely to be doing in each phase of learning in order to make effective progress.

The Maximising Success Model



The Phases of Learning within a lesson and key effective learner behaviours

<p>PREPARE</p>	<p><u>Great Learners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will arrive at the lesson calmly and line up outside of the classroom. • Will enter the classroom, stand behind their chair, get out all of their equipment and planner. • Will wait to be seated by their teacher. • Will be prepared for learning e.g. have all resources, homework, equipment. • Will leave the classroom tidy. • Will exit in a calm and orderly manner.
<p>PRIOR KNOWLEDGE RETRIEVAL PRACTICE</p>	<p><u>Great Learners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will retrieve prior knowledge independently • Will think about what they know already • Will think about what they have learned during the lesson • Will think about what they don't yet know and ask questions to establish understanding
<p>PURPOSE</p>	<p><u>Great Learners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will challenge themselves to achieve the learning purpose by the end of the lesson. • Will think about what they know already in relation to the purpose of the lesson. • Will understand the purpose of the lesson and how the learning will benefit them
<p>PRESENT</p>	<p><u>Great Learners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will listen carefully to the new information and follow instructions. • Will ask questions when they require further explanation. • Will think about how this builds on what they know already
<p>PRACTISE</p>	<p><u>Great Learners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will participate in tasks to show that they can use this new information. • Will support, teach and learn from working with their peers. • Will ask questions when they need further clarification. • Will understand that it is ok to make mistakes
<p>PROVE</p>	<p><u>Great Learners</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will complete the tasks set, to demonstrate their learning • Will apply the new information to unfamiliar contexts • Will have a go and challenge themselves to use the new information • Will identify their successes and areas where they need further development

PROGRESS

Great Learners

- Will reflect on the purpose of the lesson
- Will use metacognition to think about what they have learned in the lesson compared to what they knew at the start and how they acquired this new knowledge.
- Will identify aspects of their learning that may require further development.
- Will feel proud of their achievements in the lesson

It would be really helpful if you could discuss this learning model with your child so you can get a sense of what they have taken from the workshop last week.

If you have any comments or would like to discuss this please contact me.

Mrs Bradbury

Director of Teaching and Learning

bradburye@uptonhigh.co.uk

Sixth Form Charity Week – thank you!

We can now announce that we raised a total of around **£3800** for our chosen charity the British Liver Trust.

This is a much deserving charity that provides lifesaving research and support for those affected by liver related illnesses and we are proud to be able to donate to them.

Thank you to all learners and families who contributed to charity week this year by donating their time and money.

The Sixth Form Learner Leadership Team

Year 11 Leavers Hoodies

The deadline for ordering year 11 leavers hoodies has been extended. If you still wish to order, the shop will now remain open until 11pm on Friday 03/03/2023 and can be accessed via the link below:

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

Thank you

Year 11 team

Careers and Next Steps

Click on the link below to see the latest information

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ab57VM41x7_yzr0Q19PUj0r4KoWn--X2iSfZR7KI_yc/edit?usp=sharing