

Newsletter No. 18

8th February 2019



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Exciting Writing!

As we come towards the end of our whole school term of learning about Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, we are starting to see some extraordinary writing outcomes – from newspaper reports to diary entries, character and setting descriptions to poetry, the standard of writing across the school has been very impressive. It has been wonderful to see our children so engaged in their learning about one of our Great British icons and using drama to help the learning really come alive has led to high levels of engagement from all of our children. One of the great things about my role is being able to dip in and out of learning across all subjects and year groups and I have enjoyed my visits to masked balls, busy markets and a tense courtroom with an accused Romeo on trial. Our group of Year 5 children are busy preparing for the Trust-wide celebration event at Royal & Derngate on Monday 18th March – even if you don't have a child performing, it promises to be a stunning evening and it's well worth considering coming along to watch. There will also be a gallery of work on display from across the Trust with plenty of Upton representation!



Dates

- 12th Feb** Year 5 Mexican Day. Parents to attend at 2.55pm
- 13th Feb** 4a Class Assembly 9am
- 15th Feb** End of Term
- 25th Feb** Teacher Training Day
- 26th Feb** School reopens
- 5th March** School Class Photos
- 5th March** Class 5b Parents Evening
- 6th & 7th March** Parent's Evenings
- 8th March** World Book Day
- 15th March** Y5 Space Centre Trip
- 18th March** NPAT Romeo & Juliet

Polite Requests



We have a number of children who are being collected late from school every day. This is putting significant pressure on our office staff and taking a large amount of staff time. Children often become distressed when they are not collected and it can be a very unsettling and upsetting experience for them. Whilst we appreciate that very occasionally circumstances may occur that mean you are held up and not able to get here by 3.15pm, this should not be the norm, and we do ask that you

make contact with the office to advise us of this and your expected arrival time. The office staff are monitoring the situation carefully and logging all late collections – where there are recurring incidents, parents will be contacted.

Please do not park in our school car park at drop-off or pick-up times unless you have a disabled badge or a special agreement with Ms Searing. If staff are enforcing this request, please do not use abusive or offensive language towards them – this will not be tolerated.



Attendance

2a	97.5%
4a	97%
6b	97%
3a	96.13%
2b	96.07%
1a	95.33%
Rb	95.09%
5a	94.33%
1b	94%
4b	94%
3b	93.87%
5b	93.79%
Ra	92.86%
6a	90.67%



Philosophy for Children (P4C) Bronze Award

A massive thank you and congratulations to the staff and pupils for helping us achieve our Bronze Award for our P4C work in school. P4C is Philosophy for Children, a way of learning that involves the children forming questions that they discuss in class, challenging each others' thinking. We have some amazing thinkers here at Upton Meadows. Here's to our future philosophers!

Superstars

This week Superstars have shown lots of our school values including being kind and helpful, perseverance, excellent attitudes and determination.



Good Work Awards

Children received Work of the Week awards for their fantastic work this week which included amazing work in science, arithmetic, phonics, understanding of 2d shape and handwriting.



Children's Mental Health Week 2019

As part of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week 2019, on Friday 15th February we will be talking about our feeling and we can relax and look after our mental health. We will be blowing bubbles as a whole school.



Bronze Awards

Well done to all of the children who received their bronze awards this week for reaching 50 individual dojos which are awarded for showing our school values.



ESafety Workshop

We had nearly 100 parents attend the esafety workshops this week and we have been really impressed with the children's esafety homework they have been sharing on Twitter. Badges will be handed out today and prize draw winners announced in next Friday's assembly.



Basketball

Huge congratulations to some of our Year 4/5 children who took part in a Basketball competition at Campion School on Thursday and won! The team won 4 games and drew 1 game. They scored the most points and the most baskets!



Teach Your Monster to Read

Unfortunately, since we introduced the Teach Your Monster to Read app last week some parents have experienced problems. The App is available for £4.99 but you don't have to pay and download it. It works on Internet Explorer/Chrome/Safari on a computer, tablet or smart phone. Make sure you click the 3 horizontal lines, which is the drop down menu, on the top right-hand corner of the page and click on 'sign in' for free (not start your reading adventure on the home screen as this takes you back to the app which you have to pay for).

I hope this makes sense and that your child enjoys learning through Teach Your Monster to Read. If you still experience problems please talk to your class teacher or Mr Griffiths.