



Upton Voice

Upton-by-Chester High School Newsletter

March 2018

Over £3,900 raised in Charity Week

Our students raised a fantastic total of over £3,900 during a week of fundraising activities in aid of The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity and the Little Princess Trust.

The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity was chosen overwhelmingly from a selection of good causes following a vote by Sixth Form students. Proposer Katie was delighted it was selected as The Clatterbridge Cancer Charity supports the centre which is dedicated to transforming the care of cancer patients and does exceptional work, made possible by the help of donations.

Sixth Former Cody raised over £100 by shaving her head and then donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust which provides real hair wigs to children and young adults who have sadly lost their own hair due to illnesses.

Fundraising activities included a cute and cuddly onesie day, staff karaoke, sponge the teacher, students verses teachers sports competitions and a fancy dress day.

Miss Gordon, Director of Sixth Form, would like to congratulate the Sixth Form Leadership Team for their tremendous hard work.

The Sixth Form Leadership team would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported the events to make the week a success and raise such an incredible amount for a charity close to our hearts.



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

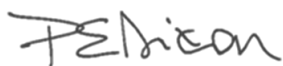
I hope you really enjoy reading this edition of The Upton Voice which is jam-packed with reports on the wide range of exciting opportunities in which our students have participated.

It has been particularly exciting to watch the progress of our football teams this term as they reach the end of their cup runs and we have had some notable successes in the Cheshire Plate, with both our U16 and U18 teams crowned champions. The Dance Showcase was a wonderful event to round off a highly successful term and I know that all of our audience were extremely impressed by the quality and standard of our performers, from year 7 through to 13. Well done to you all!

Year 11 and 13 are now commencing a critical time in their education as they enter the final stages of their studies and start to prepare their revision schedule for the imminent exams. I wish them all the very best of luck and hope to see many of them in school over the Spring break, taking full advantage of the extra support for their learning being offered by so many of their teachers.

Wishing you all a very happy, safe and peaceful Easter holiday and I look forward to seeing you all again on 16 April for the start of the summer term.

With my very best wishes,



Mrs P. Dixon
Headteacher

Upton 7s net 4th place in Cheshire

A tournament report from a very proud **Mrs Lynch:**

Our Year 7 netballers showed amazing potential to come 4th in the Cheshire Schools Competition on 10th March. Hazel, Trinity & Scarlett, Emma, Maddie & Maycie and Ellie kicked off proceedings against King's Chester on a cold, wet morning at Whitby. It took a while for the girls to warm-up (in all senses of the word) but with some clean attacking play in centre court and precise shooting from team captain Emma, the girls eased into a 7-1 victory. Alderley Edge were next and Alicia & Isla came on to assist in centre court. The formidable trio of Alicia at WA, Emma out at GA and Maycie brought in as GS helped the girls to a 10-4 win. Upton were confident and getting into their stride! The Grange, however, pushed the team to their limits. With some feisty, aggressive play to contend with, our defence held their own but The Grange proved too strong and we endured our first loss, 1-4.

Facing The Queens school next, we knew we could regain our winning form, and the girls did just that. Jess assisted the defence, helping Upton storm to a 12-2 victory. Our last game of the group stage was crucial; Fallibroome had also won all of their matches except against The Grange. It was goal for goal the entire match and Upton made silly mistakes enabling Fallibroome to turn the ball over several times. At 6-6 the girls held themselves together to gain a rebound from Fallibroome, quickly moved the ball down court for a last second goal to win the game! Upton were through!

A local derby against Christleton was our fate in the semi-final and with club team-mates in both school squads, knowledge was key in each school's preparation. A tight match ensued with play at both ends of the court securing goals for both sides; Christleton however remained strong and in the dying few minutes pulled away by 2 goals. They were through to the final while we had to remain focused for a 3rd place play-off. A tired and emotional Upton team pulled themselves together; with injury forcing some players to be rested, we fought on, but again, The Grange proved too much for us at the end of a long morning. 4th place was our fate this year but our Year 7s showed amazing potential. Well done girls. Bring on 2019!



#BackTheBlues

Marcus Bignot (Manager) and players Ryan Astles, Matty Waters & Gary Roberts visited school recently to thank our pupils for fundraising for Chester FC. For two weeks the Year 7s participated in a football dribble challenge to raise funds for Chester FC. Each Form dribbled around the sports hall as far as possible in 20 minutes during their lunchtime. Working together like a relay team they dribbled at high speeds corner to corner. The winning Form (7x2) covered 4610ms! In total Year 7 pupils in two weeks dribbled an amazing collective distance of 26.6 miles!



They were sponsored for their achievements, and pupils raising an amazing amount of money for their efforts. Some of our star fundraisers were; Mongi, Freya & Arlo who raised over £100 just between themselves! Marcus and the players thanked everyone for their amazing support. Special mentions must go to Rio and Vienna who initiated our fundraising campaign and raised £100 separately with an Easter Egg raffle and also Matt in Year 13 who helped with the dribble challenge every day.



Winning Form—7x2

Trees for Learning

A Government initiative delivered through The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), 'Trees for learning', was recently given a helping hand from our students. DEFRA aim to plant 1 million trees with schools and community groups by 2020 and this was supported by students from Year 7 & 8 and the local Community Forest Trust, Mersey Forest.

Students and Mersey Forest employees succeeded in planting a total of 130 sapling trees and hedging on our school site. Local Councillor Matt Bryan provided the funding for the project from his local communities fund and was there to inspect the students' effort.

Planting was heavy work in the muddy conditions but our students were given a helping hand in the afternoon by Year 1 pupils from Westlea Primary. The Mersey Forest organisation are creating a growing network of woodlands across Merseyside and North Cheshire to benefit people, wildlife, and the economy.



Fencing Success

One of our Year 11 students, Elliot, is a keen fencer. He recently competed in the North West U16 foil championships. Foilists from all over the North West of the UK compete for one of 4 places to represent the NW at the British Youth Championships in May. Elliot had some very tough fights, including a quarter final where he won 15-14. Unfortunately, he narrowly missed out on the final being knocked out 15-12 in the semi final.

Elliot did really well and won a bronze medal (3rd) but more importantly the chance to represent the North West at the British Youth Championship in U16 boys foil in Sheffield on the May Bank holiday weekend. He is training twice a week and competes most weekends all over the UK. In 2016 Elliot finished 8th in the British Youth Championship and he is looking to improve on this in 2018.



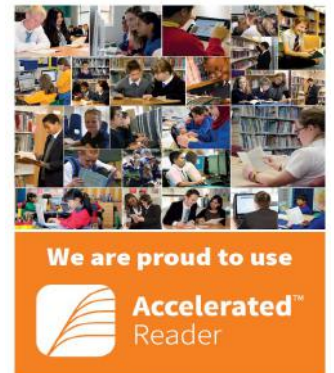
Accelerated Reader Scheme

This term has seen the continuation of our Accelerated Reader scheme in years 7 to 9. The main benefit of taking part in the Accelerated Reader scheme is that, with as little as 20 minutes reading per day, your child's reading age can increase at twice their chronological development.

While there are clear educational benefits to the Accelerated Reader scheme, it is still designed to be an enjoyable experience. We are promoting reading through regular practice in school. We also celebrate success through identifying the students who have engaged with the scheme most effectively.

To date this year our pupils have passed nearly 2000 book quizzes and read over 87 million words!

Please help us to ensure that your child gains the full benefits of this scheme by supervising their reading. You can view your child's reading history and progress at the following link using their school username and password: <https://ukhosted61.renlearn.co.uk/1894449/HomeConnect/>



RENAISSANCE LEARNING

If you would like to help your child to select another book at their level from school or home, please visit the Accelerated Reader Book finder catalogue (which has over 22,000 books listed) at: <http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/> If you enter this code (QS016037) in the "Enter Keycode" box on the left side of the screen, it will show you whether we stock the book in the Learning Hub.



Miss Green with some Year 7 recipients of certificates and prizes (Eddie, Elliot, Maddie, Tom, Harry & Poppy)

Mr Waite with some Year 8 recipients of certificates (Charlotte, Dervla, Thomas, David & Olivia)



Year 11 Maths — PIXL Maths App

The Maths Department have been running a competition for Year 11 students to encourage them to use the PIXL Maths app as part of their GCSE revision. Students access the app on their phone, ipad or computer.

School id = **UC3205**

User id = surname and first initial eg Joe Bloggs would be BLOGGSJ

Password = same as user id but students can change this

We have seen some excellent responses from students and would encourage all year 11 students to carry on using the app. Students who achieved the highest in their group have been rewarded with an Easter Egg. There were 5 winners from each side of the year group. Several students also put in hours of work and achieved over 100 points.

Thank you to all parents for your continued support and encouragement of all our students.

Mrs Christianson
Maths Department

Fairtrade Fortnight 26th February – 11th March 2018

During the first two weeks after half term Yunus Hall organised this year’s Fairtrade Fortnight. Fairtrade Fortnight is a yearly event which encourages and puts the spotlight on Fairtrade. We are a FairAchiever School, and we aim to highlight the difference Fairtrade can make to lives and communities (especially in our local and wider communities).

The fortnight started with a week of assemblies to launch the event. These assemblies were written and presented by the Yunus Hall Leadership team, supported by Miss. Noel and Mrs. Jenkins-Campbell. During the assemblies students and staff were informed of events that were happening the following week, along with possible lessons they may be participating in and reasons why we should buy Fairtrade.



This then continued with a week of activities, to raise awareness of Fairtrade with our students, which included ‘The Hut’ (tuck shop) opening every day run by Fairtrade reps. Fairtrade cakes and biscuits were sold for students to enjoy. Games were played including ‘Crack the safe’ where students paid to try and open the safe winning the prize inside. Miss Frimston ran a game about inequality, which gave students a different perspective about what is ‘fair’. Students had to work together in teams to fill buckets with water using cups. Unbeknown to student’s; one team, although seemingly unfair had smaller cups, whilst their opponents had larger cups, with holes in. At the end of the experiment students were asked their opinions about if they thought the game was ‘fair’ and how this can be shown in everyday life with Fairtrade.

During PLaN time KS3 pupils were given Fairtrade booklets, which had a variety of activities to complete. They included two different types of Fairtrade Quizzes, the first tested how much information students had picked up during their assembly, and any general knowledge they may have learnt along the way. The second invited students to try and guess which of their teachers had gone ‘Bananas for Fairtrade’, members of staff wore our famous banana suit with their faces covered. Students had to work out who they were based on props being held, or their location.

Fairtrade lessons were held in every KS3 subject, with competitions set up for: ART – best design of a Fairtrade chocolate wrapper and DT/FOOD – best design of a plate, that incorporated Fairtrade food; Prizes are waiting to be drawn so watch this space! As a FairAchiever school, we task ourselves to actively make a difference to our local community whilst in turn supporting our wider community. To enable us to achieve this we culminated the fortnight by asking students and staff to donate Fairtrade food provisions. With all the food provisions collected the Fairtrade team has now begun to sort and pack the food provisions into hampers for distribution to local care homes and our local Foodbank.

A huge thank you to all the students, parents/carers and staff who acknowledged and supported our campaign. Overall it was a very successful event, enjoyed by many with lots of learning undertaken.

Miss Noel
Yunus Hall Leader



Students meet Fairtrade supported grower from Panama

Students from the Fairtrade Action Team met Marcial Quinteros, a member of Coobana, a Fairtrade banana co - operative in Panama, during this year’s Fairtrade Fortnight. This event was hosted by Waitrose, Chester and gave our students the opportunity to see the range of Fairtrade produce available at Waitrose including bananas from Marcial Quinteros’ plantation.

Marcial answered students’ questions regarding how Fairtrade had transformed his family’s life and benefitted his community. He stated that without the backing of his Fairtrade Co-operative he would not have been able to support his daughter going to university, nor his community’s project to conserve and protect turtles. He shared his hopes and stated the importance of Fairtrade for future generations.

On behalf of the students, Becky & William wanted to say thank you to Mrs Blain & Asst. Services Food Services Manager Mr Sam Mroczek at Waitrose and “Gracias” to Marcial Quinteros for sharing his experiences and explaining the difference that we can all make by choosing to support ethical products.



As a FairAchiever school, awareness and promotion of Fairtrade is included throughout the year not just during Fairtrade fortnight. 2nd Deputy Head, Miss Beuzit added that “it had been an amazing opportunity for students to meet a Banana producer whose working conditions had vastly improved thanks to Fairtrade. It has developed their awareness of global trade and how simple shopping choices can make a huge difference to farmers, their families and communities.”



Ex-Uptonian to Captain England

A big congratulations to ex-Uptonian Phil Roper for his recent amazing hockey news. Not only has Phil been selected in the England national hockey team for the forthcoming Commonwealth games but he has been named captain!

A keen hockey player throughout his days at Upton, Phil showed relentless commitment to his games as the majority of his friends followed a football path. Supporting peers in hockey lessons he showed his leadership qualities and empathy to help others to develop, but he still ensured everyone knew his immense talent by dazzling them with his skill periodically.

Before leaving for university he had already established himself, at a young age, as an integral part of the Chester hockey club set up, his ferocious striking of the ball had become legendary and feared by those setting up against him at penalty corners.

After showing equal commitment to his studies at university, top level hockey beckoned, a move to Wimbledon, London was required to play at the standard he needed. It was not long before his first England cap came, completing his journey to the top.



Phil has demonstrated the commitment, conviction and confidence in himself necessary to drive his talents and passion to it's maximum potential. We at Upton are exceptionally proud of his achievements, we congratulate his recent news and wish the England team the best of luck at the commonwealth games.

Mr Medland
Head of PE

Sixth Form's County Plate success

Facing a tough young Helsby side in the last 8 after getting through the first round on a bye, Upton were determined to succeed. With Mr Medland giving the team a new tactic to work on (5-3-2 formation), the players were pumped and eager to win. The game started with Helsby dominating possession for the first 20 minutes. Upton however couldn't capitalise on several counter attacks. After a long 45 minutes of defending, Upton needed to change something for the second half.



With the switch of James moving to the wing, it gave Upton more attacking options. The game started to switch into Upton's hands. Another change saw Alex come on; 10 seconds after his introduction, due to Alex's determination, he challenged the keeper, won the ball and picked out Louis who slotted home. Once again, through determined pressing, the ball came once again to Louis to score, Upton 2-0. Into the later stages of the game, Helsby grabbed a consolation but it wasn't enough, the game finished 2-1.

For the semi-final Upton travelled to Macclesfield to face Falibroome, who won their last game 7-2, so we knew this was to be a tough game. The early stages of the game saw Upton on the front foot, but due to the poor pitch quality, Upton couldn't hit the target. After good build up play down the middle, Jake found Ryan, who turned, dribbled and dipped a long range effort over the keeper into the back of the net (with a little help from a favourable bobble). From a free kick in Upton's own half, Rocco flicked a header towards goal, where Louis R. was waiting to tap it in on the half volley. 2-0 at the break.

In the second half, Falibroome pressed but the Upton defence stayed solid, especially with the hands of Mac inbetween the sticks. Mr Medland introduced Will who gave them issues at the back. Upton then won a penalty through Will which Matt calmly dispatched, booking Upton a place in the final. On the journey home, Mr Medland stopped off at McDonalds. It was well worth it!

In the final at The Kings School, Upton were once again against a team from East Cheshire, this time Congleton. During the warm up, Upton were strong-minded to succeed and grasp the taste of silverware. The game started evenly, however for many spells Upton dominated on all thirds of the pitch. With good build up play from the back, Louis found space and calmly dispatched the first goal of the game. Still on the front foot, Upton were caught on the counter attack and tough tackling Jack stopped them with a questionable challenge; an early yellow for Upton. 1-0 at the break, Upton the far better side.

Second half started very much the same as the first, with Upton controlling the possession. Congleton were playing more attacking football and had a few chances on goal, nothing to trouble Mac. A few changes for Upton had seen a change of tempo and helped maintain our energetic play. Congleton managed to create some space down the left wing. A one-two between players saw the run break into the box and a Congleton player slotted into the bottom right corner. 1-1.



The last 5 minutes were full of drama due to a Congleton player receiving a red card for dissent (throwing the ball at Will). Heavy pressure from Upton resulted in them receiving a corner in injury time. The Upton players crowded the box and waited for a perfect delivery. Will whipped the ball across the keeper, who couldn't grasp it, it found its way to Matt who controlled and slotted it between the defender's legs. 2-1 to Upton. A frantic last minute of defending saw Upton victorious, crazy scenes at the death, but joyous celebrations at the final whistle.

Matt
Year 13



A rewarding afternoon

Our amazing Year 7 golden ticket recipients have enjoyed afternoon tea with Miss Welch and Mrs Dixon for their fantastic efforts over the past two half-terms. Keep up the hard work!



More County football success

On March 26th our Year 11 boys beat Culcheth 1-0 to win the County Cup, joining our U18s as County Champions this year! Congratulations to the team and Mr Wearden.



Egg-celence in Languages

The Languages Department ran our Easter Egg raffle again this year, every lesson 2 lucky students could win a raffle ticket if they worked hard and contributed to the lesson. On the last day of term we drew the raffle and awarded the Easter Eggs to our winners!

Mrs Thompson
Head of Languages

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Harvey	Justin	Ruby
Antony	Olivia	Eleanor
Ellie	Edward	

Year 10
Ellie
Abbie

Year 11
Zoe
Nathan

Year 12
Mark

Year 13
Aileen



Dates for your diary

- Monday 16th April— First day of term
- Wednesday 25th April — GCSE Art Exhibition 5pm
- Thursday 3rd May— Year 12 Parents Evening
- Wednesday 16th May — A Level Art Exhibition 5pm
- Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June — Half-term Break
- Monday 4th June — First day of term
- Friday 15th June— Sports Day
- Tuesday 19th June—Sports Day (reserve)
- Thursday 28th June — Open Evening
- Wednesday 4th July— New Intake Evening
- Tuesday 10th July — Awards Evening
- Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th July — Inset Days (school closed to pupils)
- Wednesday 25th July to Friday 31st August— Summer Break
- Thursday 16th August — A Level Results Day
- Thursday 23rd August — GCSE Results Day
- Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th September— Inset Days (school closed to pupils)
- Wednesday 5th September— 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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