

Newsletter – 3rd April 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

This final week of term has been dominated by Parent-Teacher Consultations, and I truly hope that these meetings have provided you with a comprehensive insight into your child's progress. Engaging in these discussions is vital, as we understand that, as parents and carers, you are keen to learn about both the academic achievements and the social experiences that shape your child's development. At Upton, we strive to create an environment where children can flourish academically while also forming meaningful friendships and developing social skills that they can use beyond their four years at Upton.

Your dedication and involvement in your children's education are immensely appreciated, and I would like to extend my thanks to you for contributing to a successful term. It is through our collaborative efforts that we can foster a nurturing and enriching learning atmosphere for all of our Uptonians. I am incredibly proud of the children and their hard work this term. They have shown exceptional growth and resilience and as always, their enthusiasm and eagerness to learn are inspiring.

As we start our Easter break, I hope you all have the opportunity to enjoy quality time together, whether through family activities, hobbies, or simply unwinding at home.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter break, Miss Arthur Head of School



Year 3

Year 3 have had an absolutely fantastic term, filled with exciting learning experiences and lots of enthusiasm! The children have worked incredibly hard and embraced every opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills across various subjects.

In Thematic, we've enjoyed learning about the Romans. From learning about Roman soldiers and their armour to discovering how they built their incredible roads and cities, the children have been captivated by the history of this ancient civilization. We have explored Roman myths, learnt about their way of life, and even looked at the impact they had on Britain. Our lessons have been engaging and interactive, helping the children to really immerse themselves in this historical era.

In English, our writing has also been linked to our Roman topic, allowing the children to write for a variety of purposes. This cross-curricular approach has really helped to deepen their understanding of the topic, whilst also developing their English skills.

Maths has been a hands-on and practical experience this term! The children have been busy mastering multiplication, division, and time through interactive activities and engaging challenges. Using practical resources and real-life scenarios has made these concepts more accessible and enjoyable. Their confidence in problem-solving has grown tremendously, and they have shown great perseverance in tackling tricky questions.

Overall, it has been a term filled with enthusiasm and hard work. Year 3 have truly embraced their learning and demonstrated a fantastic attitude towards their learning. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and cannot wait to see what the next term brings!

Well done, Year 3!

Year 4

This term in Year 4 we have focused our learning around the Early Islamic Civilisation and electricity. We learnt about the hub of knowledge and learning - the House of Wisdom in Baghdad - and how the Silk Road trade route brought about advanced innovations which we still recognise today. We explored circuits and how electricity works and built our own night light with a switch.

During our English lessons, we have studied the book: The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane. We have written within a range of genres including writing a series of diary entries, a letter, a free-verse poem and even our own Twisted Tale.

Maths has been focused on decimals - tenths and hundredths - and calculating with them. We have rounded to the nearest whole amount and multiplied and divided by 10 and 100.

The children have all worked exceptionally hard this term and we look forward to seeing them back after the Easter holidays.

Year 5

This term has been a fun filled one! In maths, we have been adding, subtracting and multiplying mixed number fractions, finding percentages of amounts and describing translations. Our text in English this term has been 'Who Let the Gods out' by Maz Evans. The children have thoroughly engaged in this text and enjoyed learning about the characteristics of each Greek God and Goddess. Throughout the term, they have written internal monologues, narratives and descriptions. For their non-fiction write this term, the children wrote a set of instructions to explain how to build a CAMS model.



Our thematic this term has been Gods and Mortals. We have focused on how the Ancient Greeks influenced our modern world through their innovative ideas and inventions. The children learnt about the similarities and differences between Athens and Sparta, studied Greek mythology and learnt about the Parthenon. Thematic was concluded with a WOW day! The children explored Greek food, Greek dancing, Ancient Greek Olympic sports, Ancient Greek mythology and Ancient Greek pottery designing.

This term, we also had two groups of Italian students in year 5. This was an incredible experience for the children! They had the opportunity to learn about a different culture,

guide students around their school and classrooms and support them with the immersive experience.

Year 6

This term Year 6 have been enjoying Emma Carroll's 'Letters from the Lighthouse'. Using this charming text as a stimulus, they have successfully written across a range of genres including setting descriptions and a balanced argument. There has been a heavy focus on the editing and improving process as the children take ownership of their writing.

In maths, after tackling missing angles and coordinates, Year 6 moved on to a unit on statistics where they learnt to find the mean average of a set of numbers. They then explored ratio and proportion.

Our Thematic Curriculum unit, 'Paths to Peace' started with an understanding of the events leading up to the Second World War. We have explored life on the home front and learnt about the war's impact on our locality including a trip to Ramsgate Tunnels. This unit will continue next term.

Term 4 cannot pass without a special mention of Year 6's attitude and effort in the build up to SATs; the children's drive and determination to be the best they can be is inspiration!

Music News



"Wow!" barely covers the incredible musical journey we've had this term at Upton! Our two Spring Concerts were a testament to the dedication and talent of our students, bringing joy and energy to everyone who attended.

The first night was a delightful blend of classical elegance and contemporary beats. Mrs. Nunn's Violin Group, including many brand-new starters, captivated us with their renditions of four pieces, including a beautifully executed "Edelweiss." The Ukulele Group transported us with their soulful performance of Adele's "Rolling in the Deep," while the Percussion Group set the stage alight with Imagine Dragons' "Believer" and a truly energetic version of Woodkid's "Run Boy Run." The sheer enthusiasm was infectious!



Night two took a thrilling modern turn, showcasing the raw talent of our three Rock and Pop Bands. Riots of Colour delivered powerful performances of "Seven Nation Army," "Riptide," and "Eye of the Tiger," leaving the audience buzzing. Unknown Artist brought a mix of emotion and energy with "Somebody You Loved," the iconic "Feel Good Inc." (complete with some truly impressive rapping from one of our students!), and the high-octane "Song 2." Finally, The Pop Rock Pandas closed the night with

unforgettable versions of "Zombie," "Stargazing," and "Viva La Vida." The energy in the hall was electric!

Both nights were made even more special by our full school choir, who performed heartwarming renditions of "A.P.T.," "Love Story," "Praise You," and "Africa." We also had the pleasure of hearing from our talented Young Voices, Radio Upton, and several outstanding solo artists. A particular highlight was the interactive moment during "A Little Respect," where the audience joined in with gusto, creating a truly memorable experience.

This term, our music lessons have been just as vibrant. Year 3 explored the foundational elements of music, laying a strong groundwork for future creativity. Year 4 delved into the powerful connection between emotions and music, culminating in their own orchestral interpretations of Hans Zimmer's "Time." Year 5 embarked on a fascinating journey through Western Music History, from medieval chants to modern pop hits. And Year 6 mastered the art of Music Technology, learning how to set up and manage small music rigs for performances.

Next term promises to be equally exciting! Year 3 will compose their own original songs, Year 4 will explore the diverse musical cultures of the world through drumming, Year 5 will create film scores to accompany a Disney short film, and Year 6 will begin working on their grand final performance.

Keep your ears open for announcements regarding concert dates and some very special extra performances that are in the works!



Sports News

A Thrilling and Action-Packed Term for Upton Sports!

This term has been nothing short of incredible for Upton sports teams, with our student's showcasing resilience, determination, and team spirit across a variety of competitions. From football and rugby to swimming, squash, and cross country, our athletes have been busy making Upton proud!

On **Saturday, 28th March**, two Upton teams took part in the **Years 3/4 Super Saturday Football Tournament**. They

played with great resilience, composure, and energy in every match, demonstrating fantastic team spirit throughout. Both teams should be immensely proud of their achievements!



Just days earlier, on **22nd and 23rd March**, four of our talented students travelled all the way to **Bath** to compete in the **National Biathlon Finals**. Facing some of the top young athletes in the country, they put in outstanding performances, achieving **47th, two 27th placings, and an incredible 6th place nationally**—a fantastic achievement!



Also, on **23rd March**, our **Years 5/6 boys' swim team** 🏊 took part in the **Kent Swim Relay Championships**. After a brilliant morning of racing, the team dominated both their freestyle and medley relays, winning **double gold** 🥇 🥇! This incredible victory means they now advance to the **Southeast Finals**—a massive achievement!

The action didn't stop there! On **20th March**, our **Years 3/4 and 5/6 squash teams** competed in the **Thanet Competition**. Both teams displayed fantastic Upton spirit, and after a great day of competition, both teams secured **3rd place** 🏆 —a brilliant result!

Rugby was also on the agenda this term, with our **Years 5/6 rugby teams** competing in the **Six Nations Thanet Competition** on **15th March** 🏈. Every player gave their all, and Upton 2 came **agonisingly close** to victory, finishing in **2nd place** 🏆 —just one try away from the trophy!

Meanwhile, our **Year 5/6 football team** made history in the **Les Riggs Cup Final** on **13th March**. After six months of knockout matches, they faced St Peter's in the final, putting on an amazing performance winning 4-1!

Well done to all our teams this term.



Art News

Term 4 has been a lot fun, full of colour and very, very messy! We have been experimenting with paint and printing and have created some beautifully vibrant pieces of art.

The year 3's have been using watercolours and looking at Georgia O'Keeffe. They have been blending colours and experimenting with complimentary colours when painting their own O'Keeffe flowers.

Year 4 have been printing this term, initially looking at William Morris and his repeating flower patters. Next, they studied Andy Warhol, taking influence from him when stencilling.

We have looked at a multitude of artists in year 5, our focus being different ways to use paint. We explored Kandinsky and his colour theory, linking colours to emotions. Next, we looked at Da Vinci and how he developed his work from detailed sketches. We then moved on to Vermeer, looking at his use of shade and tint to create depth in his work. Finally, we finished on the wonderful Alma Thomas. We used all of our knowledge over the past lessons to create a final piece inspired by her and her amazing work.

Last but not least, Year 6 have been looking at 3 artists to use as inspiration to paint their own final piece that reflects their own lives. We used JMW Turner as an example of watercolour blending, Gustav Klimt to see detailed patterns and iconography and finally Romare Bearden, who is a wonderful example of narrative in paintings.

Next term, the Red and Yellows will be able to enjoy delving into these subjects and artists with as much passion as the last classes.

Artist of the term – Jean Michel Basquiat

First of all, well done to Leonor in year 3 – the winner of the Term 3 Artist of the Term. Her wonderful work inspired by Roy Lichtenstein was outstanding! All the entries were excellent, however hers really stood out.

Our artist of term 4 was Jean Michel Basquiat. He was a very important and inspirational artist that had a huge influence on the art world and is still revered and imitated today. I have had lots of fantastic entries, and the winner will be announced in term 5.

We have an extremely talented group of children at Upton. Many of our pupils are able to develop their talents through the wide variety of clubs we have on offer in school. Lots of our children are fortunate enough to participate in a range of clubs and activities outside of school.

We want to be able to share your child's talents and successes – whatever they may be. In order for us to celebrate their success, we need to know about it! Don't be shy – be proud and let us know. Email your celebrations to office@uptonjunior.com and will add them to our website.



We have a 'Celebration Assembly' every Friday and encourage children to bring in their certificates, trophies and medals to receive congratulations from the whole school community.



Please find some useful links for activities, events and support available to families in our area:

[Viking Academy Trust - Parent funding support](#)

[Viking Academy Trust Emergency Out of Hours Contact Form \(keysurvey.co.uk\)](#)

Local Kent Directory <https://local.kent.gov.uk/kb5/kent/directory/home.page>

SEND Information Hub: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs>

Early Help (support for families) <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/early-help-support-for-families>



Swimming & PE

Monday	Year 3 B & G to wear PE kits & bring in swimming kits Year 5 to wear PE kits
Tuesday	Year 4 B & G to wear PE kits & bring in swimming kits Year 3 to wear PE kits
Wednesday	Year 6 to wear PE kits
Thursday	Year 5 B & G to wear PE kits & bring in swimming kits Year 4 to wear PE kits
Friday	Year 6 B & G to wear PE kits & bring in swimming kits

If your child is unable to swim please email office@uptonjunior.com so that we can notify the swimming instructors, thank you. Swim kit is to consist of: Trunks or a one piece swim suit, Goggles (if needed) and a swim hat



EASTER TRAIL

...at the Museum

5th April - 21st April
10am - 4pm

Find the Easter pictures around the museum & win a prize!

Only £1.50

Normal museum admission applies

NO NEED TO BOOK!
info@rafmanston.co.uk

RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM
Charity Number: 1179982

RSPCA WE'RE BACK! RSPCA THANET'S

EASTER Event!

HOP ON OVER & JOIN US ON
Friday 18th April 2025
11am-3pm

RSPCA Isle of Thanet, Queensdown Road,
Woodchurch, CT7 0HG

Entry fee: £2 adults, £1 children. Extra fees for other activities will apply

Like us on Facebook to follow this event

Craft & gift stalls
Teddy Bears picnic
Easter egg hunt
Raffle & games
Bake Sale
and much more...

OPEN COCKPIT WEEKEND 2025

12TH AND 13TH APRIL | 10AM TO 4PM |
RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM CT12 5DF



Fire Engine Rides



Cobweb Car Show

Sunday Only



Tank Rides



Climb in the Cockpits



Museum Entry



USUAL MUSEUM ADMISSION PRICES APPLY | RIDE ADMISSION SEPARATE

info@rafmanston.co.uk

www.rafmanston.co.uk

What Three Words - remarried.mornings.pave

Refreshments available

NO NEED TO BOOK

Subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances including, but not limited to, weather conditions, mechanical breakdowns and shortage of volunteers and/or exhibitors.