

Newsletter – 18th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to you all for your support throughout the year. Your partnership has been invaluable, and it has played an important role in fostering a thriving educational environment for our Uptonians.

What a year it has been! As we reflect on the months gone by, we can genuinely say that it has been a great year filled with numerous accomplishments and memorable experiences. Our commitment to providing an outstanding education was recognised in our Ofsted inspection, where we received an ‘Outstanding’ rating in all areas. This achievement is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm of both our staff and children, as well as the strong collaboration with you, our parents.

Throughout the year, we have organised a variety of lovely activities designed to enrich our curriculum and enhance our Uptonians overall learning experience and to provide the children with opportunities to explore their interests, develop their skills, and build lasting friendships. It has been a joy to witness their growth and enthusiasm as they embrace new challenges and experiences.

Once again, thank you for your continued support, and I wish you and your families a wonderful summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another fantastic year ahead, Miss Arthur
Head of School



Year 3

Year 3 have had an incredibly busy and exciting term! Our Thematic Learning has focused on the fascinating world of Rainforests. The children have explored the different layers of the rainforest, discovered a wide variety of animals and plant life, and taken part in many scientific investigations. A real highlight was our *WOW Day*, where the children created stunning rainforest-themed artwork and even had the opportunity to meet and handle real rainforest animals!



In English, we thoroughly enjoyed reading *Charlotte's Web*. The children produced some fantastic pieces of writing, showcasing their creativity, imagination, and growing confidence as writers. They should all be very proud of their efforts!

Maths this term has been filled with investigations, puzzles, and problem-solving activities, helping the children to deepen their understanding and apply their skills in fun and challenging ways.

As we come to the end of the school year, the Year 3 team are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved, both socially and academically. We wish them every success as they move into Year 4!

Year 4

Term 6 has been all about Broadstairs for Year 4. We have been on a walk around the town collecting data for our fieldwork projects. We looked at how Broadstairs has changed over time and used grid references to find key locations, including a scavenger hunt around Upton. We compared the UK to Italy and looked at how topography affects how the land is used. Finally, in our science lessons, we looked at how animals can be grouped together using classification keys. We have enjoyed learning more about where we live.

In English, we have been studying the book 'The Boy at the Back of the Class', which follows the story of a refugee called Ahmet. The children have been able to empathise with the characters through

writing dialogue, a narrative to retell Ahmet's story and a news broadcast, which we filmed on the iPads. We have also used drama to bring some of the story to life and create quotes for our news broadcasts. We have used lots of descriptive devices to describe a pomegranate - a main feature in the text.

In maths, we have focused mainly on shape. First, we began the term by exploring different types of angles and identifying them in a variety of shapes. Next, we found points on a grid using coordinates and described translations. We ended the term by looking at different patterns and sequences and at the properties of 3D shapes, including faces, edges and vertices.

We have had a wonderful year in Year 4 and the children have worked incredibly hard. We would like to thank all our families for their support and wish everyone a happy and relaxing summer, ready for Year 5.

Year 5

This term in Maths, Year 5 have been working on 2D and 3D shapes, volume, and problem-solving. The children have engaged in hands-on learning outside, linking to shapes and volume. Alongside this, they have been working hard on their arithmetic skills and applying this knowledge in their reasoning. They finished the year by designing their own Maths board games and had the opportunity to play with their peers.

Our English text this term has been *When the Mountains Roared*. The children have thoroughly engaged with this text and produced some outstanding work related to the book. At the beginning of the term, they wrote comparative setting descriptions to describe the hotel and the surrounding mountains. They then progressed to writing a suspense narrative to showcase the writing skills they have developed throughout the year, finishing the term with a persuasive letter to the Indian government urging them to put a stop to poaching. The children immersed themselves in their letter writing, emphasising how passionate they felt about the issue and its impact.

At the start of the term, we visited Howletts. This trip linked to our English text, as we learned a great deal about conservation and the positive efforts being made to address these issues. The children heard about the ways in which the Aspinall Foundation has helped many endangered animals and how they can also contribute to these efforts.

Our thematic learning this term has continued from Term 5. We have explored how wind farms are located offshore in Broadstairs and the environmental impact of these.



The children used Tinkercad to design and then create their own wind turbines. They researched non-renewable and renewable energy sources and compiled a comparative fact file to express what they have learned.

A highlight of the term for Year 5 was watching our chicks hatch and grow over the ten days we had them. The excitement on the children's faces was wonderful to see! All eight chicks hatched and became very cheeky!

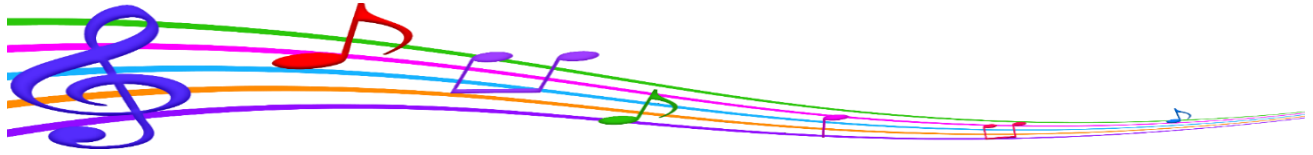
This has been a fantastic year for Year 5, with numerous wonderful opportunities. The children have embraced everything with excitement and enthusiasm, and it has been a pleasure to teach such a brilliant group of young people.

Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy and exciting Term 6! The term began with a strong focus on writing, where the children explored a variety of genres and produced some fantastic creative work that really showcased their talents. Alongside their writing, the year group took part in a range of transition workshops designed to help them prepare for the move to secondary school — an important and exciting next step.

One of the highlights of the term was our brilliant school production of *The Little Mermaid*. Year 6 showed great dedication, spending many weeks rehearsing and perfecting their performances, and the end result was a show to remember!





Music News



Wow, what a term we've had in music! A choir performance, two concerts, a school talent show, two discos, our very own music festival, and three performances for the Year 6 Production! It's crazy how much music has been happening over the past few weeks.

In June, our Senior Choir headed down to the Dickens Festival and performed a 30-minute set at Broadstairs Bandstand. It was a lovely event and a great way to kick off our term of performances. A week later, we gathered together in the hall for not one but two amazing concerts. All our music clubs smashed it out of the park with their vibrant performances, with the second concert being rounded off by our Year 6 leavers showcasing their talents with a rendition of 'Don't Stop Me Now' by Queen.



July has come with even more music than ever! We had some great musicians entering this year's talent show, notably some of the Year 6 bands and some great drum and vocal solos. Our school discos were a big hit, with all the children singing along to lots of different hits. A very proud moment for music at the school was our very first Music Festival. Every child in the school got up and performed with their class, and it was so good to see every single one of the performances.



Our Year 6 Production saw another first for the school — a live band! Six fantastic musicians spent the month leading up to the production working on their parts and performed four of the songs at the Taylor Hall.

Alongside all of these activities, our music curriculum has been running.

Year 3 has been writing their own songs, with a focus on lyrics. They each selected a song based on its genre – Pop, Rock, Hip-Hop, or Ballad – and then collaborated in groups to write their own original lyrics and melodies.

Year 4 has been exploring the world through drumming! From the disciplined rhythms of Taiko drumming to the lively energy of Samba, students have been learning about the cultural significance and meaning behind these diverse percussive traditions.

Year 5 has spent the term becoming film composers. They have been learning about the various types of music used in films and the art of creating a memorable motif. Their learning culminated in composing their own pieces of film music to accompany the charming Disney short, 'Paperman'.

Year 6 spent this term working on their fantastic Music Festival performances. They were given the task of forming a class band and performing a song of their own choice.

What an incredible year it's been, filled with so many memorable moments and fantastic achievements across the school! From musical triumphs to academic successes and everything in between, the children have truly shone. We extend our sincerest thanks to all parents for your incredible support throughout the year; your partnership is invaluable.





Sports News

Upton's young athletes have truly shone this summer term, showcasing their incredible talent, determination, and team spirit across a wide range of sporting events. From football and tennis to swimming, cricket, and cross country, our teams have gone above and beyond—bringing home medals, trophies, and even setting records!

Gary Rees Cup Champions – Again! 🏆🏀

On July 4th, Upton's Years 4–6 girls' football teams took to the pitch in the Gary Rees Cup, producing some truly spectacular performances. The Year 4 girls stunned everyone with their skill and determination, scoring fantastic goals and showing the older teams what they're capable of. Not to be outdone, the Years 5/6 team put on a flawless display, remaining unbeaten throughout the competition. Their efforts paid off as Upton were crowned champions for the second year running! 🏆



Smashing Shots at the Thanet Tennis Competition 🎾

Back on June 19th, our Years 3/4 tennis team competed in the Thanet Tennis Competition. Every single child showed progress throughout the afternoon, hitting incredible shots and returning some challenging balls. The enthusiasm and improvement on display were a credit to all involved—well done team Upton!

Record-Breaking Success at Thanet Swim Gala 🏆

June 8th was a day to remember as our Years 3/4 and 5/6 swim teams competed in the Thanet Schools Swim Gala. Across 18 finals, Upton collected:

🥇 11 golds

🥈 3 silvers

🥉 3 bronzes

In an incredible achievement, the Years 5/6 team won every single race and set a new freestyle relay record with a time of 1:04.72—a record that had stood unbroken for 15 years! With the Years 3/4 team also finishing 1st in Thanet, Upton's combined total of 96 points saw them crowned overall champions 🥇. An amazing achievement for everyone involved!

Cricket Success Across All Age Groups 🏏

Fielding and batting excellence was on full display throughout Terms 5 and 6. The Years 3/4 team earned a brilliant 2nd place 🥈 in Thanet, while the Years 5/6 girls' team also claimed 2nd place 🥈. Meanwhile, our Years 5/6 mixed team triumphed in 1st place 🥇 and went on to represent Thanet in the Kent finals in which they came 4th in Kent, a huge achievement.



Cross Country Champions in the Making 🏃‍♂️ 🏃‍♀️

On June 7th, Upton hosted its Cross Country event, with all participants doing the school proud. Across the 8 races, Upton secured 11 top-three finishes, including multiple 1st place victories. A special mention goes to our Year 6 students who competed in their final primary school Cross Country race—what a fantastic way to finish! Huge thanks as well to the parents and carers who helped tidy up after the event.

National Swim Finals Glory 🌊

On May 10th, Upton's boys' swim relay team represented Thanet and Kent at the South East Swim Finals. After an incredible showing at the Kent level, the team earned their spot in the finals and did brilliantly, finishing 12th and 13th out of 43 schools. To place in the top 15 in the region is a huge accomplishment—well done to all!

Congratulations to every single Upton athlete who took part in these events. Your hard work, sportsmanship, and resilience continue to inspire us all. Here's to even more success next year!



Art News

This term has been a vibrant and creative one across the school, with pupils diving into a wide range of artistic styles, techniques, and influences.

In Year 3, children explored the world of fashion design through the work of Mary Quant, focusing on her use of bold shapes and colours inspired by Piet Mondrian. They learned how art doesn't just hang on walls — it can be worn too!



It is influenced by Pablo Picasso
Tobias Murakami



Year 4 embraced the traditions of African art by designing and sculpting expressive masks, gaining a deeper understanding of the cultural significance behind the designs. They also looked at the influence that African Art had on major artists such as Pablo Picasso and Jean-Michel Basquiat.

Year 5 turned their attention to collage, taking inspiration from Henri Matisse's playful and colourful compositions to produce some striking work of their own.



Meanwhile, Year 6 took on the challenge of sculpture, investigating the styles of three distinct sculptors and experimenting with materials like clay, foil, and wire to create imaginative 3D pieces.



It's been a wonderful way to round off the year, and we're already full of ideas and inspiration for what's to come. We can't wait to see how our young artists will continue to grow and express themselves through new projects next year!

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



Welcome

**BACK TO
SCHOOL
TUESDAY 2ND
SEPTEMBER 2025**

**YEAR 3 TO COME IN FOR A
8:30AM START.
YEARS 4, 5 & 6 WILL START
THEIR DAY AT 10:00AM**

