Termly newsletter from Upton-by-Chester High School **MARCH 2023 ENGAGE @ UPTON** INSIGHT INTO A FEW OF OUR **CAREERS EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS** FOOD **INCLUSION OF** BANK. LITTLE **OUR NEW UPTON** MAKE SHOP OF **ALUMNI SECTION** YOUR OTH FEBRUAR **HORRORS** MARK. FAIR WITH EXCLUSIVE **ACHIEVER** AFTER-SHOW AWARD. CHARITY WEEK INTERVIEWS! WORLD RAISING £3,800 FOR BOOK 'BRITISH LIVER YEAR 12 DAY AND TRUST' MUCH MORE. WORK EXPERIENCE CREATIVE ARTS DUKE OF GALLERY EDINBURGH **BRONZE & GOLD LEARNERS** A PREPARATION SHOWCASE CREATIVITY IN OUR SPORTING NEW ARTSECTION ACHIEVEMENTS SPOTLIGHT ON OUR UIS'S **NETBALL SUCCESS** MADE BY LEARNERS. FOR LEARNERS.

#### **ENGAGE @ UPTON**

 $pg.\ 3$  - 12 This term, our roving reporters have been to eight different clubs across the school to see what they have been up to! Massive thanks to all the staff who run these opportunities for our learners to develop their knowledge and stay connected.

#### TRIPS & VISITS

pg. 13 -20 The Languages Department has visited the University of Chester & 'HOME' in Manchester for educational and cultural events. There's been a lot of DofE training for our Bronze & Gold participants, wishing them the best for their summer expeditions!

#### **CAREERS**

pg. 25 - 30 All Year 12 learners undertook a week's worth of work experience from 13th - 17th Feb; we have a couple of our Year 12 learners to show you their interesting placements. We have started a new feature for all of the careers opportunities offered, as well as profiling some inspirational alumni.

#### COMMUNITY

 $pg.\ 31$  - 44 In February, the Sixth Form Learner Leadership Team arranged a week of activities to raise money for The British Liver Trust, a charity voted by the school learners.

#### **CREATIVE ARTS GALLERY**

 $pg.\ 45$  - 50 We invite you to read our new section, dedicated to the different arts in our school and the creativity learners show.

#### **SPORT**

 $pg.\ 51\ -\ 54$  The PE Department ensure that all learners have access to a range of sports both as part of the curriculum, and through the local and national competitions. We congratulate everyone on their sporting successes for the Spring term!















### EDITOR'S NOTES

Welcome to the Spring edition of The Upton Voice!

It's been another busy term at Upton and with over 40 Engage clubs on offer we have visited a few more for you to sample. The Chess club has been really popular for the younger years as well as some keen 6th formers. The Science, Textiles, Farm Club, Footlights Dramatic Society and all of the other amazing opportunities showcase the massive range of extra curricular activites to try.

The Duke of Edinburgh expeditions are in full swing with the preparation and walking practise for Gold Award complete ready for their training session in May. The Bronze Award participants are over halfway through their expedition already with their preparation finished and their training expedition in the bag. We currently have about 250 participants at different stages of their Bronze & Gold Awards and we look forward to celebrating their success later in the year.

The Sixth Form Charity week was a huge success, raising over £3800 for the British Liver Trust. Our roving reporters have covered lots of the action and given some highlights of the week for you to enjoy.

The school performance was a triumph and a testament to all the hard work of the learners and the Performing Arts Team. If you missed out on this one there is a wonderful review and some photos of the performers.

We have sharpened up the look of The Upton Voice for this second edition and have included a few new regular features including a careers opportunities and alumni section to celebrate a range of acheivements for learners past and present. We also wanted to showcase some of the outstanding original work created by learners across a range of artistic disciplines from photography and textiles to music and media studies. We have highlighted some of this wonderful and inspiring work in our new creative arts gallery and hope to bring you some new pieces each term.

A massive thank you to all the staff who offer these opportunities and of course thank you to the learners of Upton for getting involved - without you there would be nothing to report on! Hope you enjoy reading this edition.

ms Seery & the Upton Voice Editorial Team march 2023

# Engage Chedd Childs

From learners in year 7 to those in year 13, Ms Cartmell's Chess Club in B6 engages a multitude of Chess maestros. For two whole terms, the reigning champion of Chess Club has been the Year 9 learner, Isabella. Sitting at the top of the league table, Isabella's unbeaten streak has lasted for months. We spoke to her, in order to 'Check' just how good she felt winning week after week. This is what she had to say:

66 It feels builliant to be the champion. I started out coming and playing until I had beaten everyone. I would love some new challengers to come next term 99

I just really enjoy playing chess. I used to play it with my grandad so its nice to come here with my friends.

Austin - Y9





66 I find Chess so enjoyable. It is so refreshing to be able to play a game that challenges me intellectually. I feel like I am improving with every game I play.

David - Y 13

Monday 3:15pm All ages B6

Words and design by Tom C Year 13



#### Engage

## FARM CLUB

Words by Emily and design by Evie (Y10)

Upton-by-Chester High School's farm club is the perfect example of an opportunity for learners to be involved in the care of animals. Within this club, learners gain the skills and abilities regarding animal care and welfare, as well as socialising with other learners who share their interests.

I'm here because I want to take Animal Care 9CSE. You get to learn how to take care of animals.





Currently, Upton-by-Chester High School is home to numerous animals, including Goats, Chickens, Rabbits, Guinea pigs, etc. These are the animals that the learners in farm club will care for. Moreover, this club provides an insight into what the Animal Care GCSE course is like. Currently, farm club welcomes the lower years of the school, this enables learners to meet new people who they might not have had the chance to meet before.







# Engage FIGURE DRAMATIC SOCIETY





community is the Footlights Dramatic Society. The club is run every Monday after school by Miss Porter, a drama teacher at Upton High. The club has many workshop activities such as improvisation, devising from a stimulus and many fun drama games. All of these exercises are chosen and loved by the attending learners.

I neally enjoy it because I want to be an actives and its fun! Doing the penformances helps me with my acting because there is a nange of skills and activities.

Lucy

I enjoy it because I like Miss porter and it helps me to like drama. It's really fun and I get to be with my friends.

Lillie-Jo

I really enjoy it because I get to be whoever I want to be it helps with my confidence when I can be with my friends and have fun.

Drama club is all about helping others to be more confident - especially if learners have just moved up to high school. It is also about making friends and becoming comfortable in your own skin and in such an open environment but most of all it's about having fun!

\_\_\_\_\_Lillie

Words and design by Libby M-J (Y10)

Monday
3:15pm
Miss Porter
Drama
Studio



## Engage

Every Friday-lunch time members of the LGBTQIA+ community meet up in M7 where they can openly be themselves, regardless of gender and sexuality. The pride club is a place where learners can express themselves freely. Bailey - a member of the club - says it is 'a safe place to be on Fridays' for those who want to meet more people in the community. It is a place where they can show they're proud of being gay even if they do not feel comfortable being out. The club has various 'fun activities' to educate the learners about the LGBTQ+ community. Last term the learners decided to share what they do, to raise awareness for the club and wrote us the poem 'Pride'.

66 Itis a safe place to be on fridays. **Bailey** 





This amazing group is our home Why don't you join us? You will feel less alone. It doesn't matter if you are straight, bi, trans or gay We'll always listen; everybody gets to have their say. Where everybody's thoughts and feelings are prized Why don't you join us? You might be surprised.

Being proud is what we do, Please don't worry, just be you. Our group is a safe place to be, Why don't you join us? Try it and you will see.

It doesn't matter who you are, Here, you will be treated like a

shining star.
Our group is kind, brilliant and respectful

Why don't you join us? Make your life a little less dull!

Friday 12.10-1.10

M7





Design by Stella, written by Carina & Ksenia

#### Engage

## SCIENCE CLUB

Words and design by Emily S (Y10)

Science club is the place to be if you are in year 7 and love experimenting! Every Tuesday after school until 4 o'clock, lots of year 7s get together and are tasked with exciting projects which have covered a wide range of topics from across the subject. It is a great place to learn new skills and to spend time experimenting, testing, designing and so much

experimenting, testing, designing and so much more!

66 We really enjoy science club - I loved making metals react with eachother and go boom!

66 I enjoy running science club with the other teachers because we get to do experiments we wouldn't usually do in class! The teachers have just as much fun as the learners!

The group's most recent project is an egg drop challenge! On the first week, they designed and made a parachute to test on a reinforced (with sellotape) chocolate egg to begin with. Then, on week two, they brought in some of their own materials, including bubble wrap and cereal boxes, to make a parachute and case for a real egg to be dropped from a two metre height. Then on week three they will make modifications to their models for an even higher drop from the top of E Block stairs!





#### Our recent projects:

- FISH HEAD DISSECTION
- LOOKING AT ONION AND CHEEK CELLS THROUGH THE MICROSCOPE
- LUNG DISSECTION
- VAN DE GRAAF GENERATOR
- MAKING MAGNETIC SLIME
- REACTIVITY OF METALS
- ACIDS AND ALKALI'S RAINBOWS
- BLUE COPPER SULFATE CRYSTALS
- MECHANICS- BUILDING CARS
- EGG DROP CHALLENGE



Frankie, Szymon, Adam and Ben - Y7's



Tuesdays
3:15PM
Miss
Bowen
Year 7 Only
Lab 4

STEM CLUB Tuesday MOON CAMP @SCHOOL 3:15 PM Ms Fullwood Every Tuesday, STEM Club is held for Year 7 learners who are T-Block interested in making discoveries! These curious learners are currently researching whether survival is possible on the moon through how to get food, water and fuel; partaking in the 'Moon Camp @ School' Competition. So far, they have grown cucumelon plants (cucumber-watermelon) in different environments, and before this, an example of a previous project has been creating a wheelchair for a disabled guinea pig in the school. I love making fun The club also has two additional members in stuff! It really helps with Year 10, Sophie & skills and experience. I've Gracie, who are taking been able to meet new Joe (Y7) people too! We've also been designing a lot of things too. Hamza (Y7) like making a lunar base part for their DofE volunteering, through Tinker Base on whilst they help out school computers organising projects and assisting the younger earners.

> Oliver, Joe, Hamza, Ed and George working hard at their plant research

#### Engage

### Textiles Clyb



Textiles club is run for Year 8 and Year 9 learners, and their current project has been making dresses for 'Dress A Girl Around The World'; a charity that supports girls in 3rd world countries to uphold the idea of "a world where every girl owned a dress". Learners in the club have successfully finished creating their own handmade simple, bright dresses with pockets - and have created a lovely atmosphere to bond over textiles. The club's aim is fun! They can explore textiles through both fashion and interiors!"

Joanne (Y9)

It helps a lot with my textile skills as I wasn't the best before coming here! I've made progress, and I'm glad to participate in this helpful charity

66 I've always been interested in textiles! It's taken a few weeks to make the dress and I'm excited about sending it off

people to join the club! It encourages the learners to possibly pick it for their GCSE

by Ash I (Y12)

Ms Sievers.

invites

textiles teacher in

charge of the club,

the

more

Olivia (Y9) subjects, and if not, have more experience









in textiles whilst having fun! T-Block Design and Written

## Spoken Word Poetry Competition Winners



How am I supposed to stand up and speak,
When the patriarchy
Has taken my confidence away from me?
Sorry not just me:
Millions of others have been deprived of their opportunities
Because of their race, gender and sexuality,
Body ability and ethnicity.

Eight thousand years we have lived in this patriarchy. Where one man decided his superiority. This is the start of our history: One man deciding his superiority. But I don't have time to tell this story: Its eight thousand years of Suppression and oppression, Of women, culture, diversity, ethnicity, Anything other than their normality. Thousands of men have conformed to this fantasy, About their superiority. After eight thousand years, Only now are they stumbling across This fragile reality of our equality. And you've lived on this world, And you know confidence is key, And this is what shatters this equality: Because where do we find confidence, In our patriarchal world, Where we are told by everything we see That we're weirdos, in-superior, worthless, ugly, Freaks of nature and society. We need to eradicate the mould of society, Of a straight, cis, non-disabled, rich, white man. So everybody fits comfortably and equally No-matter who we are. We need to fight for our opportunities

And success against the patriarchy.

Mr Whelan and Miss Blumenthal have been working with groups of budding writers to create amazing spoken word poetry about topics they are passionate about/issues that are important to them.

They received entries on bullying/kindness, eco concerns like global warming, anger, grief amongst others. Here are the winning pieces:

#### Message Joel - Yean 8



Every Night, I return to this same green, grassy hill,
Gazing at the stars above,
each one giving an uncanny wink to the night sky,
Illuminating it in the process

I return for the next few days,
looking for those same, illuminated stars,
and that same uncanny wink,
and yet they aren't there,
only they've shifted,
always never the same somehow,
and yet I still admire the same illumination to the sky

And yet I realise, they stare right back at me, but not in that admired expression, a mournful one replacing it, do they know something?

Are they aware of something?

I think nothing of it, but I know these unknown beings possibly see our planet; slowly malnourished and torn down, their only hope to send us a message and pray we see this and recognise..

Turtles choking
The world caving in
All trees falling
Since when was this a thing
Fossil fuels burning
Our lives at risk
I just want it to get better
But I doubt it will

Our world is dying
And all of you are so inactive
But maybe if we work together,
we can prevent this from happening
Hot water bottles rather than heating
Electric cars are better than gas gauzling
So, yes, there are solutions for this
Which should already be in action.

Recycling should take part in your daily habits
And possibly plant a tree while you're at it
Did you know such thing as a long lasting light
bulb exists?
Well maybe you should try it...

Turbines are starting to make an appearance
As reusable bags are coming into business
And we're finding out more ways to save the
environment
However this can't happen if you're lazy on
couches

#### Systainability Annabelle - year 8

Think of the world we could end up in, if you don't stop all of this damage
The world will start to rot away, during forest fires everyday
Animals will drop one after the other
And us humans will suffer, losing each other
Who knows what will happen
Will we see our futures?
Or end up in a world of imagination...

Imagine the stunning greenery if we planted that tree immediately
Imagine how happy the chirping birds would be gliding through the clean atmosphere
Imagine how much better our lives would be not having to worry about this mess!

So don't just stick a plaster over this disaster and expect everything to heal on its own
We need as many people as possible to

We need as many people as possible to achieve our great green goal!

#### I can see you Etty - year 8

I can see you standing there looking at me,
I can see you standing there your glowing eyes filled with pride,
I can see you waiting for me to walk through each open door overcoming each tide,
I can see you protecting me at every cost,
I can see you helping me when I am lost,
I can see you shooting me at every star,

Now I can't see you but I know your still there, I can't see you but I can feel your warm curly hair

GCSE
Spanish
Trip
on The





Design by
Daisy G
(Y12)



On Thursday 16th February, Mrs Stanisstreet and Miss Welch took 53 Year 11 learners to Chester University for the day. We enjoyed a tour of the university, many language learning activities organised by the Associate Teachers at Chester University and lots of opportunities to speak Spanish. The Year 11s were an absolute credit to us in their positive attitude towards all of the activities. We had a great day.

The trip helped me increase my Spanish vocabulary and I enjoyed the games that we played, my favourite was the snakes and ladders one.

James K



Olivia J
We really enjoyed our experience in Chester university. We feel we are more confident when speaking Spanish now.





The activities were very helpful. especially the speak about a question for 30 seconds & talk about the word on the board ones. I found it beneficial to be continually surrounded by people speaking & giving instructions in Spanish. It forced you to use your language skills almost constantly - It was tiring but good. Rose D - Y11



#### Samuel C - Y11

My experience was useful because I now have an idea of how university works and also learnt more Spanish at the same time which was very useful.





### A-Level Spanish **Trip**

On 8th November, Mrs Stanisstreet and her A Level Spanish group went to 'HOME' in Manchester for an interactive workshop with Manchester Metropolitan University based around the Argentinian film 'La Chica Nueva'.

The Spanish workshop was a great experience. We discussed the cinematic techniques used in the film with Dr Carmen Henrero. Head of Spanish. The sessions were enjoyable and informative and will definitely help me with my upcoming A - Levels

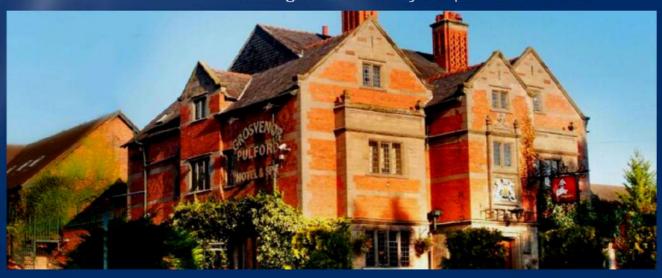
David S-Y13

## Trom Meus

The Year 11 Prom this year is on **Thursday 13th July at the Grosvenor Pulford**. There will be an Oscars theme with lots of black and gold.

There will also be Oscars given out on the night, and there will be an opportunity to vote for two different categories: the best arrival and the best dressed!

Words and design by Ksenia and Evie (Y10) Learners will have a passport to prom ticket that they will need to get signed by their teachers for all lessons which shows their attitude to learning and participation in lessons. They will need this signed before they can purchase a ticket.



Year 10 Prom Committee

Miss Bowen and the Year 10 prom commitee, lead by Libby have visited Chester Zoo as a potential venue. They are also viewing the Double Tree and the Grovesnor Pulford. Themes are being thrown around between the team as they continue coming up with ideas as well as looking at various food options, e.g whether to have a buffet style or a sit down meal, and activities for the night, like a photobooth and DJ.



Perhaps YII, YI2 & YI3

Recently, Sixth Form and Year 11 drama learners went to see the production of Faustus at Storyhouse, performed by The Fallen Angels theatre company. This fabulous twist on the Marlowe classic was enjoyed by everyone. Here are some comments from the learners who went...

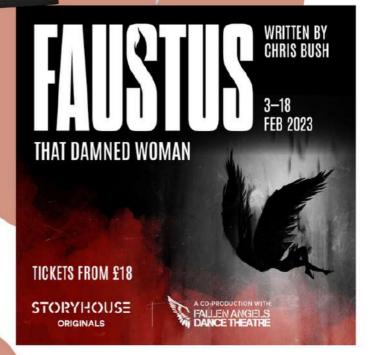
It was a great trip which allowed us to experience what we are studying in class in a professional and original setting.

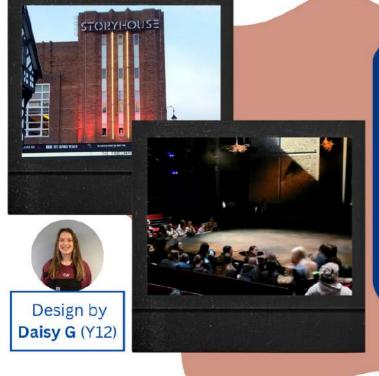
Holly G - Y13

STORYHOUSE

The themes of 99
antidisestablishmentanianism and the dystopian social commentary in this reintenpretation of Christopher Manlowe's faustus were executed brilliantly and I was exceptionally invested in both individual character performances and the piece as a whole.

66
Josiah D - Y13





I really enjoyed the production. The story explored what we must sacrifice to achieve greatness and how one woman sold her soul to the devil to change the course of human history. taking control of her own destiny. The show was very dark powerful and thought provoking. It was beneficial for me as now I have a better understanding of new ways to express character and emotions in theatre. such as by using the form of movement. It was great to see live theatre to such a high standard!

Lydia G - Y12

### **Bronze** Duke of Edin

On the 9th of January 2023, 101 year 10 learners attended a training day for their Bronze DofE qualification. The day consisted of many fun activities that will aid them in their excursion, which included map reading, putting up tents, learning to cook on a camping stove, how to pack your rucksack and how to stay safe when out in the woods. All this training accumulates for a two-day, one-night expedition that learners will complete in groups of 9 to 11 and will teach them life skills that they will benefit from like commitment and essential team building skills.

In preparation for their future expeditions, learners also must complete a 'diary' of sorts where they document what they are doing to complete this award. The three sections of this e-diary are:

A **skills** section - learners must complete at least 3 months of learning a new skill or continuing to do a skill they already do such as learning a language, cooking or crocheting.

A **physical** section - learners must complete at least 3 months of physical activity or a sport to maintain a healthy lifestyle and inspire learners to achieve greater physical fitness.

A **volunteering** section - learners must give up an hour of their time each week to dedicate to their community. This could be girl guiding, coaching or volunteering in a charity shop.





Gold Duke of Edin

To prepare for their expedition in the summer, the year twelve learners who are working towards their Gold DofE award had two days of training to learn more about what to expect on their final expedition in the summer. The first training day was based in school and covered lots of skills which included:

- Map reading Map symbols and compass skills.
- Bag Packing How to distribute weight well in a bag and what is needed in the kit list for an expedition.
- Tent Building Putting up and packing away a tent well in teams.
- First Aid Using bandages and an ouch pouch for small injuries; creating a plan of action for contacting emergency services.
- Using a stove Boiling hot water to make hot chocolate and pot noodles!

 Risk assessments - Identifying hazards, risks and controls for the day walk.

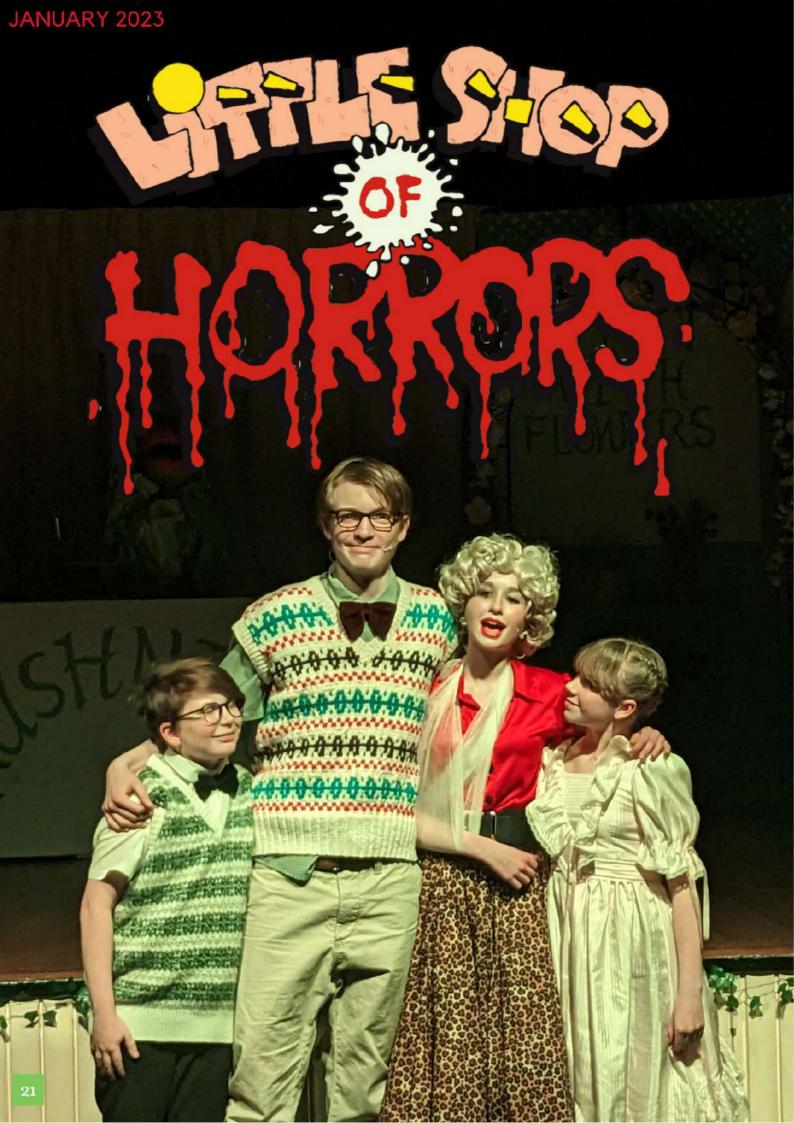




Words and Design by Daisy G (Y12) The sessions were given by a team of leaders from 'Get Out Of The Classroom' who have lots of great knowledge and experience they could share with our Gold Dofe learners. They were able to ask any questions they had and prepare well for their day walk up Moel Famau the next day.

The group sessions were held in the hub and the hub garden, and on the field for the tent making!





What happens when you raise a plant to gain more popularity for your "step-father's" plant shop in Skid Row, which would then proceed to eat said "step-father" and any other living being with flesh & blood? The plot of 'Little Shop of Horrors', of course!

Since October, the school's 'Little Shop of Horrors' cast and team have been rehearsing through endless hours to display their beautiful rendition of the play! The play was performed from 24th - 26th February, having a great turnout of audience, all being greatly amused by the comic, but also, tear-jerking performance.

As we had entered, tickets would be checked, and you would be able to buy your own edition of the play's programme/playbill for £2, featuring backstage the cast and crew, alongside the director and musical director's messages. Not only that, but there was an opportunity to buy your own 'Audrey II' Venus Fly Trap for £3. Very surely going against the infamous phrase of "Don't feed the plant!" within the play, hopefully your own plants at home not wanting to eat you alive and everyone around you, especially the love of your life you named the plant after!

With lead actors Tom C's Seymour and Lydia G's Audrey both conveying their beautiful voices with the duet song 'Suddenly, Seymour', grasping the audience's hearts with the character's confessions of love to each other, with the final blow to the displayed romance as an on-stage kiss! Applause erupts and the crowd cheers, all now thinking how they could find "the girl that's inside me" and their own version of Seymour.

Freya J's portrayal of the "semi-

sadist" dentist boyfriend, Dr. Orin Scrivello, who somehow mysteriously disappears for unknown nitrousoxide-gas, plant-eating reasons brings a humorous aspect towards the play; their song 'Dentist!' getting the whole audience to "Say ah!" with their Steve Martin-esque notes. Freya simultaneously voicing Audrey II allows us to see the vocal range they manage to have, ranging between a seductive, leather jacket-wearing dentist to a giant, talking, man-eating Venus Fly Trap.

Not forgetting to mention the lovable Mr. Mushnik, played by Charlie S, with the comedic song 'Mushnik and Son' where he chooses to adopt Seymour to keep the popularity of the plant shop alive. Is he really that lovable if he were to use Seymour to his own financial advantages? Oh well, Charlie S's grey wig makes up for all of it, a

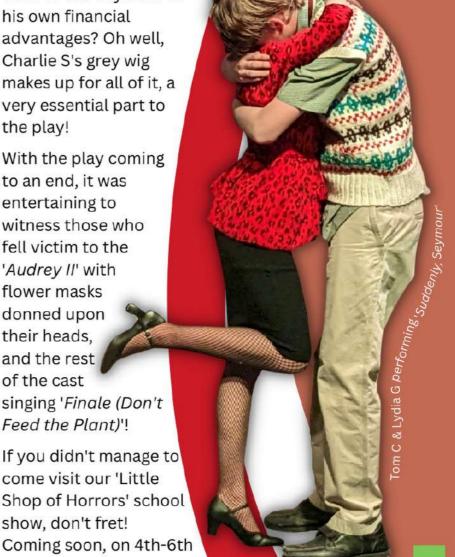
With the play coming to an end, it was entertaining to witness those who fell victim to the 'Audrey II' with flower masks donned upon their heads, and the rest of the cast singing 'Finale (Don't

the play!

If you didn't manage to come visit our 'Little Shop of Horrors' school show, don't fret!

Feed the Plant)"!

Coming soon, on 4th-6th July 2023, our

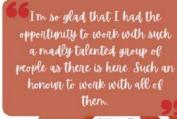


rendition of the musical 'Our Day Out', will be performed just for you!

We would like to congratulate all the 'Little Shop of Horrors' learners, both those on stage [Millie W, Eleanor M, Hattie P, Charlie H, Holly G, Libby M-J, Ashe H, Isabelle D, Dylan Q and Lucy H] and off stage [the backstage crew and the production crew] on their months of hard work!

Most importantly, a big well done to Mr Daltry and Ms Thompson!









Design, Written & Photography by Ash I (Y12) & Libby MJ (Y10)

This January, Upton-by-Chester High school was transformed into the dingy streets of urban Skid-Row, where a man-eating, sweet-talking fly-trap with a silky singing voice persuaded the unsuspecting jerks of Mushnik's Skid-Row florists to feed him what he wants most...blood! This deliciously dark, action filled thriller, infused with a sappy romance captivated audiences for three exclusive nights and left them longing for more! This talented cast started rehearsing in October of 2022 after a short audition process and after dedicating themselves towards this production including their weekends and school days, the wonderful little shop of horrors was born.



I will neven fonget this amazing show! Playing the role of Audrey has been very special and I have loved every second of it:)

Lydia - Audrey (y 12)

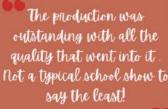
"Amasing cast. Amasing show, so glad I had this opportunity and I will nemember it for the nest of my life".

Tom - Seymour (yr



it was so splendid i've enjoyed eveny minute of it. evenyone wonking on it is so talented and all the teachens have put so much effort into making it great.

Millie -Chiffon (yr 10)



Charlie - Mushnik (yr 10)





### CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Hayden H (Y12)

It was amazing to learn about all the hospitality sectors!

Phil Murray from JW Lees delivered a very informative breakfast seminar, giving our learners an insight into the wide world of hospitality and some current vacancies in the local area, with an opportunity for Q&A at the end. #NCW2023

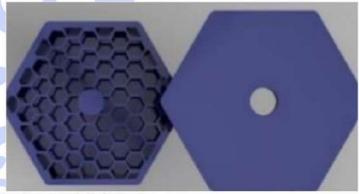


It was intensting to learn about the different apprentiships on offer and to see a potential career progression.

Reece A (Y 12)

Years 11 and 13 attended a 'Careers and Apprenticeships in the NHS' talk, led by Gemma Clemson and her pharmacist colleague from the Healthcare Support Workers' Development Programme. the range of medical and non-medical careers included social media and marketing, electricians and plumbers.





Upton-by-Chester High School Bee Buddy (BBDY)

A team of Year 10 learners pitched their design of a reusuable bee house to 'Design Ventura'. Upton was one of ten schools nationwide who made the finals in London. They travelled to the Design Museum to talk about their design. Over 15,000 young people entered the competition this year

A reusable bee-house for your garden, providing bees with both food and shelter.

Three of our Year 13 learners visited Bentley Motors HQ in Crewe as part of Bentley's programme to inspire and develop the next generation of female learners in the fields of engineering, design, technology and business.











Alicia Y 13

Girls into Bentley offered a great exploration into apprenticeships & and different career options within specialised areas.

An insightful experience into discivering diverse options such as appretiships as an alternative to university in which you can gain practical experience.

## Work Experience year 12

Recently, all of the Year 12 learners had the opportunity to take a week's work experience. They were tasked with finding a placement of their choice. So, we asked three of them to give us a review of what they learnt and enjoyed most about their time.







One of my favourite tasks was with the Digital PR and Content team who introduced me to press releases and written content. I created a mock press release for one of their clients and I enjoyed researching this, using keyword research tools like Surfer SEO. Kumari and Armarni were really helpful and gave me lots of useful links and tips to use in my own writing. During the rest of the week, I spent some time with Emily looking into UX research, Faye and Clicky's Growth team, Jen learning how Clicky are working towards their B-Corp certification and Simon introduced me to Performance Creative. Overall, I learnt so much about the different career opportunities in digital marketing and I have been really inspired myself to look more at this for a future career path.

Daisy G Y12





### Alumni

A focus on learners of the past to see how they are shaping the future.



Current Job: Head of Marketing & PR @lilyandrooldn

**Responsibilities**: I work across all marketing and PR including graphics, overseeing digital marketing, managing the photoshoots, social media and email.

**Further Education**: Media and Journalism at Northumbria University

**Previous employment**: ChloBo Jewellery - Intern working my way up to Marketing Manager. I planned multiple photoshoots and got to travel to some amazing places for jewellery inspiration such as Morocco and Venice.

Olivia Burton watches - Senior Marketing Executive At Olivia Burton I worked with all European accounts such as Selfridges and John Lewis, looking how they could improve sales and marketing. I planned and attended a lot of events and oversaw the marketing for their Covent garden store.

Merci Maman - Marketing & PR Manager @mercimamangifts

At Merci Maman I oversaw all Marketing & PR, reaching out to journalists, managing brand partnerships with brands such as Cath Kidston & Vodafone. I also oversaw the social media accounts and influencers - which was really fun organising events.

What do you most enjoy about your current job?
I love that I have full reign over the marketing and PR, and seeing a campaign come to life!

#### Career highlight?

So far, this has been is hosting my own podcast on Spotify for Merci Maman on motherhood, and interviewing guests such as Rosie Wicks, and Jess Hayes. Or, when I became the face of Olivia Burton and got plastered worldwide!

#### How did studying at Upton help?

Gaining an A at A Level Media Studies helped me secure enough UCAS points to get onto the university course. Studying media opened my eyes to the analytics behind everything we see as well as the impact it can hav on us which I found so interesting. Studying media was the catalyst to going to unversity as well as starting my career in marketing and PR so I have a lot to owe to it.







**Further Education**: I attended the University of Liverpool, where I studied a three-year BA in Politics and a Masters in Social Research.

**Current role**: Graduate programme at Wirral Council as part of the Community Safety team. My role covers a wide range of responsibilities including: working with partners like Merseyside Police, engaging with the community and organising 'days of action', implementing national policies on a local level, supporting residents with projects and working on campaigns related to violent crime, anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, drugs and alcohol and modern slavery.

Career highlight? Being a part of the team that brought the Knife Angel sculpture to the Wirral in July 2022. We ran a month long schedule of activities; youth engagement work, family fun days, anti-knife crime workshops, schools intervention programmes and knife amnesty boxes. This project was a huge success and got attention both locally and nationally, and we even had a visit from boxer Tony Bellew and UFC star Meatball Molly. Lots of knives were taken off the streets during the month and the anti-violence message was spread to thousands of visitors.



Current job: Brand Campaign Manager at THG

**Responsibilities**: I work with Disney on the daily, which as a huge fan is a dream come true. I work on campaigns that organise trips to Disneyland, running events and working on all marketing channels. I love working with my team, and taking on new projects. No two days are the same and I'm never at my desk which is the exact job I'm after.

Communication is key in my role so it's a good job I'm a good talker!!

Further education: Digital Marketing Apprenticeship

**Career highlight?** Hosting a Black Panther event with LEGO & Marvel, working with both those brands was a great moment for me.

Any advice? School is so fun, make the most of it! Everything you study, although it might not always seem it, will be so helpful in the future. Knowledge is power so take everything in that you can, you never know when you might need it. I didn't think I'd be using director skills but I produce/creative director shoots weekly so I use these skills all the time.

### SIXTHFORM

6TH - 10TH FEBRUARY 2023

> Design and Words by Ash I (Y12)

## CHARITY WEEK

#### SIXTHFORM

Every year, the school's Sixth Form Leadership Team holds the Sixth Form Charity Week to raise money for different charities. This charity is chosen through a school vote on which charity they think applies to them the most, and this year's option was 'British Liver Trust'! We have had multiple activities taking place e.g. Pyjama Day, Dress Up Day, sport events, cake sales, and so much more. The final count of the overall donation collection is a whopping £3,800!

#### List of events that had taken place:

MON

Sixth Form Pyjama Day, Bake Sale, Y8 Ping Pong, Y7 Basketball, Dodgeball, Teachers Vs. Sixth Formers Netball

TUE

Bake Sale, Y10 Ping Pong, Y9 Basketball, Y7-9 Just Dance, Teachers Vs. Sixth Formers Football

WED

Bake Sale, Y11 Ping Pong, Y10 Basketball, Sponge the Teacher, Unrehearsed Teacher Pantomime

THU

Bake Sale, Y7 Ping Pong, Y11 Basketball, Y7-9 Just Dance, Teacher's Karaoke

FRI

Sixth Form Dress Up Day, Lower School Non-Uniform Day, Bake Sale, Y9 Ping Pong, Y8 Basketball, Raffle Draw, Colouring Competition, Sweet Jar Competition

The week started with a Pyjama Day on Monday, with many Sixth Form learners taking part with their pyjama bottoms. onesies and dressing gowns & robes! All participating learners donated £1 for the cause, with these donations constantly increasing through the week, with cake sales (baked/bought by our Sixth very own Form learners!) and sport events taking place everyday of the week - all of these events being held by volunteering Sixth Form earners giving up their breaks, lunches and after school time. As a big finale to the week,

on Friday, the school held a non-uniform day for lower, school learners, with the donation of a £1 collected being from participating learners, with our Sixth Form learners having the opportunity to dress up as any characters they like! View the some of many amazing outfits on pages ? -?. A big congratulations and thank you to everyone who participated, especially the Sixth Form Leadership Team!











#### SIXTH FORM CHARITY WEEK

## COST

It's not a surprise our spectacular Sixth Form has continued to excel in their costumes this year, here are some of the costumes the Sixth Form learners wore! Whilst in costume, learners would walk around the school with money buckets to collect any extra change lower-school learners would have to add to the donation count.













By Crystal D and Ash I (Y12)

### UMES

To name a few outfits, we have

#### FROM DRESS UP DAY

a knight, Money Heist bank robbers and the iconic inflatable dinosaurs! You'll also be able to see Sportacus and Stephanie from Lazy Town, Toy Story characters and Cat Woman. Spot whether you can recognise the rest of the costumes in the photos!







## SPORTS EVENTS



Words and design by Daisy G (Y12)

#### STAFF VS. SIXTH FORM FOOTBALL MATCH

The final result was **5-2** to the sixth form learners! The match was played after school on the County Officers Pitch, with hundreds of learners donating a pound each to watch the game. Both sides had two teams, so each half was played by a fresh team. The teachers came well prepared with Mr Petty providing them with his collection of football shirts from Bradford City. However, the sixth form team also came prepared with both their manager and coach dressed in full suits for the occasion plus they'd had lots of training sessions before the game too.



**Mr Fearon** 



















On the MUGA sports pitches at break and lunch time, learners had a chance to play dodgeball against their teachers. It was lots of fun and gathered quite a crowd. Sixth formers joined in even on Pyjama Day!





## STAFF US. SIXTH FORM NETBALL TOURNAMENT

After school on the Monday of Charity Week, in the County Officers Sports Hall, lots of learners donated one pound in order to go along to the Teachers versus Sixth Form Netball Tournament, where a couple of different matches took place. Some teachers had played netball in the past and so loved taking up their old positions whilst some were trying their hand at it for the first time. Overall, it was an enjoyable afternoon of exciting netball matches with the sixth formers coming out on top!

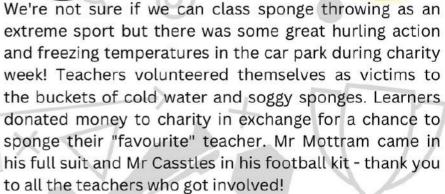






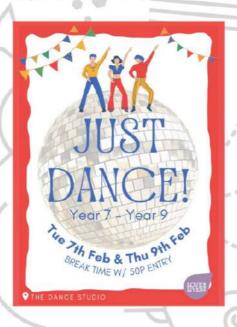


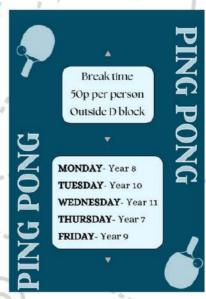




## OTHER GREAT SPORTS EVENTS:







# Foodbank collection High

During the month of December, the Upton learner leadership team encouraged learners to donate food and provisions to the local Foodbank, West Cheshire Foodbank. Foodbanks are integral in supporting families that need extra support and are especially important during the winter months. By participating through donations, every year group gets the opportunity to help others less fortunate.



This December, we collected 377kg, which equates to enough food and provisions to feed 30 people 3 meals a day for a whole year. These meals will provide meals for our local community, many of whom live below the poverty line. This is a 1.4% increase from last year, making us the highest donating school in Cheshire.

We are so happy to be able to contribute to our local Foodbank during the cost of living crisis. Thank you to all that donated - it is greatly appreciated.



Emma S and Chantelle J-Y11 99
We are so happy to be able to contribute to our local foodbank during the cost of living crisis.

Article by Emma S
and Chantelle J
from the Learner
Leadership
team(y11)



Design by Daisy G (Y12)

## Make Your Mark 2023

The whole school took part in a vote for the most important topics for the UK Youth parliament to debate. This takes place every year and every learner gets the opportunity to make their voice heard. The choices are from a range of important issues; this year they were:

- Mental Health
- Physical Health
- Cost of Living
- Education
- Food Poverty
- Safety in Public Places
- Opportunities for Communities
- Transport
- Discrimination
- Environment

Each learner had the chance to vote and these are all counted alongside 780 other schools, colleges and youth groups.

Make Your Mark

#### Miss Noel

This year 1349 learners
took part. the votes were a
mix of online and paper votes.
Cost of Living 1415 votes and
Mental Health 1404 votes
were voted top!

## Fair Achiever Award



We have successfully been awarded our Fairtrade Status for another 3 Years! This is a great achievement for the school and the comments from the Fairtrade Schools were great too. Upton is proud to continue being a FairAchiever school. Thank you for your continued support.

This is a good application where you have considered many of the aspects of the fair-Achiever award. We were particularly impressed with the amount of activities that your school have been able to carry out throughout the academic year.

**Fairtrade Schools** 

## **Upton's Antarctic Flag**

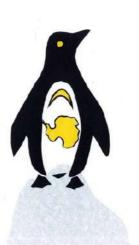
Year 8 were given the opportunity late last year to design a flag for Antarctica, Eliza F's flag was chosen, and it was sent to Antarctica. In the photo is Emily Rowlands, Angelika Slomska and Ryan Saunders. Emily and Angelika are Polar Marine Ecologists investigating plastic pollution from the surface to the deep waters of the Southern Ocean, which surrounds Antarctica. They also research the impact of plastic pollution on Antarctic Krill. Krill are one of the most important animals in the Southern Ocean since most other animals including Whales, Seals, and Penguins feed on them. Ryan led the science expedition which is part of a long-term study exploring the distribution and abundance of Antarctic krill. The data collected helps us understand the influences of climate change, fishing pressure and predation on this important Antarctic animal.

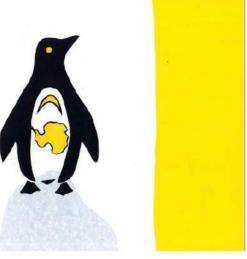


#### Eliza F - Y8

I am amazed that the flag I designed went to Antarctica. I cannot even start to explain how delighted I was to get the certificate and picture back. It is an oppositivity of a life time to do that Who would of thought that this would happen.









#### ANTARCTICA DAY 2022

This certificate is awarded to Upton by Chester High School for designing inspirational flags "in the interests of all mankind."

#### YOUR FLAG WAS CELEBRATED IN ANTARCTICA!

Location Name: Signy Research Station

Latitude: 60°43'0"S

45°36'0"W Longitude:

Flag Bearer: **Emily Rowlands** 

27/02/2023 Date:

**UKPN Antarctic Flags Team** 









Design by Daisy G (Y12)

## World Book Day @ Upton



2nd Marich 2023

To celebrate World Book Day, Upton's English department ran a few activities in collaboration with the library team at the hub. Our learners loved taking part in book swap at break-time where there were a variety of wonderful 'pre-loved' books to choose from.



BOOK DAY

2 MARCH 2023

A matchbox book competition ran and there were some fantastic entries on display in the hub. These came from Joanne (Y9), Alex (Y7), Aleksander (Y7), Delaney (Y7), Maisy (Y7) and Maya (Y8) who are shown in the picture with their entries and prizes, which included amazon vouchers! Joanne's 'The Woman in Black' entry was our overall winner! All of the entries were so detailed and perfectly represented some of their favourite books.



Thank you to everyone who took part in celebrating World Book day!



## **AIRBUS** Competition

Airbus had organised a project for girls in local Year 8 schools to take part in. The project was set up to promote International Women's Day and to encourage girls to get involved in STEM activities and subjects. Girls were invited to work in groups of up to five people to design an aeroplane cabin of the future. This could include as many design features as they wanted to and be as innovative as possible. All entries were sent into Airbus to determine a winner, and Upton provided eight entries for them to consider. Airbus selected two winning entries from Upton: a group containing Isla, Maya, Freya and Olivia and another entry designed by Daisy on her own.

The winners from our school were invited to a VIP day at Airbus, accompanied by Miss Szehofner. The day included a tour of the Airbus factory and a series of STEM activities and challenges to complete. Later, Airbus announced the winning entry from all of those by each school. Daisy's was the winning entry. Daisy's prize was a trophy for herself and for the school she has won five thousand pounds worth of technology equipment to be paid for by Airbus.



I am delighted that so many girls chose to get involved in the Airbus project and produce an entry. We had eight groups of girls take part and it was great to see them taking up the challenge to design an aircraft cabin of the future. The entries were innovative forward thinking and well presented given the limited time with which the groups had to produce their designs.

The five girls who went to Airbus had an amazing day there accompanied by Miss Szehofner, who also gave up her time for the groups to meet and work on their projects. I hope that this has inspired them to consider a future career in the STEM sector.

Mr Wearden Head of Year 8

Daisy's success in winning the overall competition is an outstanding achievement, firstly due to the range of competition from other schools, but also as her entry was generated by herself in a group of her own.

The Design Technology department will discuss with Mr Cummins, Headteacher, as to how we might best spend the prize money of five thousand pounds of STEM technology equipment so that as many learners as possible can benefit from Daisy's success.



## **Eco Schools**

Words by Grace (Y10)

At Upton-by-Chester High School we aspire to inspire, to actively 'learn how to shape the future', and to do this we must learn how to protect the 'future'. It is predicted that by 2030 global temperatures will have risen by about 2.5 °C, a level that will result in catastrophic climate breakdown (according to the UN's climate agency), this will not only have a calamitous effect on the earth, it will have a tragic effect on human life. At this point, it is imperative that we try to offset this, before it becomes irreversible. No one person can accomplish this, but together we can make a difference.

One tree at a time, Upton-by-Chester High School is aiming to not only counterbalance some of the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, but create an outdoor learning environment to make education more diverse and enjoyable. Some members from the Eco School Action Team participated in the planting of 45 trees ranging from Oak, Birch, Hornbeam, Rowan and Field Maple. Alongside The Mersey Forest (a group with an aim of 'creating woodlands to benefit communities, wildlife and the economy in Cheshire and Merseyside').

Learners were educated on the importance of planting trees and played a large part in the planting of them. These both contributed to the creation of an outdoor classroom and brought the school closer towards eco goals to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions within the school. Thanks to Cllr Matt Byran and Defra Green Recovery (UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), these aims have never been more reachable.





An incredible opportunity.

not only to help the school but also the environment to offset carbon emissions and hopefully aid the prevention of further climate damage.

Thanks to the help from Cllr matt Byran, we really have been able to achieve this goal.









## Chester 10K & mbno CHESTER 10K

This term, a number of our learners helped out at the Chester 10K bag store. Some current teachers and Upton alumni were running through the historic city as part of the 5,000 participants this year. Mr Waite ran the 10K to raise money for The Children's Adventure Farm Trust. He has kindly sent us this report of the day.







## 

Following the snow and chaos of Friday 10th March, Sunday 12th dawned with clear skies and mild temperatures: perfect running weather.

Following a 5K warm-up jog to the start line, I took my place alongside my good friend Mr Crozier (formerly of this parish) in preparation for the Chester 10K. Our aim: to get Mr Crozier a sub-44-minute finish time. Sporting my CAFT (The Children's Adventure Farm Trust – a charity very close to my family and I) vest, we set off.

The race itself was great fun – cheered on by spectators throughout, Mr Crozier and I soon found ourselves with 2K left to go. Knowing that we were well within our goal of sub-44, Mr Crozier told me to go for it. I put on the afterburners and flew through the final 2K to finish in a very respectable time of 42:04, with Mr Crozier crossing 90 seconds later.

It was wonderful to see so many of our learners helping throughout the day, too. From the amazing team on bag drop off, to the Cadets manning the crossings and our learners handing out medals at the end, they are a credit to themselves, our school and the local community.

And Mr Crozier's twisted my arm to do the Half Marathon in May, too – bring it on!

Mr Waite





#### Art

Creative pieces from a selection of Year 8 learners based on the work of the artist Keith Haring









#### Media Studies

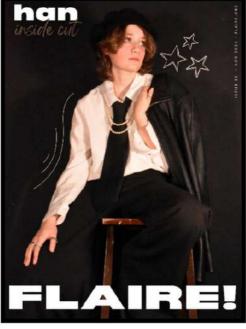
Magazine front covers created by L6 Media Studies learners; one piece designed as a mainstream fashion magazine and the second in a more niche, independent style.

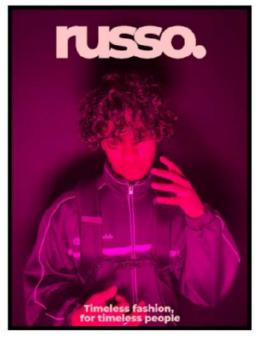






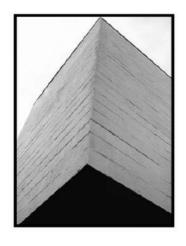




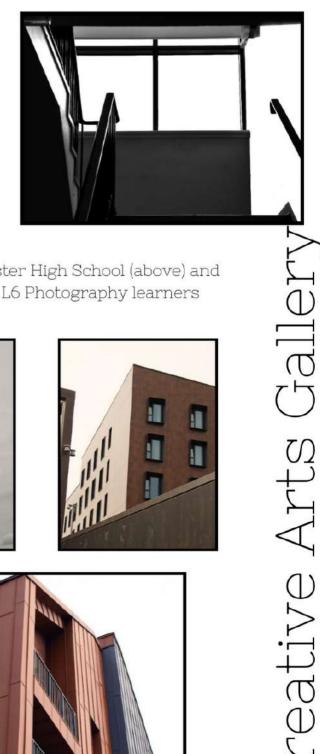












Unusual perspectives of Upton-by-Chester High School (above) and Chester town centre (below) from the L6 Photography learners





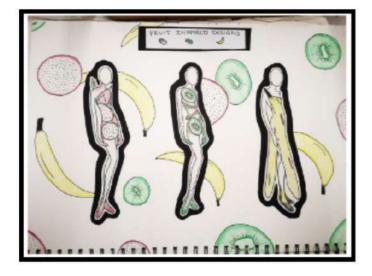








# Remarkable of the second of th





### Textiles

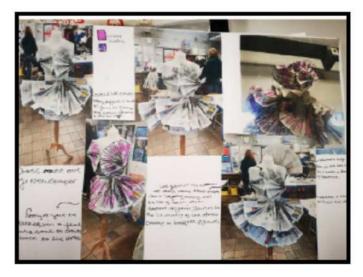
Examples of learner work from the textiles lessons in the Design Technology Department.

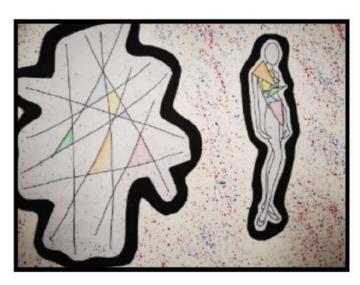
Left: Year 7 Storage Cases

Below: Year 12 BTEC Fashion & Textiles

Right: Year 10 Textiles

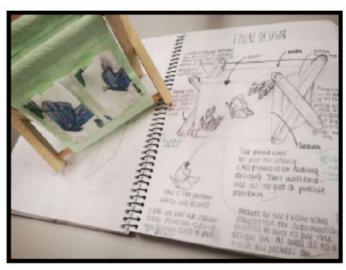


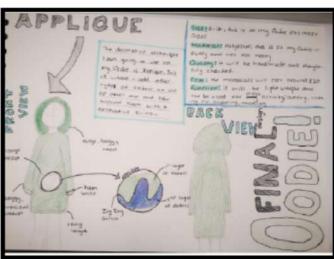












Examples of product design across a range of year groups in Design Technology.



Leo in Yr9 has been making a mask by 3D printing at DT club. This is his work in progress.

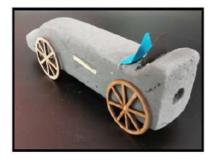
Year 7 Yo-yos



Year 8 Keyrings



Year 9 Rocket car



Year 10 stool



Year 9 Lamp







Some of our learners took part in Tip Top Production's performance of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" at Theatr Clwyd just before half term. They performed as part of the childrens chorus, to sell out audiences EVERY night!

The Northwestend review of the show mentioned how professional they were:

"The Children's choir are incredibly talented, giving everything, they have when singing and the little dancing they do yet sit calmly and quietly on the steps when other scenes are going on."

Well done to Olivia, Connie, Francesca and Neve!!

Looking for something to get involved with?

Tip Top Productions will be performing the gorgeous "The Sound of Music" at Storyhouse in August 2023. If you would like to audition for a role in this show, visit their website for more details..





Tom and Matthew in Year 10 spent a day during half term, at a professional recording studio in Mold. They managed to record three of their own songs, which you can hear on our school website. What a brilliant experience they had!



#### Drama



Scenes from the Eduqas A Level Drama Scripted and Devised performances.

Above: Everybody is Talking About Jamie Right & below: The Wedding (a devised piece)

These performances have been assessed by an external examiner as part of the U6 examined piece.









Words and design by Vienna and Daisy (Y12)

GCSE Trampoliners ready to go! Winning the top three spots in the competition!



Congratulations to our Year 8 B&C teams who competed in their district tournament on Tuesday. A mixture of wins, draws & losses for both teams...but most importantly enjoyment, team spirit and sport for all.





U15 Girls put in a big battle against a very good Christleton side, defeated in the semi final but lots of positives. Huge congrats to Keira, a Year 8, in goal who had a superb game!



Another evening, another sporting comp,this time the year 7 indoor athletics!



Sixth form boys Winners of the Chester Schools Cup. Beating their opposition 5-1. Well done!





2345678



U14 Bball team beat

Year 7 Bball team finished 4th in the Chester Comp! Baskets scored by Nick and Adam.



U14 Bball team beat Catholic High tonight, superb attitude and approach shown throughout!

Our boot bin is finally here!! Please help us to re-use and recycle outgrown football/rugby boots & trainers by dropping them off to this 'bin' outside the PE office.



Early start for our Y8 netball squad at The Cheshire tournament! A humongous thank you to our fabulous parents for their fundraising efforts... the new dresses are catwalk worthy!

Make sure to follow

@pe\_uptonhigh on twitter

for regular sports

updates!



U16 girls knocked out on pens after a hardfought 0-0 against Helsby in the Cheshire Cup. Sporting Spotlight:
U15°s Netball Squad



Wow! It has been an



The Under 15's Girls Netball team worked their socks off and made their way up to the finals of the Sister 'N' Sport National Schools Cup where they competed to be crowned the best in England. Also in January, they won the Chester and District tournament in their age group! Here is a re-cap of their journey to the top!

group! Here is a re-cap of their journey to top!

An outstanding win of 41-20 in the Sister in Sport finals cup against Portsmouth thigh School. Beyond proud of these girls who are beautiful individuals inside and out!

final match. Ms Szehofner

Well played everyone- it was an amazing





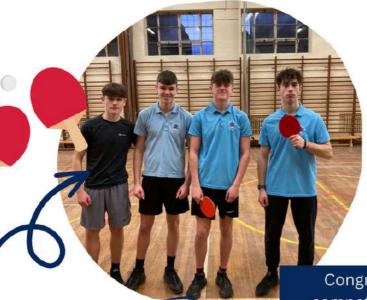




The Year 7 National Cup journey came to an end last night against Great Sankey in a 2-1 defeat. We are so proud of the lads for getting into the last 8 of over 600 teams! We had some great wins on the way against Bishops Blue Coat, Calderstones, Chorlton, Archbishop Beck, All Saints and Cardinal Heenan!

The lads were able to keep cool and manage the game well. They represented the school well and many of the opposition staff commented on the quality and work rate of our team.





Congratulations to Evie (y10) & Mirela (y9) who competed with their Synchro team Deelites in The Steel City Trophy in Sheffield over the weekend! Well done

U16 Table Tennis team 
Competed against Kings and Catholic High today
Some great wins and performances!



Excellent effort from our Year 8s tonight at the Chester & District Sportshall Athletics









Gold and Bronze













Hally offer



VERSA

THE SUNSHINE STATE
Florida

Mediatripto

Harry Potter Studios









Leavers Prom!

District Athletics

Minter Manthy Summer terms of the Control of the Co



