



University
Church
Free
School

University Church Free
School
Murlain House
Union Street
Chester
CH1 1QP

Telephone: 01244 569560

Principal: Mr W J Farrington

12th May 2017

Quote of the week: Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

Composer of the Week: Andrew Lloyd Webber

Dear Parents/Carers

Here is a reminder of key dates for next week:

15 th – 19 th May	CLUBS running as usual with the exception of Science Club on 17 th May, as Mrs. Gill is on a Science course.
15 th – 19 th May	WALK to School week!
15 th May	Year 3 FOREST SCHOOLS Project continues
19 th May	50p Grow organised by Year 3

Key dates for your diary

25 th May	Year 1 Phonics Information meeting at 4pm – 4.30pm
W/C 29 th May	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
9 th June	50p Grow organised by Year 3
W/C 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening test
27 th June	Official Opening of UCFS
30 th June	School SPORTS Event
12 th July	Summer Soiree 6pm – 8pm
14 th July	End of Year REPORTS home
17 th – 19 th July	Year 4/5 Arts project linked to Chester University
21 st July	End of Summer term

EXCITING NEWS! This week, we have introduced new certificates to acknowledge achievement across our curriculum. The new awards are for outstanding work in Maths, English, Outstanding Learning Behaviour and our Star of the Week award which can recognise any other achievement. We are also continuing to award our Good to be Green certificates.

'A Voice for Every Child'

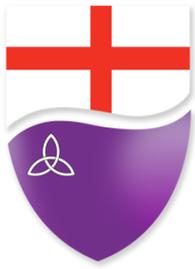


www.UCFSchool.org

University Church Free School (UCFS) sponsored by the University of Chester is the trading name of the University of Chester Academies Trust (UCAT) incorporated with the company number 06929486, which is an exempt charity.

Special Notes:

- I will always try to see you at short notice if at all possible. If your issue is urgent and I am unavailable, I will ensure that Mrs. Bartram or another senior member of staff is made available to you. For non-urgent meetings, you are welcome to telephone the School Office and request an appointment to see me or drop me an email to make an arrangement (jfarrington@ucatrust.org). Alternatively, you can catch me most mornings on the school gate where we can easily make an arrangement to meet.
- This week's sunshine has made us realise that summer is on its way! Along with this comes the need to make sure that the children are adequately protected at school whilst out in the sunshine. Please make sure that if a warm day is forecast, your child comes to school with a sun hat and wearing appropriate sun cream. **Please remember that we are not allowed to apply sun cream for your child.** However, as most products now offer protection for at least 8 hours, there should not be a need to re-apply during school time.
- On the subject of sunny days, you will see from our key dates that the date for this year's SPORTS Event, hosted by the University of Chester, will take place on 30th June. We are extremely pleased to be working in such close partnership with the University and would like to say a big THANK YOU to them for supporting us in this way. It promises to be a very exciting event - MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW!
- Don't forget that during this term, the girls are able to wear the cool purple checked summer dresses as an alternative to their usual uniform. A parent informs me that these are available from M+S, Matalan and some of the leading supermarkets.
- In your recent questionnaire responses, the area in which many of you felt was in most need of improvement was around BEHAVIOUR and REWARD. I am currently reviewing the school behaviour policy and looking to see how the school can ensure that good behaviour is acknowledged and rewarded whilst also discouraging any unwanted behaviour. I will be writing to you shortly to give you details of the new system! Some parents also felt that the school could also make improvements around COMMUNICATION and keeping you informed. With this in mind, I have set up a system for early morning messages from next Monday. A message can be given to any member of staff waiting at the roadside, at the gate or on the door. Your message will be written down and will then be passed on to the relevant staff at the beginning of the day. These messages will be kept in class in case future reference is required. I have also reviewed the final end of year REPORT format. This year, you will receive a different format which I hope will provide more detailed information about your child's progress and attainment across all areas of the primary curriculum.



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- As many of you may know, Mrs. Sykes has not been in school this week and the class has been covered by Mrs. Day. Unfortunately, Mrs. Sykes needs to remain off school until at least the end of next week. Therefore, to ensure consistency for the children, we have arranged for Mrs. Day to continue to lead the class. Unfortunately, Miss Wong is also currently absent from school. I am sure that you will want to join me in sending our best wishes to both Mrs. Sykes and Miss Wong and hope to see them both back at school very soon!
- Last week, I asked you to support us in making sure that your child arrives in good time for the start of the school day. There has been SUCH an improvement this week! Punctuality is really important because children need to make a calm and orderly start to their day in order to maximise their learning. In addition to this, schools have to publish attendance data, including the number of children who arrive late. This information is looked at closely during any inspection in forming any final judgement about the school. THANK YOU for working with us to ensure the best possible outcome.
- As you will know, this week has been the SATs week for all children in Year 6 nationally. Once again, these tests were extremely challenging and reflect the new expectations on children within Primary school in order to meet the new National Standard.
- Trip to China update – If any children from the current years 3,4 or 5 are interested in taking part in our proposed trip to China in March 2018, please see Mrs. Gill as soon as possible as we need to have final numbers by early next week!
- Year 3 hosted their first 50p Grow today. Don't forget to save your pocket money for the two further events. See key dates for details.
- Don't forget – If you still have any SAINSBURYS vouchers at home, please send them into school. We are looking to place our order for cooking and PE equipment very soon!

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This week's Certificate winners – WELL DONE to all these children!

	Outstanding work in Maths	Outstanding work in English	Outstanding Learning Behaviour	Star of the Week	Green Card Certificate
Reception	Muhammed	Chloe	Tommy	Emily A.	Harvey and Aphra
Year 1	Eleanor	Hannah	George	Ava	Lara and Eleanor
Year 2	Erin	Ben	Hattie	Ephraim	Woody and Sophie
Year 3	Courtney	Nico	Maya	Reika	Ashley, Courtney and Angel
Year 4/5	Alexandra	Lily W.	Isobel	Eleanor	Lilly P. and Darcy

CONGRATULATIONS also to **Henri** who has been awarded the Pauline Quirke Academy of Performing Arts PERFORMER OF THE WEEK award, **Thomas M.** for achieving his Stage 1 ASA swimming award and **George M.**, not only for achieving his ASA Stage 2 swimming award but also achieving the Chester Cathedral Singing Club trophy – Well Done to all of these children for their out of school achievements!

The FRIENDS of UCFS work really hard to raise money in order to provide additional experiences for our children. They are always looking for volunteers to join the group or simply to help out at some events. If you are interested in finding out more, please see Mrs. Leslie in the School Office who will be happy to pass on your details!

I hope that you all enjoy a relaxing and peaceful weekend, where hopefully we will see the return of the sunshine!

W.J. Farrington

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