



THE GANDER



Upton upon Severn CofE Primary and Pre-School's Newsletter

Friday 24th October 2025



Coats in school every day please!



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a long but incredibly successful half term, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the hard work and dedication shown by all our children. They have approached their learning with great enthusiasm and perseverance, consistently demonstrating our value of responsibility – taking ownership of their learning, their actions, and the way they support one another. It has been wonderful to see their progress and the positive spirit that fills our school each day.

I would like to thank our staff and families for their continued support, and I wish everyone a well-deserved, restful half term break.

Remember: due to parents' evenings, there will be no staff led clubs the first week back.

Anything is possible, we can all succeed!

Whole School Attendance: 94.41%

Reception: 93.33%

Year 3: 96.07%

Year 1: 94.21%

Year 4: 99.2%

Year 2: 93.16%

Year 5: 91.72%

Year 6: 90.42%

Date	Event
27th - 31st HALF TERM	
November	
3 rd	School opens No staff led clubs this week
4 th	Parents Evening: 3:30pm-5:45pm
6 th	Parents Evening: 3:30pm-5:45pm
7 th	Y2 Multi-skills Festival
9 th	Upton Remembrance Service
10 th - 14 th	Children in Need Fundraising Week Scooting to Tanzania! (letter sent today)
10 th	Pre-School Maths Stay & Play 2:15pm
13 th	Michael Rosen Poetry Party (in school)
14 th	Children in Need Non-uniform day
19 th	Reception Class Maths morning 9:30am
25 th	Open Morning 10:00am



Useful Contacts

Headteacher: Mrs. Arthur

Deputy Head: Mrs. Vizor

School Office: 01684 592259 – office@uptonuponsevern.worcs.sch.uk

SENDCo: Mrs. Vizor – sendco@uptonuponsevern.worcs.sch.uk

Chair of Governors: Dr Andrew Walker – office@uptonuponsevern.worcs.sch.uk



Our Super Stars of the Week!

Pre-School: Evelyn

Reception: Edie

Year 1: Rudy

Year 2: Blake

Year 3: Olivia

Year 4: Edward

Year 5: Mildred

Year 6: Roman


Congratulations

Our Flock Stars

Awarded to children, by children for outstanding teamwork

Pre-School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Coming soon	Coming soon	Teddy	Molly
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Evelyn	Hattie	Lauren	Elsie



Thank you to everyone who came to the Discos,
Friends raised £332.59!

Ayda in Year 1 has achieved her 5m
rainbow Distance Award in Swimming!

Poppy in Year 1 has achieved her
Stage 4 Award in Swimming!

Terry in Year 3 has achieved his red/
black belt in Karate!

Evelyn in Year 3 has made her Brownie promise!


Congratulations

A HUGE Harvest Thank you!



 Malvern Hills
Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Charity number 1151964

Upton-upon-Severn Baptist Church,
Old Street, WR8 0HN

Thank You to Upton Primary School
for your donation of 69 kg Food
It is great to have your support

Charly Lowndes

Signed: Charly Lowndes, Chairman

Date: 3rd Oct 2025

Cauliflower Cards

Thank you to everyone who purchased
their child's Christmas Cards; by doing
so you've raised £210.75 towards our iPad
total!

Spotlight on...Year 5



This half term, Year 5 have been diving into hands-on learning across science and art. In science, the children conducted exciting experiments to investigate the properties of liquids—carefully observing and deciding whether their samples were mixtures or solutions. The classroom buzzed with curiosity and collaboration, and the photos captured their thoughtful discussions and discoveries.

Meanwhile, in art, Year 5 showcased their creativity through stunning 3D maps inspired by our typography and map topic. Using a mix of materials and techniques, they brought landscapes to life—highlighting hills, valleys, rivers, and structures. The results were both educational and visually impressive!

Well done, Year 5, for a brilliant blend of scientific thinking and artistic flair!



Enriching our learning



To continue their learning about people who help us in the community, Pre-School and Reception Class visited the local fire station. It was an amazing experience for the children and staff alike and everyone returned to school with a real buzz of excitement! The children learnt all about the equipment used by the fire-fighters and even got to sit in the fire engine and have a go with the hoses!

A huge thank you to everyone at the fire station for enabling this opportunity, it really did help bring the learning to life.



Forest School Fun!

Year 2

In English the children have been studying the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. To enhance their learning we planned our Forest School session around this theme. Together at base camp, the children retold the story. The children were very creative in exploring different 'flavours' of porridge that the bears might have enjoyed as well as looking at the language of comparisons. The children explored the site to find leaves and sticks that were big, bigger, biggest and small, smaller, smallest. It was a lovely session to end the half term.



Reception Class

We read the story of Elmer by David McKee. The children observed the changing autumn colours and created their own natural Elmers. Some children demonstrated some wonderful team work to build a den. Others we busy creating menus in the mud kitchen.



Children in Need 2025

Our aim—to scoot the distance of Upton to Tanzania

This is a distance of about 4,800 miles.

1 lap = 1 mile distance covered.

Monday 10th and Wednesday 12th November

Children in years **R, 2, 4, and 6** are invited to bring their scooters and helmets into school for a donation in the bucket on the gate.

Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th November

Children in years **Preschool, 1, 3 and 5** are invited to bring their scooters and helmets into school for a donation in the bucket on the gate.

Friday 14th November—come to school wearing home clothes for a donation on the gate

Remembrance Assembly

We were lucky enough on Monday to be joined by Amy Miles (Engagement Officer) and Steve Mackay (Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner) from the police. Steve spoke to us about the importance of Remembrance and why we take part in this special time of reflection. Some of the children in school have been making poppies that will be pinned to the statue of the Unknown Tommy outside Malvern Police Station so please do take a look if you're passing that way.



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Lest We Forget



A fond farewell..

This term, we say a heartfelt farewell to Mrs. Saftiuk, who has been a dedicated and compassionate member of our school community for the past three years. During her time with us, she has provided unwavering support to our Ukrainian children and their families, helping them to feel welcome, settled, and valued within our school.

Her kindness, understanding, and commitment have made a lasting difference in the lives of so many pupils. Whether offering a listening ear, a word of encouragement, or guidance through challenging times, Mrs. Saftiuk's care and dedication have shone through in all she has done.

We are deeply grateful for her contribution and the positive impact she has had on our school. She will be greatly missed by staff, students, and families alike.

We wish Mrs. Saftiuk every happiness and success in her next chapter – thank you for everything you have done for our community.





Friends

of Upton Primary School

Meet our new committee



Elected Members

Chair - Heidi Sullins



Treasurer - Yvonne Vercueil



Vice Chair - Lyz Treanor



Secretary - Lisa Oram



Volunteer members

Events Officer - Sally Ritchie



Communications Officer
Elsa Acock



Events Officer - Laura Seymour





Friends
of Upton Primary School



Meet your Class Rep

What is a Class Rep? Essentially a volunteer parent who acts as a liaison between the school, the friends, and the parents in a specific class.

**Reception & Year 2
Elsa Acock**



Year 1 - Sarah Chandler



Year 3

Heidi Sullins & Lisa Oram



Year 4 - Sally Ritchie



Year 5 - Helen Redding

Year 6 - Alex Drury



Not all heroes wear capes!

Many of you will know our enormous fish tank in the meeting room at school. It has entertained and distracted children and adults for the last ten years. The tank was donated and regularly cleaned by Wendy, Freddie's Nanna. Unfortunately, on Monday last week, we noticed a slight leak which led to an emergency rescue of the fish. Huge thanks go to Wendy for her quick action and perseverance in scooping up every last tiny fish and then baling out and cleaning the enormous tank.

Shirley at The Yorkshire Grey proved to be another hero in disguise, being prepared to adopt our homeless fish bright and early on Monday morning.

It does not end there! An appeal went out for help to remove the broken, and now rather smelly, fish tank and Heidi, Jude's mum, rallied the troops and an amazing team of parents and grandparents made swift work of the removal. A quick wet vac of the area and you would not know there had been a calamity on Monday! It really was an opportunity to celebrate our wonderful school community and the team effort that make Upton so special.

If you would like to visit the fish, they now live in luxury in the fish tank at The Yorkshire Grey.



THE STAR PROJECT
Theatre School



October Half Term at The Star Project

Join Us for a Spooktacular Star Project October Half Term!

The Star Project warmly invites you to participate in our thrilling October Half Term! We have an array of exciting activities lined up, and we want you to be part of the fun! Allow your child to unleash their creativity, forge new friendships, and acquire valuable skills at one of our workshops this October Half Term!



Date: 31st October

Where: Droitwich Salvation army

Time: 10am - 4pm

Cost: £35

Ages: 10-16

Discover the world of Little Shop of Horrors through the music and the story of the musical



Date: 2nd November

Where: The Lickey Hills

Time: 10am - 4pm

Cost: £35

Ages: 7+

Discover the story of The Lost Hiker, walking through the woods using your environment to tell the story and create theatre.



Date: 27th & 28th October

Where: Barn Green Parish Centre

Time: 10am - 4pm

Cost: £49

Ages: 6- 12

Travel through the journey of K-Pop Demon Hunters, perform the songs and dances and become the characters!

How to Book:

1. Visit www.thestarprojectevents.co.uk
2. Create your account
3. Navigate to **My Dashboard**
4. Click on **Add/Update Child**
5. Complete all required information
6. Return to **My Dashboard**
7. Select **Enrol & Pay Fees**
8. Choose the Workshop/Event you wish to attend
9. Complete your payment at **Checkout**
10. A **confirmation email** will be sent to you shortly after

Celebrate Halloween with The Star Project!



Date:

29th October

Where:

The Scout Hut, Catshill, B61 0LJ

Time:

5pm - 7pm

Cost:

£10

Attendance

Green (97.0% and above)

Amber (95.5% – 96.99%)

Red (95.49% or below)



What YOU must do:

- Telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence and leave a message on the absence line (we may call you back if we need anymore information).
- Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, **send them in anyway** as they often perk up on arrival. **If they are unwell we will call you.**
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

- Check your child's attendance every day.
- Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you and/or write a letter to you.
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

Every day in school counts...

and every minute counts...



BRIDGES OF LIGHT.

Presented by Severn Arts

Part of the Local Voices Creative Choices programme



Worcester City Centre

Free to Attend

**29 and 30
October
6pm-9pm**

Bridges of Light is a new, two-day light festival, with a focus on communities, creativity and collaboration.

Severn
Arts

Men, women and children are welcome at St Peter and St Paul, Upton Parish Church

A new Sunday Communion Service for All
followed by coffee / tea/ juice / biscuits



Upton Parish Church at sunrise

Beginning
October 5th 9.30am – Celebrating creation

Continuing:

November 2nd - Light

December 7th - Waiting for Christmas

January 4th - Special Gifts

February 8th – Planting bulbs

March 1st – to be confirmed

Extended hours!!!

Toddler Tuesdays

Stay and play

Every Tuesday 1.30-3pm in term
time

Hands on sensory, creative and
imaginative play for 0-5 year
olds and parents/carers

Storytime and snack
led by Mrs Berryman

At Riverboats Children's Centre

Prices Lane, Upton, WR8 0LD



riverboats



Children's Centre