

Headteacher: Mrs J.S. Holland

WINNERS-Chemical Industry Enterprise Challenge

Upton High School Girls win the 'Make It in the Chemical Industry Enterprise Challenge'

Recently two Year 9 teams competed in the 'Make It in the Chemical Industry Enterprise Challenge', a national initiative designed to promote careers in engineering.

Students manufactured samples of scented soap, devised marketing and advertising campaigns and produced detailed cost analysis for their proposed business venture. Students then undertook a 'Dragons Den' pitch in front of four 'dragons'.

From the twelve school teams who entered the event, we are delighted to announce that the 'Upton High School Girls' team won the competition. The 'dragons' described their pitch as 'professional and inspiring, one of the best we have ever heard from a school team'. The team will now compete in the Regional Final in June 2013.

Many congratulations to the girls on this superb achievement, and thanks also to Mr Collis for sharing the success with us all.

The winning team is pictured below: Cleo Harding, Francesca Seale, Elinor Gray, Bethany Newis, Juliana Christianson, Annabel Scott, Millie Cook and Katherine Craig.



Champions of Badminton- again!



Many readers will know that we have an outstanding girls' badminton team in Year 9. The girls have a lot of experience of high level competition having already been placed twice in the National finals at Centre Parcs.

This year's campaign began with victory in the County Championships which qualified us for the North-West Regional heat.

We beat the first two schools 5-0 (All Hallows and Failsworth), then played two very difficult schools where the girls knew their fellow High Performance Centre players from other County teams. We beat both by 4 games to 1, so it didn't even go down to the wire. Beaming manager Miss Green was using words such as 'convincing' and 'brilliant'.

So, for the 3d year running, we are North-West Champions, and it will soon be time to pack the bags for a weekend at Centre Parcs in April to try and win the Nationals! Upton Voice is backing our girls to put up a really strong performance and we wish them the very best of luck. Well done girls.

Superb musical experience with BBC Philharmonic.....

Recently 24 music students travelled to Media City Salford, to meet the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, and more notably, the famous Austrian composer/conductor, Karl Heinz Gruber!

It was an amazing experience! The studio has been especially designed with the orchestra's needs taken into consideration. It is a state of the art acoustically engineered orchestral extravaganza!

There were several perspex screens, both floor standing and suspended which eliminate too much reverberation for the recording sessions. Each section was tiered, for maximum resonance and to ensure a perfect view of the conductor from every angle.

The BBC Philharmonic were the first to move to the Salford Quays site in 2011 and to celebrate the move, the orchestra held a 17-day festival. They performed 12 concerts with broadcasts on 6 of the BBC's stations, including a ground breaking collaboration with dubstep artists Nero! They have made over 200 recordings and sold over 900,000 albums !



We listened to 3 pieces being recorded - "On the Town: Overture" and "On the Town: Three Dance Episodes", both by Leonard Bernstein and "Northwind Pictures" by Karl Heinz Gruber.

Gruber is one of the most well-known and well-loved figures in contemporary music and one of the major talents of post war music. Composing in his own highly individual style, he has been labelled "new romantic, neo-tonal, neo-expressionistic" and "neo-Viennese". His music was certainly very quirky and different! It had some unusual sounds in it - such as a wind machine, foot stomping from the lead violinist and musical jewellery boxes! There were extreme dynamics and a great deal of percussion used. Unusually there were also 9 double basses in the piece!

It really was an honour for us all to hear a real live composer talk about his own work! A very special trip that we will all remember for a very long time!

**Meet the maestro...
Karl-Heinz Gruber**



Sixth Form Debating Society

Students from Upton-by-Chester High School took part in a heated debate on Tuesday 12th March at their regular Debating Society, arguing "Does the media promote violence?"

The Debating Society, chaired by Mrs Loyley and Miss Main, gives 6th Form students an exciting opportunity to develop public speaking, debating and analytical skills, providing them with invaluable experience to prepare them for a future career.

Each team consists of a proposer, who prepares an opening speech and closing statement, and a seconder, who prepares a secondary opening speech and answers questions from the audience, meaning everybody can get involved. Jack Whittaker and Rowan McDonald spoke strongly for the motion, but after an audience vote, William Ellis and Ryan Goulding were victorious speaking against the motion.

