



Friday 14th March 2025

Upton upon Severn CofE Primary, pre school and Riverboats SureStart Children's Centre,
working together to support the local community



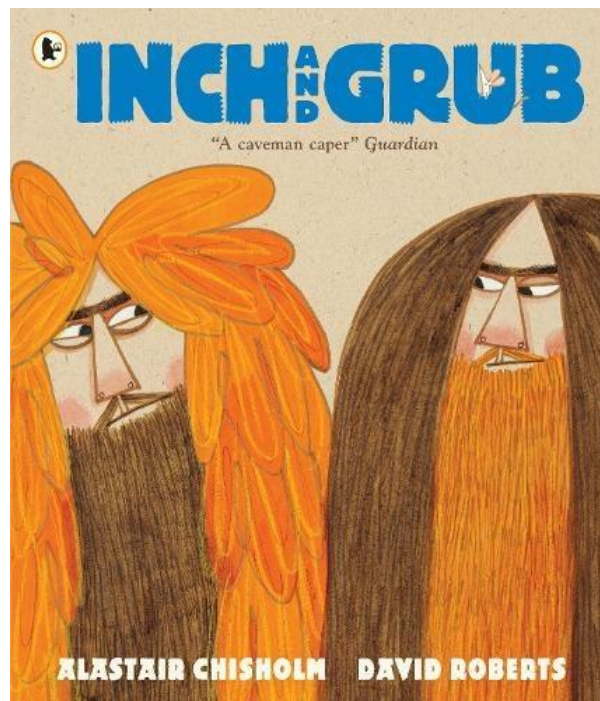
Our School Vision is to offer inspiration to young lives 'Anything is possible, we can all succeed'

Providing enriching experiences to foster aspiration 'To inspire ... To aspire'

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13)

Bible quote

(Psalm 18.2) The Lord is my rock



This week in our collective worship, we shared a story by Alastair Chilsholm called Inch and Grub. In this story, two cavemen try to compete to have the largest number of luxury items until one day, everything tumbles down and is broken and meaningless. They realise that they are left with nothing; well, not quite nothing, they are left with friendship and they decide that this is the most important thing.

We thought about the words, 'The Lord is my rock' and how the story helped us to understand what these words mean beyond a literal rock. The rock is a symbol of steadiness, reliability, and being permanent. We thought about all the people in our lives who represent these very important characteristics. We could think of people at home, in school, and in the community who are our rocks: our steadiness, our reliability, and our permanence. These are important people to us that make up our community.

Preschool

This week, Preschool have been thinking about Planting and Growing! We have been planting potatoes and cress, talking about the growing process and what plants need to live. Our book focus has been Supertato by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet, and one of our main tasks for the week has been to find all of Supertato's body parts that the Evil Pea has hidden. There have been lots of discussions about different fruits and vegetables and we made fruit smoothies to support this learning too. What a busy week in Preschool!







Reception



I am a super proud teacher this week because the children have all been absolutely amazing and have produced some fantastic work. We now have a Monday challenge where the children are encouraged to produce a piece of writing all on their own using the resources around the class to help them. The children have taken up this challenge with enthusiasm and the box of writing is over flowing! It is great to see the independence of the children growing alongside their perseverance and courage. I know that I can trust them to do their best and they trust themselves to have a go. A great week!

Year 1



During Science week, we completed a quiz to see what we had learnt about animals. We can talk about which group they belong to, such as mammals, birds, or reptiles, and if they are herbivores, carnivores, or omnivores. We have learnt why animals have differently shaped feet, such as a duck having webbed feet to paddle through the water. A camel has wide feet to balance in the sand, and a gorilla has feet like hands! Outside, we hunted for caterpillars (coloured string) to see what we could find. The blue, green, and yellow caterpillars were really hard to find in the grass, and the red and white ones were easier to spot. Pearl and Ollie told us that they were camouflaged and they blended into their surroundings therefore they were easier to spot.

Year 2

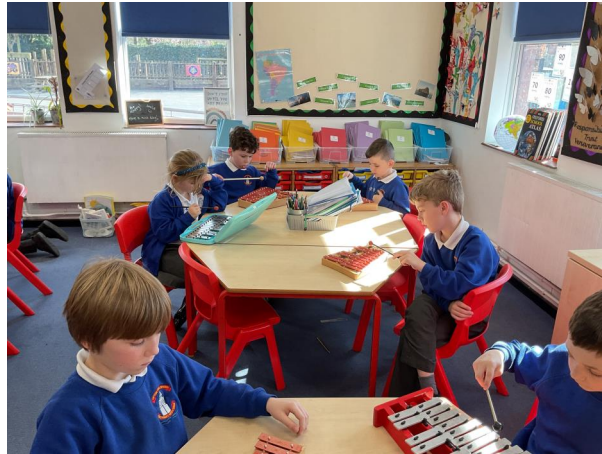


In Year 2 this week, we have been very busy learning how to play the glockenspiel in music.

We had already learnt the notes B, A and G and this week we joined them all together in a song. We thought carefully about the value of each note- minims and crotchets (1 beat and 2 beats) and how we can use rests in a piece of music.

We also worked hard as a team to make sure we were all playing together like a proper orchestra! The sound was beautiful. Some of us even had a go at conducting the orchestra!



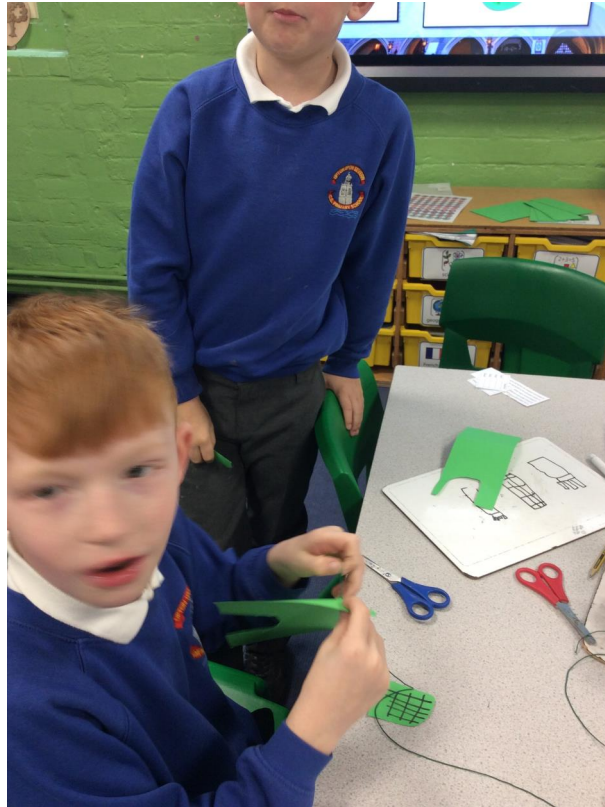


Year 3 - the pulley mechanism



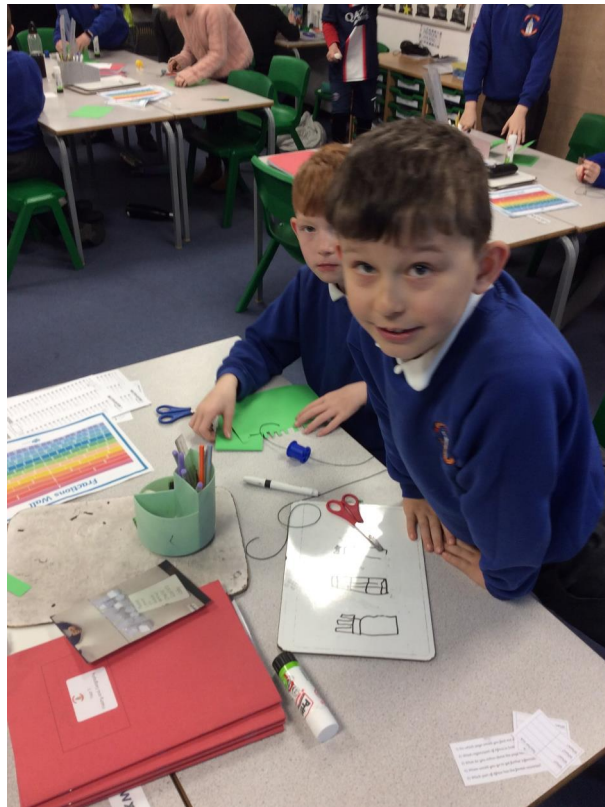
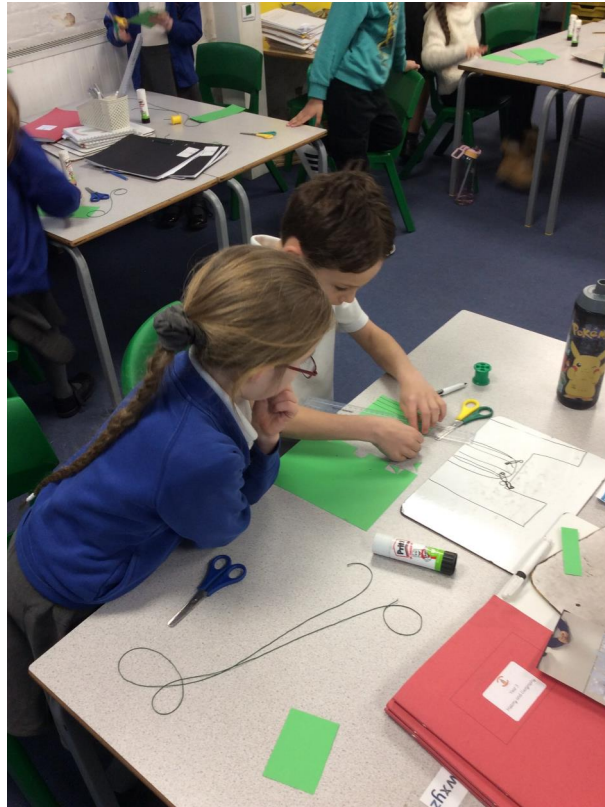
This afternoon, Year 3 had an exploratory DT lesson. The children watched a video of a drawbridge being installed. They were then given the challenge to create a pulley system with the materials I had given them. This skill will be important if they want to include a drawbridge in their final design and structure they create in this DT journey.

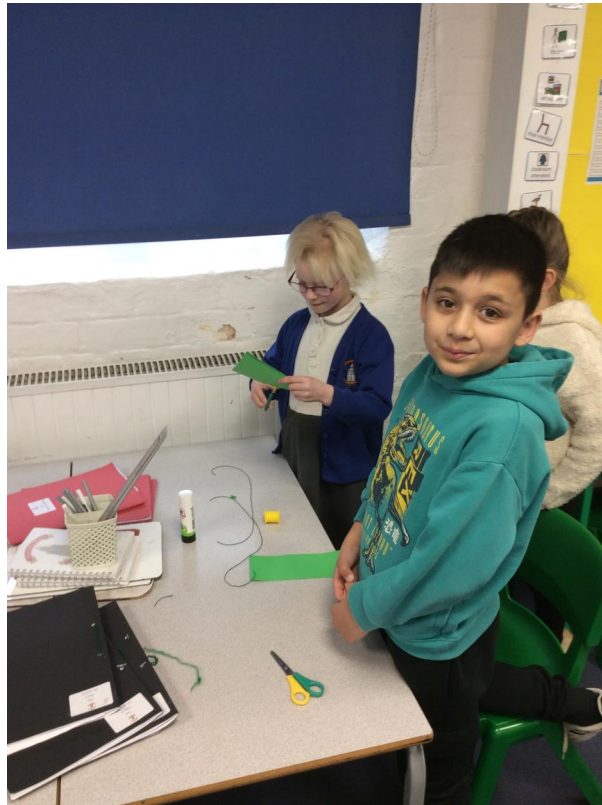
















Year 3 and 4: cinema trip to see Paddington in Peru



Year 3 and 4 enjoyed a trip to the cinema to see Paddington in Peru.

This trip was a treat which linked to the Year 4 work about rain-forests and was a lovely experience for our children. The cinema tickets were free through Malvern Theatres, and the children enjoyed the shared experience of watching a film with their friends and other primary school-age children. The children laughed, oohed and aahed, and clapped at the end! Their behaviour was exemplary, and it was a great morning. Thank you to our parent helpers for coming with us: James, Holly, and Esmond's mum.

Year 3 absolutely loved joining Year 4 for this special cinema treat. It is always lovely to diversify what we expose our children to outside of the National Curriculum and giving them the experience to go to the cinema to be a part of the film festival was a great way to do this.

Year 5 at Hanley Castle High for an athletics morning.



This morning, Year 5 set off to Hanley Castle High School to spend the morning doing indoor-based athletics activities. As always, these activities were very well organised and it was lovely to see some familiar faces of ex-pupils leading the activities. Throughout the morning, it was great to see the determination and effort that Year 5 gave to all the different skills required.

A great morning was had by all. Some of the highlights were:

Archie - "I liked learning netball skills, especially chest passes."

Leo-"I was really good at the relay race."

Kayden-"I enjoyed playing as an Upton team and competing against other schools."

Sofia -"I enjoyed the long jump and jumped further than I thought I would."

Sophie-"The obstacle course warm-up was great fun."

Olivia-"The races were fun, and we all felt like winners."

Both our girls and boys teams represented the class with great enthusiasm, both achieving fourth in their groups.

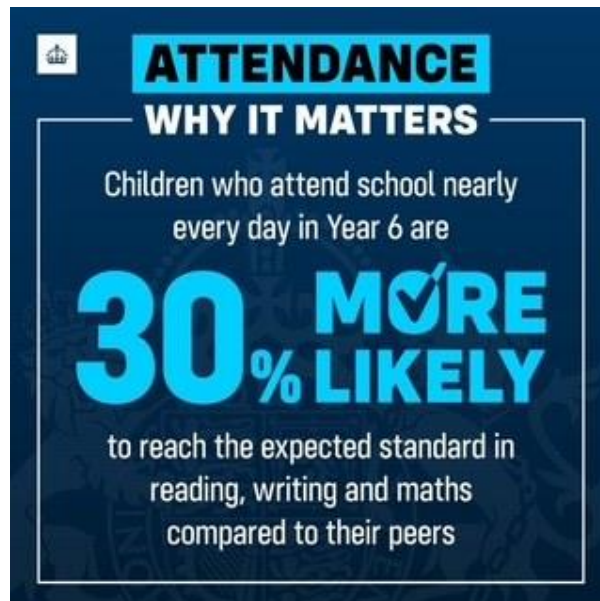
Year 6 Jolly Hockey Sticks



This half term we are learning some new skills in hockey. Hockey is a fast-paced game that requires speed, agility and stamina. It also helps improve hand-eye coordination and footwork skills. Hockey is a really physical game and already some of the children are noticing aching backs and a few bruises along the way. We are going back to the original game played on grass and are learning how to use the stick accurately, attack and defensive skills and playing safely. The children particularly enjoy playing games at the end of each lesson and are adapting their football tactics to the game to ensure they are spread out and passing to each other.

In other news, the DFE have released the following research today, fresh off the press. We now have 29 teaching days left until the start of SATS. Every day counts.

At primary school, children who attend school nearly every day in Year 6 (95-100% attendance) are 30% more likely to reach the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90-95% of the time.



The Moorings

This week at the Moorings we have been getting creative making some puppet theatres. The children have been making some scenes for play dough or sock characters to support imaginative play and ideas. We have also been making smoothies which were devoured!







British Science Week 2025 takes place from the 7th to the 16th of March, with the theme of 'Change & Adapt'. During this week, schools are encouraged to celebrate with STEM activities and events related to changes in nature, technology, space, and more.

Within school we have fully embraced this week of science learning in the following ways:

Reception - We are learning that plants are living things.

Year 1 - We looked at how animals camouflage to disguise their appearance and blend in with their surroundings.

Year 2- We linked our work to our DT lesson and thought about different food groups and how these food groups help us to grow and stay strong.

"Protein helps our muscles"

"Dairy helps our bones"

"Carbohydrates give us energy"

Year 3 - Year 3 participated in the Science Week Live lesson with the BBC. We looked at what it takes to become an Astronaut and how to keep fit and healthy in space.

Year 4 - We have explored the human impact on the environment through deforestation. We linked this to our geography work about rainforests.

Year 5 - This week, we studied the similarities and differences between the life cycles of insects and amphibians. We looked at the changes they go through and know that this is called metamorphosis.

Year 6 - This week, we looked at how the environment can play a huge part in the adaptation of animals. We discussed Darwin's voyage around the world and the examples of adaptation in tortoises and finches in the Galapagos Islands and how animals vary within a very small area.

Focus On Reading: Free Resources for Comprehension



CPG are currently offering a free trial on their reading resources. Often parents are keen to practise comprehension with their children and these resources are really good for practising stamina and fluency. Please follow the link below to access these resources:

<https://www.cgppplus.co.uk/primary/ks2>

School Council - The Big seed grow



The School Council, working with Adventure Club, will be distributing pots to all members of our school community from Year R-6 next Friday. These pots need to be nurtured, cared for, and encouraged to grow, with the aim that the plants will be returned to school for the Great Plant sale, to be held on May 21st after school. The pots will all be colour-coded for each of our school teams. The team who returns the most pots (that are saleable) will win a team reward.

Breakfast club Early adopters Government scheme for our school



Our school has been successful in the recent application to become a breakfast club early adopter school, with 750 schools being funded by the Government to provide access to a free, universal breakfast club. We will be helping to test and learn what works to implement the free breakfast clubs, nationally.

As part of the offer, our school will offer 30 minutes of childcare alongside a free breakfast. The club is open to all pupils from reception to Year 6.

The scheme will run from summer term 2025 until at least the end of Spring term 2026. The government is still making decisions about the timing of a full national rollout.

From the first day of the summer term 2025, we will be delivering a free universal breakfast club for 30 minutes before the school currently opens the gates. This will be from 8:05-8:35am.

Our free breakfast club will be integrated with our existing breakfast club which will continue to be run and the prices for this will be dropped to £3:00 to cover the early bird slot from 7:30-8:05. Your child can either attend from 8:05am or pay the extra £3:00 for the early bird cover from 7:30am. All breakfast will be served from 8:05 am.

If you have a child in our pre school breakfast club is available as an hourly paid addition to their nursery time depending on availability. Please call the school office or talk to Mrs Wiggett for more information regarding this if you wish to arrange a pre-school breakfast club place.

We would like you to fill out a questionnaire to help us find out your views about your child or children attending the free breakfast club.

<https://forms.office.com/e/EehAH2nMMb>

Can you please fill out one form for each of your children if you have more than 1 child attending the school. The results will enable us to make a firm plan for the summer term to support the number of children who will be attending.

Office information.

Calendar Dates :-

20th March **Yr4** Karate Experience HCHS

W/C 24th March - **LAST WEEK OF TEACHER LED AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

27th March **Pre-School** - Mothers Day Tea Party

28th March 9.30am Church Service St Peters and St Pauls

3rd April **Rec & Yr6** Height & Measures - School Nurse

11th April **Yr3** The Alexandra Theatre Trip

11th April Church - Easter Service - St Peters and St Pauls

Friends of Upton upon Severn Primary School

We can't thank you all enough for coming along to our table top sale and supporting the Friends of Upton Primary School. We managed to raise £115; without your contribution, this would not have been possible. We do hope you will continue to support the friends at future events, and if anyone is interested in helping at any events please do get in touch. All monies raised at these events go towards subsidising school trips along with providing better enrichment opportunities and facilities for your children. We are currently working hard to raise funds to refurbish the adventure playground so that it can be used by the children all year round.

Volunteers needed



We are looking for any willing grown-ups who are able to help out at school and community events, if this is something you would be interested in please

email

uptonprimaryfriends@gmail.com

Support the





UBUNTU

Friday 25th April 2025 7pm

The Memorial Hall, Upton upon Severn

As part of their 40th year celebrations, The Dream Tour featuring the Ubuntu choir is heading to the UK in Spring 2025! This inspiring group of African Children's Choir alumni will share their joyous music, stories of hope, and the incredible impact of education.

We will welcome them to Upton upon Severn on Friday 25th April 2025 at 7pm.

During the concert there will be a free-will offering taken and after the concert, the chance to buy merchandise.

All monies are raised through ticket sales, the offering and merchandise goes directly to support the African Children's Choir.

Adults £10 - Under 16s £5 - Family 2+2 £25

