



# Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School Parents' Newsletter January 2026



## Message from Ms Carruthers:

A very warm welcome to the fifth newsletter of the academic year for the parents and families of Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School.

I would like to start this newsletter by wishing you all a very belated 'Happy New Year' from all the staff and Governors at the school. Let us hope that 2026 sees us all healthy, prosperous and successful and sees our school continue to go from strength to strength. The staff and I would also like to thank you for all your generous gifts and cards at Xmas it was very thoughtful – Thank you.

# Thank You!

Don't forget to check out our website filled with lots of information about school and what your child is learning:

[Upton Westlea Primary and Nursery School: A Warm Welcome to Upton Westlea](#)

## Class News:

**EYFS:** Despite the terrible weather, Apple Blossom have enjoyed working outside. We've been bird watching and recording what we have seen flying past..... mostly gulls!

Reception have been working hard in drawing club, creating some amazing designs and ideas. Nursery have enjoyed the bikes and trikes, making roads and signs. We have all had fun making maps!

**Year 1:** Willow Class have been enjoying their learning all about animals. We have named common animals and learnt about mammals, birds, and reptiles. We used this on our visit to the zoo and identified what animal group the animals belonged too. Mr Ellison has also been helping us with animals in Forest School. We have been looking at the superpowers that they have. In Maths we have looked at shapes, patterns and measuring. Our class story, this half term has been The Lion Inside and we have enjoyed writing sentences about the mouse and lion.

**Year 2:** Ash Class have enjoyed developing their Geography skills this term by exploring maps and learning more about their local area using Google Earth. They have loved identifying familiar places and understanding how maps help us navigate the world around us. In Science, the children have been investigating materials and discovering which ones are suitable or unsuitable for different purposes. They have carried out exciting experiments to test whether materials are bendy, stretchy or rigid, and have worked brilliantly to record their findings. Well done Year 2 for your enthusiasm and fantastic learning this term!

**Year 3/4:** Elm Class have stepped into the past this month and have been learning all about the lost city of Pompeii. We have also enjoyed learning about the effect of sugar on our teeth in our Science lessons and through the Chester FC GULP Project (Give Up Loving Pop). We have also loved our Storyhouse lessons with Elenka, learning all about the Roman way of life.

**Year 5:** Holly Class have been working tirelessly on developing their fraction knowledge. We have been looking at converting, adding, subtracting and much more when it comes to fractions. In English, we have continued our work on Norse myths and the children have produced some fantastic writing so far. Lastly, the children have been working very hard in Computing and have developed a great understanding of crumble kits and how they can be programmed. Well done Year 5!

**Year 6:** Oak Class have been working incredibly hard grappling with archaic language in their written work by using stories by Oscar Wilde but also in Maths working on percentages, ratio and now algebra.

**Eden:** The Oaks of Eden have had a great time exploring the North and South Pole and learning about the different climates and length of days! We decided we would not like days that were dark! In Science we have set up two experiments looking at plants and what they need to survive and grow! We had learnt that some seeds such as cress do not need many nutrients to grow. We are now all experts about Tigers and are in the middle of creating our own non-fiction book all about Tigers and what we have learnt about the beautiful big cats! Well done Oaks, another busy month with lots of great work completed!!

The Acorns of Eden have had lots of fun learning about animals using our books Dear Zoo and We're Going on a Bear Hunt. We have followed instructions that have used positional words such as on, under, high, low, next to. We have collected natural resources from the forest area and used them to make bear faces and homes for the animals. We have worked really hard to learn the Makaton signs for the animals and we have been using them in our singing and storytelling. Finally, we investigated patterns and looked at the patterns on the animals skin, we then had a go at making our own animal patterns.

## Dates for February 2026:

Date	Class	Event
4 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	Oak Class (Year 6)	Fieldwork in Chester and at the Storyhouse
4 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	Holly Class (Year 5)	URENCO Science Workshop
9 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	Whole School	Mental Health Week – 'This is our Place'
10 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	Whole School	Internet Safety Day
13 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	Whole School	'Break the Rules Day'!!! Fundraising event organised by the School Council ☺
16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	HALF TERM	
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 2026	INSET Day	
24 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	Whole School	Children return to School 8.40a.m. start
26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	Ash Class (Year 2)	Working with Storyhouse

Thank you for your continued support

K Carruthers