

# NEWSLETTER

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## Numbots & Times Table Rockstars Launch

On Monday our pupils enjoyed Mrs Marsters Numbots & Times Table Rockstars Assembly Launch to roll TTRS out across the school. Pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 were thrilled to finally have access to the program we've built so much excitement around over recent months.

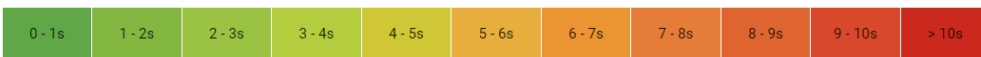


There's no quick fix to mastering the tables and improving multiplication recall speeds - it takes regular practice and commitment from our children, which is why with your support, we need to ensure they remain motivated.



### Gone Green Certificates

Heatmaps show you how quickly your child are correctly responding to each fact. They are colour-coded based on speed:



A totally green heatmap means that a pupil has consistently answered all facts in 4 seconds or less. They must answer each fact at least 10 times in any game mode (apart from Jamming) at 4 seconds or less before it will turn green on their heatmap. We will be introducing a weekly award trophy for KS1 & KS2 most progress each week.



	10	2	5	3	4	8	6	7	9	11	12
10	10 × 10	10 × 2	10 × 5	10 × 3	10 × 4	10 × 8	10 × 6	10 × 7	10 × 9	10 × 11	10 × 12
2	2 × 10	2 × 2	2 × 5	2 × 3	2 × 4	2 × 8	2 × 6	2 × 7	2 × 9	2 × 11	2 × 12
5	5 × 10	5 × 2	5 × 5	5 × 3	5 × 4	5 × 8	5 × 6	5 × 7	5 × 9	5 × 11	5 × 12
3	3 × 10	3 × 2	3 × 5	3 × 3	3 × 4	3 × 8	3 × 6	3 × 7	3 × 9	3 × 11	3 × 12
4	4 × 10	4 × 2	4 × 5	4 × 3	4 × 4	4 × 8	4 × 6	4 × 7	4 × 9	4 × 11	4 × 12
8	8 × 10	8 × 2	8 × 5	8 × 3	8 × 4	8 × 8	8 × 6	8 × 7	8 × 9	8 × 11	8 × 12
6	6 × 10	6 × 2	6 × 5	6 × 3	6 × 4	6 × 8	6 × 6	6 × 7	6 × 9	6 × 11	6 × 12
7	7 × 10	7 × 2	7 × 5	7 × 3	7 × 4	7 × 8	7 × 6	7 × 7	7 × 9	7 × 11	7 × 12
9	9 × 10	9 × 2	9 × 5	9 × 3	9 × 4	9 × 8	9 × 6	9 × 7	9 × 9	9 × 11	9 × 12
11	11 × 10	11 × 2	11 × 5	11 × 3	11 × 4	11 × 8	11 × 6	11 × 7	11 × 9	11 × 11	11 × 12
12	12 × 10	12 × 2	12 × 5	12 × 3	12 × 4	12 × 8	12 × 6	12 × 7	12 × 9	12 × 11	12 × 12

Key Dates  
for your  
diary

Whole School  
Immunisations  
1.10.24

Y3 & 4 Quick  
Sticks Hockey  
3.10.24

Aspens Special  
Favourite Food  
Lunch 3.10.24

National Poetry Day  
4.10.24

# Team Ace Gardeners!

Our very popular Year 4 and 5 Team Ace Gardeners Club have continued to work hard to develop our outdoor areas already this term.

We are committed to the RHS Campaign for School Gardening which works with schools to help children and young people to experience the power of plants. Through their free resources, projects and guidance, their work has shown that the direct benefits of gardening are wide ranging:

- Improves physical and mental wellbeing
- Builds life skills such as confidence, resilience, teamwork and communication
- Enriches the entire curriculum from science, maths and geography – to art, design and languages
- Teaches about the environment and the importance of biodiversity and sustainability

All pupils from across the academy visit our open spaces throughout their lesson times and lunchtimes. We thank out Team Ace Gardeners for continuing to improve them for us all to enjoy.



## Our Lunchtime Library & Yr4 Librarians

All classes have access to our library as part of their weekly curriculum offer and pupils are excited for their visits. However, the library is most popular during Monday, Wednesday and Friday lunchtimes! It's a hive of activity full of excited pupils and books!



We consider the role of our Year 4 librarians to be a key part to this running smoothly. Our librarians are rostered on as a week-by-week basis and are required to attend all Library Crew meeting throughout the year. The main duty of our is helping to maintain our library through shelving, tidying, setting/packing up library lunchtime activities and any other library administration tasks that may arise. Applications for Year 4 Pupils will be open next week.



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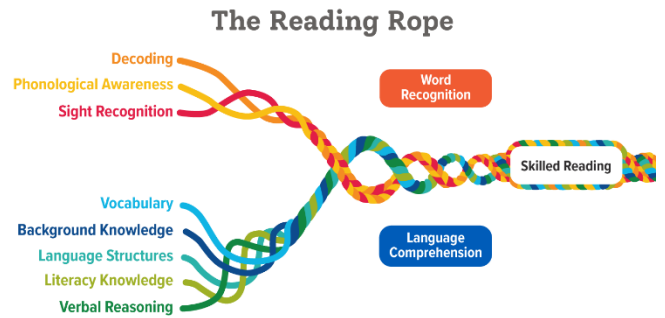
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# Reading Workshop for Parents

Thank you to the parents and children that joined us this week for Mrs Fisher's Reading Workshop. This was an opportunity to find out more about our continued plans for developing reading outcomes for all pupils and our initiative for Reading for Pleasure. Mrs Fisher has successfully led English at Upwell for over 6 years with huge advances in improving our Reading Curriculum offer.



Modified from Scarborough, H. S. (2001). Connecting early language and literacy to later reading (disabilities): Evidence, theory, and practice. In S. Neuman & D. Dickinson (Eds.), Handbook for research in early literacy. New York, NY: Guilford Press



With all staff highly trained in our synthetic phonics program – Read Writ Inc, and great outcomes in Word Reading, and the Governments statutory guidance for reading coming in, our focus is to further develop Language Comprehension to ensure Skilled Reading. Mrs Marsters reiterated this being the biggest barrier to meeting age related expectations at Year 6 and being prepared for the Key Stage 3 curriculum across all subjects, e.g. maths, history, etc they all require highly skilled readers.

Parents asked for advice on how you can continue to support at home.

Mrs Fisher made the following suggestions:

Your child will come home with a book that they can read and self-selected books from our library. To develop Skilled Readers, you could:

- **Improve vocabulary skills by ensure they have a secure understanding of what words mean, often words can have more than one meaning.**
- **Book talk: our phonics scheme books have questions at the back to support parents in developing children's background knowledge of what they have read. Use these and come up with some of your own.**
- **Reading aloud and discussing a book or story can help children improve their verbal reasoning skills. Discussion and guidance can help children practice deep comprehension skills**
- **Introduce games like - Speed read – time how quickly they can read the book with clarity and fluency**

Although we are not continuing to provide reading records in Y2 and KS2, if this works for you, keep a log and upload evidence onto your Dojo Portfolios.

- Upload photos and progress for reading for pleasure.
- Visit the School reading cloud and leave a book review. Reserve books and see what other pupils are reading.
- Contact Ms Roberts, the academy librarian for advice and support for children taking books out of the Academy library: [library@upa.eastern-mat.co.uk](mailto:library@upa.eastern-mat.co.uk)
- Visit our website [Reading Pages](#) for more great resources, virtual books, advice and support.

**Thank you for your continued support. A second workshop, for those unable to attend, is planned for early next half term and the PowerPoint will be available on our website next week.**



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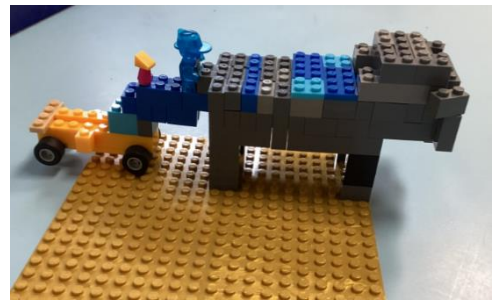
# Kids with Bricks

What an amazing first two weeks at the Kids With Bricks club. The children have been so enthusiastic and extremely creative. Have a look at some of their creations.

Kids with bricks is an afterschool club where the children make fantastic creations on a given theme.

Under the theme of 'Romans' the group built chariots this week. Winners were a duo – **Alfie and Leo in Year 4**. Well done!

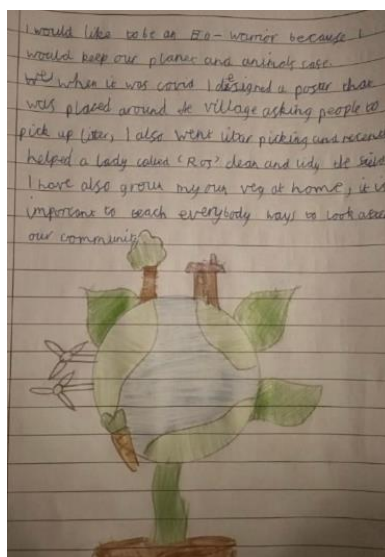
They all work extremely hard and it would be great if you could vote for them on the kids with bricks website: <https://www.kidswithbricks.com/voting-page>  
Upwell Academy was in 564<sup>th</sup> place on the Leaderboard on 17.09.24. Today, we are in 42nd place!!



## ECO Committee 2024

Congratulations to the children that were interviewed for our 2024 ECO committee this week. Mrs Kirk, our ECO Coordinator and Miss Ellington were exceptionally impressed with their applications and submissions to support their reason for being the right young person for the role! See all submissions on our Academy Website.

Mrs Kirk said that their responses to questions at interview were well thought out and their enthusiasm and ideas were inspiring. Well done everyone that put themselves forward!



One step at a time



We can save the world  
With the three R's



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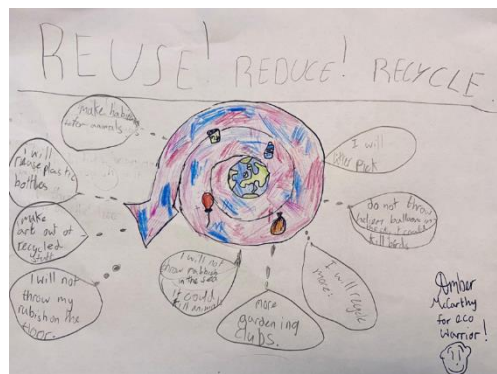


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## Harvest Festival Fun at Upwell



Despite the very autumnal weather and venue change, we celebrated this week with a wonderful Harvest Festival assembly. We were delighted to be joined by our Academy Committee Chair, Val Cook who was very impressed by the pupil readers and whole school singing. Mrs Kirk, our music lead, led us in our thanks for the harvest and for all the good things we are lucky enough to have. Children shared poems, prayers and songs and it was an uplifting experience for us all. Our Early Years pupils also shared a wonderful rendition of Dingle Dangle Scarecrow with actions and a huge amount of enthusiasm and were very brave to stand up in a crowded hall!

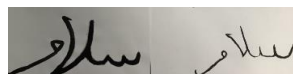
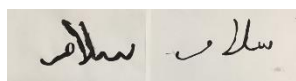
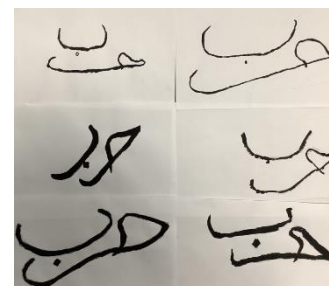
We are very thankful to everyone for accommodating changes and are also grateful for the harvest donations we received in school which will be distributed by the Methodist Church to the local foodbank for people in the local community to benefit from.

An audio recording was made to be shared shortly on our website for everyone to enjoy.

## Year 5 English

Year 5 have been studying the book 'Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad.' In the book, the main character really enjoys the art of calligraphy – and we have tried it ourselves.

We wrote the Arabic word for war (harb) and the word for peace (salam) as these were important words in the story. The children thoroughly enjoyed the calligraphy work. A super effort!



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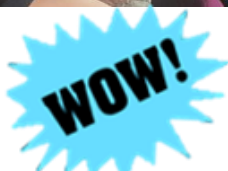


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# Out of School Success!



Let's celebrate your achievements out of school! Upload to your portfolio and you could see them here next week.



Our 'Date for your Diary' will be added to each week and can also be found on the [Academy Calendar](#) page of our website.



Autumn Term 2024	
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Staff Inset
4 <sup>th</sup> September	Term Starts – children return
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 4 Bikeability
14 <sup>th</sup> September	Saturday Morning Library Hour 9-10am
13 <sup>th</sup> September	Roald Dahl Writing Day – Dress in yellow or yellow accessory
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Kids with Bricks Club Starts – Runs for 6 weeks
18 <sup>th</sup> September	After school Curriculum Boosters start
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Aspens 'Mighty Morning Brunch' Special Lunch
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	KS1 Active Kids Festival
27 <sup>th</sup> September	Harvest Festival Service Upwell Methodist Church 1:30pm Parents Invited



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28 <sup>th</sup> September	Family Fun afternoon in Methodist Church gardens 2-5pm
1 <sup>st</sup> October	Whole School Flu Immunisations
October	Black History Month (14 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> Oct)
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Year 3&4 Quick Sticks Hockey
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	<b>Aspens 'Favourite Food Day' Special Lunch</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Tag Rugby Taster Session Year 5 and 6 Girls
4 <sup>th</sup> October	National Poetry Day
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Fire Fighters Visit Reception Class TBC
10 <sup>th</sup> October	2025-26 EYFS Intake Meeting 6pm
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Downham Cross Country Event
17 <sup>th</sup> October	FOSA Halloween Disco & Non-uniform Day
21 <sup>st</sup> October	Parents Evening & Aspens Taster Menu
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parents Evening & Aspens Taster Menu
20 <sup>th</sup> October	Downham Football Cluster Event
24 <sup>th</sup> October	Poppy Art collected for St. Peter's Church display
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Teacher Inset
<b>25<sup>th</sup> Oct - 3rd Nov</b>	<b>Half-Term</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Children return to school
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Final Submission date for annual Library Bookmark Art Contest
4 <sup>th</sup> November	PLT Poppy Appeal - Poppies available to buy
November	EYFS Firefighter Visit TBC
7 <sup>th</sup> November	2024-25 EYFS Intake Meeting
9 <sup>th</sup> November	Saturday Morning Library Hour 9-10am
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Assembly
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Kids with Bricks Club starts – runs for 6 weeks
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School Individual & Sibling Photographs
16 <sup>th</sup> November	King's Lynn Football Club Mixed Cup Event
17 <sup>th</sup> November	King's Lynn Football Club Girl's Cup Event
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Peterborough Football Club Special Assembly
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need FOSA Bake Sale
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Y6 Height & Weight
21 <sup>st</sup> November	Aspens 'Sparkle Spectacular Bonfire Bangers' Special Lunch
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Cross Country Finals
25 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5 & 6 Develop Tag Rugby
27 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole school flu immunisations
28 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup> November	Book Fair Visit 3:30-4:30pm
29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 2 Romans Day (further details to follow)
29 <sup>th</sup> November	Christingle Service Methodist Church? St Peters?
30 <sup>th</sup> November	2024-25 EYFS Intake Meeting
30 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3 Egyptians Day
9 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity 1:30pm Parents Invited
10 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity 1:30pm Parents Invited
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole school Panto Day – Cinderella: King's Lynn Corn Exchange
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Save the Children: Christmas Jumper Day & Whole school Christmas Lunch
17 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Carol Concert 2pm
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Aspens Festive Fun Special Lunch



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20 <sup>th</sup> December	Term Ends. Christmas Holiday 21 <sup>st</sup> December – 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan
<b>Spring Term 2024</b>	
6 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff Inset
7 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school
8 <sup>th</sup> January	King's Lynn Police Visit
11 <sup>th</sup> January	Saturday Morning Library Hour 9-10am
13 <sup>th</sup> January	Key Stage1 Dance Workshops start
16 <sup>th</sup> January	EYFS Reading Bears Naming Ceremony (parents invited 9am)
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Zoo Lab Visit EYFS, Y1 & Year 5
12 <sup>th</sup> January	Maths Subject Showcase (parents invited 9-10am)
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Cluster Football Competition
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Aspens 'Lunar New Year' Special Lunch
19 <sup>th</sup> January	Reading subject Showcase (parents invited 9-10am)
20 <sup>th</sup> January	KS1 Active Kids event
23 <sup>rd</sup> January	National Handwriting Day
29 <sup>th</sup> January	PSC Meeting for Year 1 parents plus crafty cuppa (2pm)
30 <sup>th</sup> January-5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	National Story Telling Week
30 <sup>th</sup> January	Story Writing Day
5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 Pizza Making – Pizza Express
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Mathematics Subject Showcase 8:45-9:45am (Parents Invited) Number Day – Mathematics Professions
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 Crafty Cuppa Parents invited 2pm
15 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Half-Term
24 <sup>th</sup> February	Children return to school
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Saturday Morning Library Hour 9-10am
3 <sup>rd</sup> –8 <sup>th</sup> March	National Careers Week Year 5 & 6
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3/4 Bee Netball Festival
24 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5 Bikeability
14 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	British Science Week – STEM Week
6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day: Dress as your favourite book character & Best Dressed Competition! +Author Visit (tbc) & Aspens Special Lunch
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Tempest Whole Class Photos
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Reception class Vision & Hearing Tests
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Comic Relief
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening & Aspens Taster Menu
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening & Aspens Taster Menu
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Planetarium Visit YR, Y2, Y5
21 <sup>st</sup> March	FOSA Easter Disco
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 2 Dance Festival – Corn Exchange King's Lynn
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 Young Sports Leaders Interviews
27 <sup>th</sup> March	FOSA Easter Disco
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Assembly
28 <sup>th</sup> March	EYFS Farm Trip
4 <sup>th</sup> April	Downham Cluster Football Tournament



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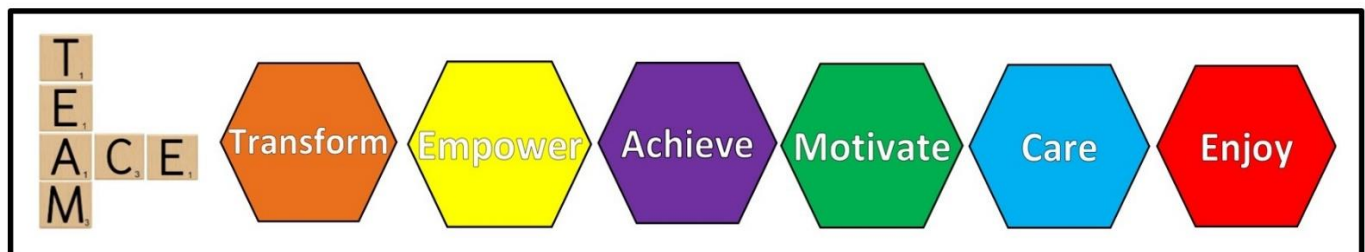


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4 <sup>th</sup> April	Term Ends – Easter Holiday 5 <sup>th</sup> March –22nd April
<b>Summer Term</b>	
21 <sup>st</sup> April	Staff Inset
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Children return to school
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Earth Day – Energy Sparks Assembly
26 <sup>th</sup> April	Saturday Morning Library Hour 9-10am
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Y6 Crucial Crew visit
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Harry Potter Writing Day
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Key Stage 2, Yr 6 SATS Week
TBC	Year 4 Oliver Cromwell House Trip
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Aspens Out of this World Special Lunch
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 6 Parents Meeting – Residential 3:30 – 4:15pm
19 <sup>th</sup> May	Potential RNLI Assembly to KS2
25 <sup>th</sup> – 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Half-Term
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Children return to school
TBC	Year 3 Houghton Hall
5 <sup>th</sup> June	Mini Tennis Lynnsport
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics & Times Tables check
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Saturday Morning Library Hour 9-10am
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Aspens ‘Dive into the Deep Blue’ Special Lunch
23 <sup>rd</sup> June	School Sports Partnership Quadkids Athletics
30 <sup>th</sup> June – 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 6 Residential Claythorpe Court
1 <sup>st</sup> July	Downham Cluster Area Sports
7 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Sport Week
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole School Sports Day (weather permitting)
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Mini Tennis event Lynnsport
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Reserve Sports Day
10 <sup>th</sup> July	FOSA End of Year Disco
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition Week - Move up Assembly 14 <sup>th</sup> July 9am
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Aspens ‘The Big Picnic’ Special Lunch
17 <sup>th</sup> July	New Class Teacher Parent Workshop 3:20-3:50pm
21 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Pupil Leadership Team Speeches and Polling Station
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Term ends



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Upwell Academy

# Library

## Opening Times

9-10am

### Saturday Reading Hour

Saturday 14th September  
 Saturday 9th November  
 Saturday 11th January  
 Saturday 1st March

- Borrow & return your books
- Enjoy sharing a book with family & friends
- Explore our wide range of NEW fiction & non-fiction books

**Open to All**

[www.upwellacademy.co.uk](http://www.upwellacademy.co.uk)

Upwell Academy

## 2026 School Start?

### VISIT US

Contact the Office to book your place.

Email us: [office@upa.eastern-mat.co.uk](mailto:office@upa.eastern-mat.co.uk)

**OPEN DAYS**

**Join TEAM ACE**

Dedicated, caring staff

Positive behaviour rewards

Extra-curricular clubs

Oct 10th 6pm

Meet the Team

EYFS Tour

Contact Us For More Info  
01945 773220



Upwell Academy


Read Write Inc. PHONICS

# ENGLISH HOME LEARNING

- ✓ DAILY READING -DEVELOPING COMPREHENSION SKILLS
- ✓ WEEKLY PHONICS & SPELLINGS
- ✓ GRAMMAR TASK SET ON CLASS DOJO

UPLOAD TO YOUR PORTFOLIO

TEAM ACE Transform Empower Achieve Motivate Care Enjoy



Upwell Academy


# MATHS HOME LEARNING

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

- ✓ DAILY TIMES TABLES PRACTISE
- ✓ NUMBOTS & TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS
- ✓ SUMDOG 20 MINS A DAY
- ✓ MATHS TASK SET ON CLASS DOJO

UPLOAD TO YOUR PORTFOLIO

TEAM ACE Transform Empower Achieve Motivate Care Enjoy




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