

# **Upton Voice**

Upton-by-Chester High School Newsletter

June 2018

# **Emily and Amelia stand up for Global Education!**

During the weekend of 23rd-25th March Emily and Amelia in Year 10 travelled with Mrs Smale to Doncaster to take part in the Send My Friend Champions training. Only 24 students from 12 schools across the UK were selected so it was an amazing achievement and opportunity for the girls. Emily and Amelia have been busy campaigning in school to 'Make Schools Safe' and commit to their global responsibility for all children to be able to enjoy an education.

They are now hoping to visit our local primary schools to share their message. In June the girls will travel to Parliament and Downing Street for an Action day with MPs. This highlights the school's focus on Global Citizenship and our belief in the voice of young people.

Well done Emily and Amelia, I look forward to the rest of the Campaign!

Further information can be found on the Send My Friend To School website (https://www.sendmyfriend.org/) and twitter (@sendmyfriend).



#### **Essar Chester Half Marathon**

On 29th April our students once again volunteered to help with the Essar Chester Half Marathon. Pictured are the fantastic baggage team who sorted, looked after and returned around 6000 bags to runners. The organisers and runners thanked them for a 'slick service with lots of smiley faces!'

The students were a credit to the school. Not only were they on duty from 7am on a Sunday morning, they were excellent ambassadors.

Thank you to all involved, including Mrs Roberts who also assisted us on the day.



## We got Gold!

The Religious Studies department has been awarded the highest level RE Quality Mark award at Gold standard. The assessor came into school and was both moved and amazed by the enthusiastic and determined approach shared by staff and students for the teaching and learning of Religious Studies.

We are very proud of our student's efforts and contribution to this fantastic department. I would like to thank my team of staff who work tirelessly to provide our students with such inspiring opportunities. Credit is also given to the school governors, parents and students for all of their efforts in supporting such outstanding learning in RS. This is a real team effort and fully deserved!

Well done all!

Mrs K Smale
Head of RS & PSHCE



Upton -by -Chester High School
St. James Avenue
Upton
Chester
CH2 1NN
Phone: 01244 981240
Email: admin@uptonhigh.co.uk
www.uptonhigh.co.uk

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

Once again our hall and gym are filled with desks laid out in regimented rows, assemblies and PE classes have been re-scheduled and the tension is palpable. The exam season is now in full swing, in particular for our Year 11 and 13 students and I wish them all the very best of luck as they embark on this critically important time.

It's hard to believe that we're now entering the final half term of the academic year and, as well as focusing on the final lessons and revision for our current students, we're also turning our attention to our new Year 7 intake and preparing for their transition. As with previous years we are once again fully subscribed and will be welcoming 280 new students in September (and we have a waiting list).

We're also looking forward to meeting the Year 4 and 5 pupils from our primary partner schools this half term and have planned some exciting activities for them such as our magical Harry Potter Days and our ever popular Global Challenge, as well as opening our doors to pupils from all years for our Open Evening on June 28.

It promises to be another busy, extremely fulfilling and exciting half term, and I feel immensely proud and privileged to be part of this great community that is Upton High School!

With my very best wishes,

TEDicon

Mrs P. Dixon Headteacher

# **Year 7 History Homework Project**

During the Spring Term Year 7 pupils have been completing a homework project on the development of castles. There were some superb pieces of work submitted including models, Lego, virtual castles and a cake! Some photos are below. This is a report from **Alice** in **Year 7** on the construction of her project:

"My castle was a real journey to make. Every night I would write about all the different things. The reason why I chose to do a motte and bailey castle was because I wanted to put fake grass on the flooring. But also to do something that I knew other people would not be doing. My castle took 4-8 weeks to build. But all the writing took 3 weeks to do. I had to go out and get fake grass, colouring pens, card and cement to stick to the fake grass. I planned it by drawing it out on a piece of paper first and talking with my parents about what I was going to make and buy. First, my dad and I made my first castle but it was far too big so then we made the one that was made to look like a miniature version. The thing I liked about making the castle was drawing the different castles and colouring them in. But the thing I liked the most was watching my castle come alive as I put all the different pieces to make it a perfect jigsaw. I really liked doing this project and I hope the next Y7 like it as much as me. "



















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# **Salters Festival of Chemistry**

A team of four enthusiastic students of Science took part in the Salters' Festival of Chemistry at Liverpool John Moores University on Tuesday 8th May 2018.

During the day the students completed two separate practical tasks, the first involved solving a crime and in the second the team were asked to investigate changing the speed of "The Iodine Clock Reaction".

Many thanks to Mr Bell for organising the visit.

Our team of four year 8 students: Ella; Charlotte; James; Szymon.



# **Upton Students Compete In Cheshire And Merseyside Schools Orienteering League 2017-2018**

A total of 8 students from years 7, 10, and 12 took part in at least one of the 5 orienteering fixtures that were staged across the region during the season. Upton also entered two teams in the final event of the season, an orienteering relay which was held in Birkenhead Park on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Two Upton students received certificates for achieving top three rankings in their age category: Tom came third in the year 7 boys ranking and Alex came second in the year 10 boys ranking.

Anyone interested in competing in the 2018-2019 league should look out for details in the student bulletin at the start of the next academic year.

Many thanks to Mrs Whieldon for organising the competition entries.

Mr Bell

From left to right Ben, Alex, Justin, Ben and Tom after competing in an event at Sefton Park.



### **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.

We are proud to use

Accelerated™
Reader

RENAISSANCE LEARNING

To date this year our pupils have passed over 2600 book guizzes and read over 117 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: <a href="https://ukhosted61.renlearn.co.uk/1894449/HomeConnect/">https://ukhosted61.renlearn.co.uk/1894449/HomeConnect/</a>

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: <a href="http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/">http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/</a> 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.

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## **Cheshire Inter-School Book Quiz**

A school team has taken part in the regional book quiz this year, posting some excellent scores for the 6 compulsory reads and the 6 general literature rounds. After 4 rounds we were in a good position (6th out of 25 schools), so we now await the final table when every school has submitted their scores from rounds 5 & 6. The team members were Bronwyn and Eleanor in Year 8 and Hazel and Lottie in Year 7.

The team was presented with some prizes to mark their great effort throughout the year.

Mr Ryan Learning Hub



# **Visit of Sir Peter Bazalgette**

At the end of April the Learning Hub was packed with Media pupils to welcome Sir Peter Bazalgette. The discussion was stimulating and wide-ranging, covering topics such as the creative industries, the knowledge economy, intellectual property, and career opportunities in the future. Sir Peter also answered questions about his own career in the media, particularly as Chairman of Endemol UK, Arts Council England and currently as Executive Chairman of ITV.





# Dates for your diary

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

#### **Head of Science Awards**

The Head of Science awards are given to students who have impressed their Science teachers in either work ethic, attitude, behaviour or some other way which has made them specifically stand out to their teachers. Winners of the award for the Spring term received a certificate, a Science lapel badge and an Easter egg!

Vienna—Year 7
Edward and Owen— Year 9
Charlie and Alex — Year 10
Chad — Year 11
Atiga, Jack, Cameron and Emma — Year 13

Well done to all! Keep up the good work!

Mrs Bradbury Head of Science



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

http://www.uptonhigh.co.uk



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