



Upton Voice

Upton-by-Chester High School Newsletter

February 2016

Blue Shirt Collection

Last year the school voted to no longer have a summer uniform, which resulted in many good quality blue shirts no longer being of use. I suggested that we should donate the shirts to schools who could find a use for them. With efforts from the Head of Suu Kyi Hall, Mrs Jackson, and the Year 11 leadership teams, we were able to collect an impressive 1000 plus shirts! Thanks to funds raised by our own Eco Team, we were able to contribute towards the transportation costs to send the shirts to their new destinations. Overall, it was a resounding success, due to a great team effort from the whole school!

Rhianna
Year 11 Suu Kyi Hall Prefect

Following Rhianna's suggestion, we sent a letter out on school comms, and were overwhelmed with the response from parents and students, as blue shirts poured into school. We contacted International Aid Trust, who were thrilled to be able to receive so many shirts. They took half of the shirts, and split them between The New Hope School in Sierra Leone, and a refugee camp in Albania, where they have formed a school for the children living there. The remaining shirts were collected by a lovely volunteer, Baboucarr, who took them to Janbur Basic Cycle School in Gambia.



We are currently developing links with this school, and some of their teachers are visiting us in June. They will be speaking to the children during their visit. The collection of our blue shirts has been a wonderful experience, and has truly been a whole school project. It has involved students collecting shirts, all of the Hall's leadership teams sorted, folded and packed the shirts. We even had Sixth Formers washing some shirts! Our Eco schools have raised money from re-cycling, and this is the ultimate re-cycling project! Thank you to all our students, parents and staff for all of their support.



Mrs J. Jackson
Suu Kyi Hall Leader



"Some photos of the children and the shirts; the school would like to use the shirts for prizes and for some of their groups - like the science and maths club and the scouts – they were very impressed with the quality :)"

Facts about the school:

- 744 students.
- The school is made of two parts,
- Lower ages, from 7 to 11, and
- Upper ages from 12 to 18.
- The students come to school either 8 until 1, or 1 until 6. There isn't enough room for them all to go to school so they have to take turns to attend school.

Janbur Cycle School



Albanian Camp for Syrian Refugees



The New Hope School, Sierra Leone

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

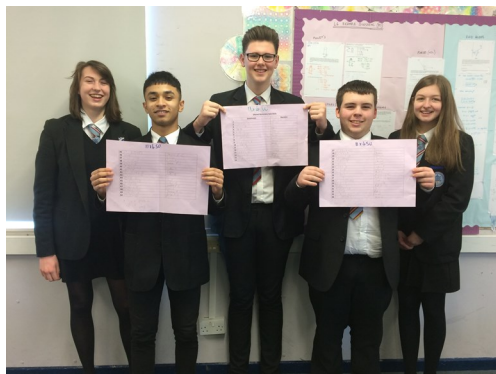
School Numeracy Task

2016 began with the School Numeracy Task. This is the third year of the task; this year more students than ever before got involved creating a lot of excitement and discussion during PLaN as students tried to find solutions for all the numbers.

Mr J. Biard
Head of Mathematics



7X5YU



11X4SU



9X1MA



8X1MA



8X5YU

A date for your diary.....Fairtrade Fortnight

29 February to 13 March 2016



YOUR FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT CHALLENGE IS...

Competitions
Fairtrade lessons

Prizes



Events for the second week

Get involved and have fun for Fairtrade

IN YOUR COMMUNITY – AND WAKE OTHERS UP TO THE CHALLENGES FACING FARMERS AND WORKERS.

Go Fairtrade **and** go local



Own clothes Friday 11th March when you bring in a Fairtrade item for the Homes and Food Bank



Fairtrade hut will be open **every** day at break time



Mrs P. Dixon — Headteacher

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

Since returning from the Christmas break it has been non-stop, preparing for the school production, Year 13 mocks and Sixth Form charity week, amongst many other things.

I watched a performance of Ghost this week and was immensely impressed by the professional quality of the whole thing; the set, the actors, the dancers, the musicians, plus the technical crew and make-up artists. I have to admit to feeling very emotional too, it is such a tear-jerker and the performances were so believable. It was also lovely to see our Year 13 students taking part in their final production, having been involved in so many over the past 7 years.

The Sixth Form student leadership group have yet again made a huge effort to raise money for charity, this year they have chosen the Lewy Body Society for Dementia. We have been thoroughly spoiled by a huge variety of delicious cakes all week and entertained brilliantly by staff and students alike. Well done to everyone involved and to our parents, friends and family for their superb support.

Our Mandarin students did brilliantly in making it to the UK finals of the HSBC-British Council Mandarin competition and, whilst not emerging as outright winners they gave a superb performance which was highly commended by the judges – well done to them all!

From the feedback I have received, our new Parents' & Carers' Weekly e-Bulletin has been well received and I hope you find it useful and informative; it can also be downloaded from our website.

Next half term will be even more critical for our GCSE and A level students as the final deadlines for their controlled assessments and final exams are fast approaching and I look forward to working with them all again.

Over the holiday our ski trip is once again visiting Italy for an action packed week and there will be many staff and students in school continuing to work towards their exams. Many thanks to them all for their tremendous hard work and commitment.

Have a very restful half-term.

PE Students of the Term

Well done to all for their hard work this term.

Year 7 Boys - Tom

Year 10 Girls (CORE) - Monica

Year 7 Girls - Lamia

Year 10 GCSE PE - Ella

Year 8 Boys - Finnan

Year 10 GCSE Dance - Bethan

Year 8 Girls - Kelly

Year 11 GCSE - Beth

Year 9 Boys - Charlie

Year 11 GCSE Dance - Macy

Year 9 Girls - Katy

AS PE - Jack

Year 10 Boys (CORE) - Will

A2 PE - Ella

Student ELF News - all the latest e-Learning Facilitator iPad projects

Appy iPad Times

The ELF students have been extremely busy during the past few months. They started the academic year off by supporting with the iPad deployment sessions. The ELF students were given the opportunity to showcase their knowledge and skills. They presented to the Whole Year 7 2015 intake as well as supporting students on a one to one basis. The support sessions were extremely successful and the ELF students did a fantastic job.

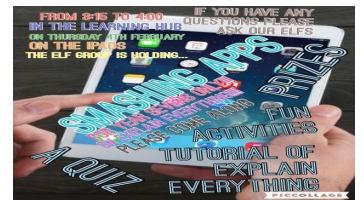


iPad Clinics

The ELF students decided to set up a monthly iPad clinic, where students could seek iPad support in the Learning Hub. This was delivered during lunch times and was accessed by many students. The clinic gave the ELF students the opportunity to develop their own confidence and improve their self-esteem, by being able to help others.

Smashing Apps

The ELF students created an event called Smashing Apps. The idea behind the event was to demonstrate the potential of certain apps and then to give students the opportunities to explore and get creative. The first Smashing Apps event took place in November 2015 after school in the Learning Hub. The event was based on a quiz which was completed on an app called Socrative. The ELF students designed the quiz and implemented it into the app. They designed their own posters to advertise the event and lead the event themselves. As Smashing Apps was a great success, the Year 8 ELF students planned the next one for February.

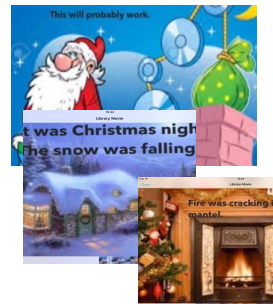


Year 8 ELF students celebrate achievement

The Year 8 ELF group have worked exceptionally hard over the past few months. They had their achievements recognised at the end of the last term in a special celebration of achievements ELF meeting. Mr Keegan presented each student with a certificate of achievement.

Year 7 Christmas iPad competition

In December the ELF students released a Christmas iPad Competition. The competition was designed to get students to be creative using their iPad. The winner of the competition was Vivien in Year 7. Vivien created her entry using the Explain Everything app. Vivien took a range of backgrounds and added image overlays to create Christmas scenes that related to her "Night before Christmas" Story.



iPad Training

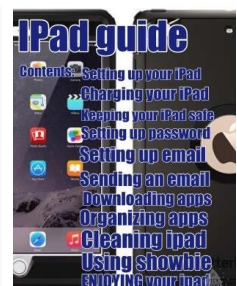
The ELF students recently received a full day of iPad training at school by JTRS. The ELF students received training on two apps, Explain Everything and iTunes U. Explain Everything is a unique and interactive white board that allows students to present their work in a creative and innovative way. The students were trained in using all aspects of the app and explored its potential. iTunes U is an app that allows teachers to develop courses that contain lesson plans, resources, assignments and live chats, creating an interactive classroom. The ELF students learnt how to access contents and how to create their own iTunes U course. The ELF students thoroughly enjoyed their training. Since completing this they have delivered their own



Explain Everything Training to all Year 7 and Year 8 students during assemblies.

Year 7 ELF Students

In September 2015 we recruited a new Year 7 ELF group. The students have shown endless enthusiasm and continue to develop their skills when using their iPads. The students spent the first few weeks getting to grips with their iPads and understanding how to use them as an educational tool. They have enjoyed sharing their iPad skills with each other and are currently working on a interactive iPad guide for the Year 7 intake in 2016.



Accelerated Reader Scheme

Over thirty KS3 students have now achieved Reading Millionaire status since September. This is extremely pleasing and your child may have recently received a reading certificate if they have read over 500,000 words to date. Please can you encourage your child to be regularly reading, especially over the half term holiday.

You can view your child's reading history and progress at the following link using their Accelerated Reader username and password: <https://ukhosted61.renlearn.co.uk/1894449/HomeConnect/>

If you would like to help your child to select another book at their level, please visit the Accelerated Reader Book finder catalogue (which has over 22,000 books listed) at: <http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/>

Mrs S. Johns
Assistant Head of English



Lily, Lisa, Katie and Sam with their Word Millionaire certificates.

Filmclub News

Filmclub runs every Monday after school and members get a chance to watch and review a broad selection of films and genres, some of which they would not necessarily choose at home or in cinemas. The films screened since September include:

- The Ladykillers
- Godzilla
- The Princess Bride
- North by Northwest
- Butch Cassidy & The Sundance Kid
- Into the Woods

The best review for each film wins a certificate and prize. Films are reviewed online through the Filmclub website, so our members' reviews also have a chance to be spotted and win a national prize. We were delighted recently to receive a parcel of prizes from Filmclub for Alex Year 8. His review of The Princess Bride had won Review of the Week nationally.



Alex had this to say when he received his prizes - "What I enjoy about film club is the range of films we are offered from western classics to modern bestsellers. As well as this you can review the films on the Filmclub website and say whatever you like, about key parts of the film, good or bad to share with your Filmclub peers. You never know you may win the national review of the week."

Mr Ryan
Learning Hub

e-Safety Ambassadors



On January 27th four Year 8 students were invited to Cheshire Police HQs to take part in CEOP ThinkUKnow Training. Nathanael, Isobelle, Jack and Olivia gained an insight into how to stay safe on-line as well as meeting up with other local high schools. The students have agreed with Cheshire Constabulary and Youth Engagement Officer to promote the E-Safety Scheme within our school as well as to share new on-line information with their peers.

On Tuesday 9th February 'The Internet Safer Internet Centre' were asking schools to use a heart, a universal sign for love, to promote respect and kindness online this Safer Internet Day. The E-Safety Ambassadors first project was to promote this day whereby they visited year 7 and year 8 form groups and asked the students to write down positive ways in which the Internet can be used. These then will be shared with our local Young Engagement Office.

Next half term the E-Safety Ambassadors will be delivering a presentation to our Year 7 and 8 ELFS (e-Learning Facilitators).

Miss E. Stanley
Head of Year 8



20,000+ stamps collected for the RNIB

Every year the RNIB collect stamps to turn into cash to support research and provide resources for partially sighted and blind children and adults. This year they have a target of 4,500,000 stamps, an ever increasing challenge in today's digital age.

In the run up to Christmas we launched the 2nd Hall Competition of the year – who can collect the most stamps. In a fantastic effort by everybody we managed to collect over 20,000 stamps in a two week period. As usual all of the Halls made a tremendous effort and in a close run competition the results were as follows:

- 1st Place – Mendes,
- Joint 2nd – Wood and Suu Kyi,
- 4th Place – Maathai and
- 5th Place – Yunus



Special mention must be made for 7x4WO (Mrs Evans' form) and 7y2ME (Mrs Collinson's form) who were the best individual form contributors to the competition and collected over half of the stamps between them.

Miss A. McLean
Head of Wood Hall

Applications for Head Boy and Girl — deadline Monday 25th February 2015

As our year 11s approach their exams, it is time to think about the future and select our new Hall Leadership Teams. The following positions are available:

- Year 10 - Head Boy and Girl
Hall Prefects
- Year 9 - Junior Hall Prefects

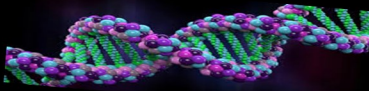
To apply write a letter outlining why you think you are suitable for the position and hand into your Hall Leader.



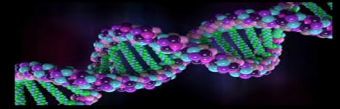
Upton High School Years 7,8,9 and Chester Zoo Competition

£100s prizes to win, chosen entries to be displayed in 'The Islands'

So what exactly
is the →



Science
behind
Conservation



1. Look at Chester Zoo's website and find out where they are working in the world – choose one
2. Research the conservation work they are performing – what are they doing and why?
3. Look at the methods they are using to perform this work, what is their scientific approach?
4. What do they want to achieve by utilising the Science behind Conservation.

**WHAT
WE
WANT**

Go on Impress Us

*Think Big!
Think Science!*

A presentation in the format of your choice describing the science behind conservation. It can be a poster, a display, an iPad presentation, or anything else your creativity can come up with.
Single person entry or group work.

All entries to Lab 3

No later than 3rd March

Mr A. Caine
Science

Year 8 ELF students “Explain Everything” at Smashing Apps

During December 2015 the Year 8 ELF students participated in some iPad training. They were taught how to use the Explain Everything app. The students decided that they wanted to pass these valuable iPad skills onto other students.

During January and February the Year 8 ELF students planned, advertised and delivered their own Smashing Apps event. The ELF students designed a workshop style training session. This gave them the opportunity to share their Explain Everything expertise.

The ELF students demonstrated how to use the tools within the app, to create fantastic pieces of work.

Year 7 students who attended the Smashing Apps event had the opportunity to get creative with the app. We awarded a prize to the student who produced the most creative work, using the range of tools within the app.

Mrs D. Keefe
Staff e-Learning Facilitator



Year 7 students being shown how to add text and images on the Explain Everything app.



Year 7 students being shown how to add video.



Ben (Year 7) won 1st Prize for confidently demonstrating the ability to use the app.

Schools for Future Youth

We have been chosen by OXFAM to be a trial school for SFYOUTH (<http://sfyouth.eu/>), a brand-new global citizenship project linking 40 schools in Italy, Cyprus, Poland and the UK. This Erasmus + European funded project is an exciting opportunity for students to network through the exciting toolkit and share the outcomes of their civic participation with young people from other European countries.



OXFAM



Erasmus+

Attendance Stars

Here are details of our Star Forms for January & February in terms of attendance. Well done to all!

Research suggests that the greater the attendance, the greater the achievement. Too many days off school will affect GCSE grades and future job prospects. Attendance should always remain above 95% to allow pupils to achieve their full potential.

Follow this link (<http://tinyurl.com/uptonhighattendance>) to our Attendance page for details of our Attendance Policy and helpful national advice on raising and maintaining children's attendance.

Year	Form	% Attendance
Year 7	7x5yu	99.6%
	7y5yu	98%
	7x1ma	100%
	7y2me	96.1%
	7x2me	97.8%
Year 8	8y5yu	99.3%
	8x4wo	97.7%
	8y4wo	97.7%
	8y1ma	98.3%
	8x1ma	100%
Year 9	8y2me	98.4%
	9y1me	99.2%
	9y2yu	100%
Year 10	9x2su	95.4%
	10x5yu	99.2%
	10y4ma	99.6%
Year 11	11x4su	98.6%
	11x5wo	98.6%
	11y3ma	99.2%
	11y4me	99.2%

Dates for your diary

Monday 29th February to Friday 11th March — Fairtrade Fortnight

Thursday 3rd March — Year 11 Exam Success Evening

Wednesday 23rd March — Year 8 Parents Evening

Thursday 24th March — Inset Day (school closed)

Friday 25th March — Good Friday (school closed)

Monday 28th March — Easter Monday (school closed)

Thursday 31st March — Dance Show

Monday 4th April to Friday 15th April — Spring Break (school closed)

Monday 18th April — Summer term begins

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

<http://www.uptonhigh.co.uk>

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