



Friday 14th February 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

Matthew 7:12 So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you

Wear It Red Day for the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity



As a school, we have raised funds for the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity every year since 2014. A few years ago, our school pupils came up with the idea of sharing this fundraising with other schools and we held our first Wear It Red day in February 2023 and then we worked with the charity to expanded this into other schools in the area. Last year, Wear It Red day was taken up by other schools through Worcestershire and this year, for the first time, other authorities covered by the vital MAAC services have been invited to take part. We are proud to support the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity's Wear It Red Day 2025, showing our love for the charity on Valentine's Day.

The premise is simple – all pupils wore red and made a donation we then also enjoyed lots of activities and an assembly presented from the MAAC team complete with a thank you from the crew. We all enjoyed our day and are still collecting together the donations. After the half term holiday, we will let you know the final amount!

Inter-team Poetry Competition



1 - Team Captains receiving the certificates for their team



2 - Mr Plant, Hanley Castle High School librarian and our wonderful guest adjudicator

On Wednesday 12th February, Years 1 to 6 performed in the inaugural inter-team poetry competition. The atmosphere was palpable as weeks of dedicated rehearsal culminated in excitable, enthusiastic and word-perfect performances.

Performances were adjudicated by our very own Mrs Wills together with Mr Plant, the school librarian and poetry advocate from Hanley Castle High School.

Severn team were deemed overall winners with a fantastic 50 team points added to their total this week. They performed, Saw My Teacher on Saturday with wonderful actions and clear presenting voices. Wye and Teme tied for second place (30 points) performing The Sound Collector and Gran, Can You Rap? with very carefully choreographed performances from both. Avon came third with a very enthusiastic version of Ning, Nang, Nong gaining them 20 extra points this week.

There were also some brave souls from Year 5 and 6 who gave solo performances. Thank you to Harley for being volunteered to go first. All of the individual performers: Harley, Bethany, Olivia, Poppy, Annie-Rose, Miriam, Isabelle, should be very proud of the courage they showed. Congratulations to Miriam and Isabelle; your performances scored equal points and you are awarded 15 team points each with 5 points to our other performers.

The feedback from children and adults has been wonderfully positive and next time we hope to squeeze in a small parent audience to share the fun with us.

Reception



Love is in the air this week. The children enjoyed the 'wear it red' day and have definitely taken on the idea that love can be your love of friends and a love of the people around us. We have been showing kindness and consideration all week.

It is hard to believe that the children are half way through their reception year! They should be very proud of all the progress that they have made socially, emotionally and academically.

Please have an amazing half term and we look forward to seeing you for the next term where we will be thinking about growing and our environment.

Year 1







We have continued learning about octopuses this week by narrating a film in the style of David Attenborough and writing a non-fiction report.

This afternoon we have made and decorated helicopters, by cutting and folding paper and putting a paper clip on the end. The wings were floppy but when they fell through the air the wings were pushed up by the air. We had had great fun flying them.

Year 4: What kind of world did Jesus want?

Julieann Watson came in to talk to the children about her role as associate priest in Upton and how she lives her life as she believes Jesus wants. She asked the children, 'What and when is work?', explaining that her vocation involves her in working with other people as part of a team, showing people that they are appreciated, supporting community members in different ways as well as helping in the physical church. She spoke about doing her work, 'with the help of Christ'.

The children had many questions, which they asked respectfully and then made notes of her answers. Afterwards, they reflected on the question of how they think Julieann lives her life as a Christian.

Some of their questions included:

'Do you have training?'

'Do you help with equipment in church?'

'Can you quit?'

'Do you take turns to read the Bible?'

'Are you working right now?'

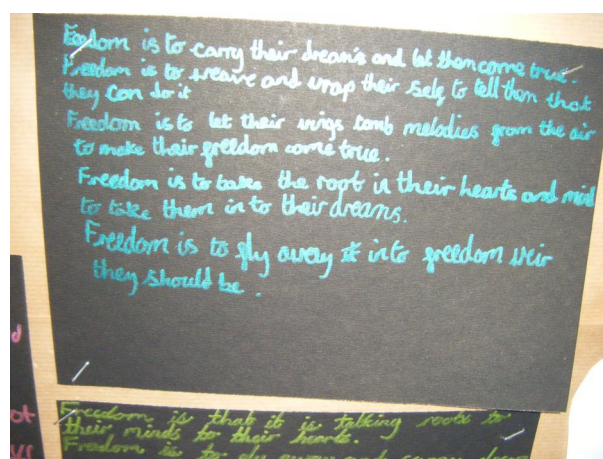
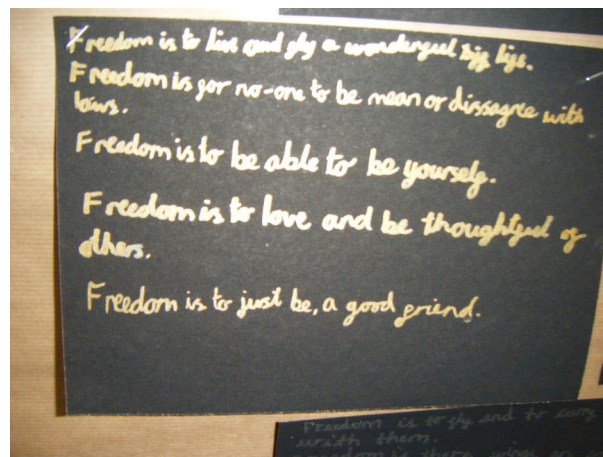
Thank you to Julieann for giving the children this insight and provoking more questions for us to dwell on.

Year 5 Freedom Bird and Freedom song

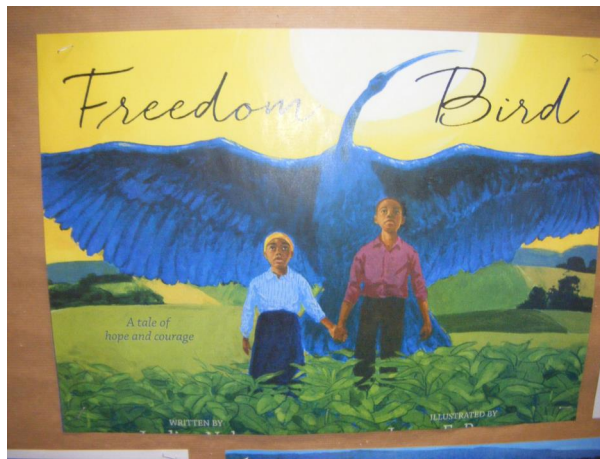
Over the last few weeks Year 5 have studied 'Freedom Bird' by Jerdine Nolen. Within this book, we have learnt about the slave trade that took place in America between 1540 - 1850 , we also learnt about the Underground Railway, a secret network created to enable people to escape.

In the book, we are introduced to the concept of a bird, the bird represents Freedom. The class have produced some amazing pieces of writing based on this book.

Our music this term has developed our improvisation skills. Building up on these skills over the last few weeks, we managed to perform the whole song with lead singers, backing singers, instrumental section and a percussion group. The performance was quite amazing.



Freedom is to fly with friends and be free
and carry the dream with them.
Freedom is to begin to take root in our hearts
and minds.
Freedom is to let our people could fly away
to freedom in our own time.
Freedom is to begin to weave and wrap
itself around them like a quilt
Freedom is to fly with cottoned melodies
from the air.





Year 6: A Visit to the Black Country

On Thursday, Year 6 paid a visit to the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley as part of their history topic on the Industrial revolution. We were greeted off the bus by a lady who proceeded to ask 'yam orroight am yow?' much to the amusement of the children. We ventured into the museum and were given some information about children who had lived in the Black Country under difficult circumstances, many of which would have worked down the mines, in the fields or even in the factories. We visited back to back houses where we learnt all about what life was like for poor people and how the mining of coal played such an important part in the development of the area. We were fortunate to visit the blacksmiths and see nails and chains being made as they would have been a hundred years ago. The mine is central to the museum and the children were able see how coal was transported from the mine to the canals. One of the highlights of the trip is always a visit to the cinema where we watched a silent Laurel and Hardy film called Big Business. The children thought this was very funny. After the cinema, it was time for school! We visited a Victorian school house where we were taught to recite our tables and the alphabet backwards! Unfortunately Mrs Davies, Mrs Gabriel and Mrs Garey were all very badly behaved and told off for wearing jewellery and having painted nails. Mrs Davies even received the cane for being naughty in class!

We finished our trip with a visit to the old fashioned sweet shop and a ride on a double decker bus. All in all, the trip was great fun and we would like to thank Mr Young for supporting us on this occasion.









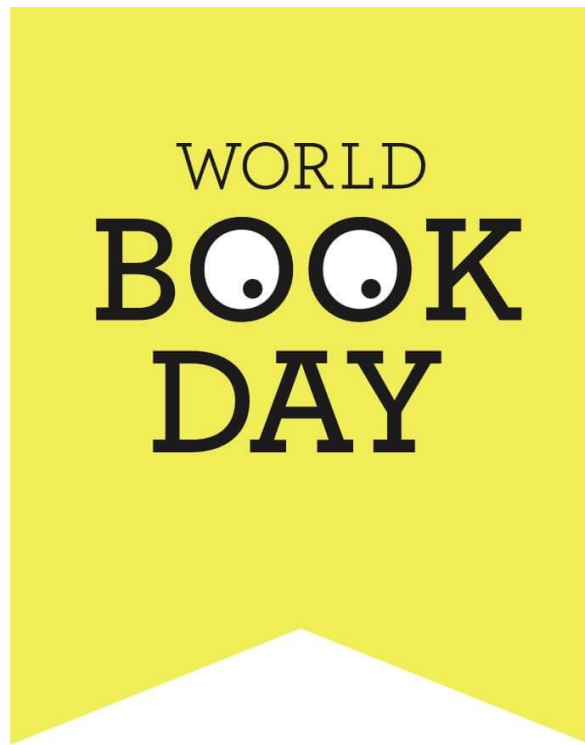






Focus On Reading: World Book Day March 6th





We are celebrating World Book Day 2025 on 6 March. This year we are asking you to 'Read Your Way' celebrating the reading that your child chooses to do in their free time without judgement.

We're inviting everyone to **Read Your Way**, to give children the opportunity to discover reading on their own terms.

Read Your Way encourages everyone to let go of reading pressures and expectations, and lets children find fun in reading.

Children and parents tell us that reading can feel like work, so we're here to unlock the fun!

This year we would like children to wear anything they feel comfortable reading in. This could be a costume, pyjamas, a onesie, a cosy tracksuit, anything. Children can bring cushions, pillow, blankets, teddies if they would enjoy reading with these. Throughout the day, we will have a variety of activities which promote reading 'anyway, anywhere, anytime.' We will have a visit from a special guest to read to the children in the morning's assembly and we will do lots of activities which focus on reading all sorts of different things. Children will have the opportunity to create their own book covers and there might even be a special performance by the staff.

Please follow the link below for ideas to celebrate this special day:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/WBD-2025-EYES-RIGHT.png>

Office information.

IMPORTANT :-

If you wish to collect your child early from school please let the school office/class teacher know by email - Please do NOT leave messages verbally with staff on the school gate as all communication needs to come through the school office . Thank you

office@uptonuponsevern.worcs.sch.uk

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Year6@uptonuponsevern.worcs.sch.uk

Calendar Dates :-

3rd April - Rec Class & Year 6 NHS Height & Weight



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

