



Dates for the diary

26-30 March	Iceland Trip
27 March	Staff Training Day (No students in school)
13 April	Students return to school
17 April	Bewerley Park & Berlin Trip go live on MCAS

Reminder
that all
events can be
found on the
school
calendar

[School Events
- Calendar](#)

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to extend my warmest **congratulations** to Miss Roberts and the entire Science team for delivering a truly outstanding STEM Week. From start to finish, the school was buzzing with energy and excitement. Students took part in an inspiring programme featuring guest speakers, hands-on STEM challenges and a memorable visit to Chester Zoo. It was wonderful to see how much they gained from every aspect of the week; their curiosity, enthusiasm and engagement were exceptional throughout.

We are also incredibly proud of our students' recent achievements at the Rotary Art and Photography Competition, held at Craven College. Our Senior Artists achieved 2nd and 3rd place, demonstrating impressive creativity and skill. In addition, we are delighted to celebrate 1st place in Intermediate Photography and 1st place in Senior Photography. A remarkable accomplishment that highlights the depth of artistic talent and creativity within our school. A huge well done to all who took part and represented us so confidently.

Students also enjoyed a thought-provoking visit to the Alhambra Theatre in Bradford to see The Woman in Black. This atmospheric production offered a wonderful opportunity for students to experience live theatre, deepen their understanding of dramatic storytelling and engage with a classic text brought vividly to life on stage.

Looking ahead, we are excited for another successful trip to Iceland. I am certain it will provide our students with an unforgettable opportunity to explore new environments, deepen their learning and create lasting memories together.

I would also like to send my warmest wishes to everyone who has recently celebrated Eid, as well as to those who will be celebrating Easter over the upcoming break. A reminder to parents and carers that students are not in school on Friday 27th March. I hope everyone enjoys a restful and refreshing break, and we look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday 13th April. Wishing you all a positive and restorative few weeks ahead.

Thank you in advance.

Warm regards,
Mr I Chapman
Headteacher

UPDATED EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Please find below the link to the updated school extra curriculum activities taking place at lunch and after school.

[Extra-Curricular-Activities.pdf](https://uws.n-yorks.sch.uk/extra-curricular-activities.pdf)

ABSENCES

All absences must be reported **before 9am** every morning of absence. **Please leave a brief description of illness, not just "ill/unwell"**.

Please can you also remind you that if your child has a diarrhoea and/or vomiting bug that they should stay off school until they have not had symptoms for two days.

Telephone: 01756 752215 (press 1- line open 24 hrs)

Email – absence@uws.n-yorks.sch.uk

EVERYONE'S INVITED RESOURCES No 4

Here is the link to the fourth resource guide, which provides an overview of the session.

https://uws.n-yorks.sch.uk/4-parent-carer-child-persona_s-guide/

SCHOOL DINNERS

Have you ever wondered what your child can choose from for school dinner?

There is a 3-weekly menu for each term on the school website (link below)

[Canteen-Dinner-Menu.pdf](https://uws.n-yorks.sch.uk/canteen-dinner-menu.pdf)

HAYFEVER SEASON!

It is that time of year again when hay fever symptoms begin to appear.

Please may we remind you to give your child any hay fever medication in the morning before they come to school

We are unable to keep any medication in school to administer during the day.

USE OF FIDGET DEVICES IN SCHOOL

While we fully recognise that certain students benefit from having a fidget aid to support focus, self-regulation, or to manage anxiety, we have recently seen a significant increase in toys and unapproved fidget items being brought into school. These are often swapped or sold between students and, unfortunately, have become a source of distraction in the classroom.

To support a calm and focused learning environment for all, we will be introducing a fidget device policy:

- Only students with a fidget pass—issued by staff where there is an identified need—will be permitted to use a fidget device during the school day.
- These students will be provided with a school-approved fidget device, which will be the only item they are allowed to use, and guidance will be given on how to use the devices
- Students must have their fidget pass with them and be prepared to show it if asked.
- Fidgets must not be shared with other students.

We understand and value the individual needs of our students, and this approach allows us to offer support where appropriate, while also ensuring the wider classroom environment remains focused and free from unnecessary distractions.

We kindly ask that no toys or personal fidget devices be brought into school. Any such items will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day or collected by a Parent/Carer where appropriate.

Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us create a positive and productive learning environment for all students. If you feel your child would benefit from a fidget pass, please feel free to contact us so we can discuss their needs further. This can be done via Bromcom, or to the learning support department directly if your child receives SEND support.

PE KIT SUMMER TERM

*Just to confirm that the PE lessons next term 13-4-26 to 17-7-26 will move to our programme of summer sports. **All** students need the same kit for each activity:*

- UWS Green polo shirt
- UWS blue shorts/skort
- Green or white socks
- Trainers

*Optional extras if the weather turns cold:
Rugby shirt, Base layers*

CAREERS AND POST 16

We are pleased to provide access to an online information hub created by NYBEP, offering guidance to help parents and carers support their child's post-16 decision-making. You can find further details and a link to a helpful webinar here:

<https://uws.n-yorks.sch.uk/open-access-parent-and-carer-letter/>

Additional careers information is also available on our school website under *Information/Careers*.

All students receive independent careers guidance through scheduled meeting with our careers advisor Mr Soroczan in Year 10 and Year 11.

STEM WEEK

Over the course of 5.5 days, we had 49 visitors - plus a horse, a dog and a couple of robots - in school to do various practical sessions, inspirational careers talks and answer over 400 questions from our pupils! We took 70 students to Chester Zoo and had a Senior Zookeeper judge their photo competition (winners announced in the Celebration assembly 25/03).

Thank you so much to the members of our school community who helped last week happen, whether it was coming in to give a talk, ordering STEM equipment for our teachers to use or building bird boxes and coming into school on 3 consecutive days to work with our students (!) - we are so appreciative and it helped to make a fantastic and memorable week for all involved.

What our STEM visitors said..

The students are a huge credit to you all. We were in awe of their enthusiasm, engagement and thirst for learning. It was such an enjoyable experience.

Thanks for having me today. What a wonderful group of polite students you have.

Absolutely loved the engagement from the Students in each year class we delivered to. Class sizes were great, time frame was great and well-managed and delivered throughout the day!

I was bowled over by how attentive and intelligent the students were. They asked and answered questions and showed interest. They were all so well behaved.

To be honest I was so impressed with all of the students!

The students at Upper Wharfedale school are a pleasure to interact with and are a credit to their parents, teachers and the local area. Thanks.

Thank you for organising this event for our local school. It would be really nice to see more of this happening to get the children thinking about all of the wonderfully diverse career pathways and hobbies, that could be open to them when they leave school.

Thanks for the invitation to come and the warm welcome! All staff were so nice, and students were so polite and keen to take part. We particularly loved the questions from year 7- some excellent ones in there, we could have gone on and on. Year 8 were great at participating in the activities and really enthusiastic. Year 9 listened so well in the presentation and were great at trying the activities.

The age groups we spoke to (yr 7/8) in classrooms were absolutely brilliant. They asked lots of questions and were really engaged throughout our talk. They are truly a credit to UWS and we had some super feedback from them after our sessions.

I'm happy we were able to connect with so many of the students and show them a little insight into Pathology. We would love to come again, please keep in touch!

The students were all great! So engaged, particularly in the classroom hands-on sessions. All students were polite and respectful of both ourselves as visitors and the invertebrate animals which we brought in.

I didn't get chance to say goodbye last week but I just wanted to say what a pleasure it was to present to your students. They are a real credit to the school, so well behaved and engaging. A few of them took the time during lunch break to come and say how much they enjoyed the PDT and were inspired by the presentation and range of opportunities the RAF can offer. Hopefully, we may be invited back in the future to deliver more career options.

All the students I spoke to were polite, cheerful and engaged with the Moon Buggy building task that was set. Nearly all the teams managed to complete the build.

They were so well behaved and not just in the presentation but during the Teamwork, Leadership and Communication exercises I ran with them as well. There are some really obvious future leaders within UWS and with a little more self-confidence and belief in themselves will go a long way! The Yr7 pupils were a delight to engage with, buzzing with enthusiasm and generating some really creative ideas to problem solving.

We really enjoyed the day and felt it was a worthwhile engagement opportunity. Students seemed genuinely interested and engaged, and some Y7 boys in particular were very helpful with carrying equipment and keen to see the Rivers2U van at lunchtime. Older students came into the open van session too, and it was interesting to have conversations with them about natural flood management, dams etc. And they really enjoyed being allowed the opportunity to experiment ("play") with the rivers table to find out for themselves what worked. The behaviour and manners of all the students we engaged with was impressive. We enjoyed the day, thank you.

Thank you for organising this and it sounds like a great success. My limited involvement was very enjoyable, and the students were polite and asked sensible questions. It was super to arrive and find everything set up and ready to go.

I have a massive respect for the amazing staff at UWS. What you do on a daily basis is incredible. I must say a massive thank you to Mr Jackson and Mme Cooke for allowing us to take over your lessons and for showing just as much interest as the students. Thank you to Miss Roberts for having us and for your dedication to STEM learning. We would happily come back every year to support school in these valuable lessons.

YEAR 9 – STEM RACING COMPETITION SPONSORSHIP

A team of enthusiastic Year 8 girls have taken part in the StemRacing competition for the school. As part of the competition, their team, named Team Pulse, worked hard to design and manufacture a miniature car and two portfolios detailing their project (one explaining the engineering of their project and another to explain the project's enterprise). The team attended the Regional Finals of the competition in Bolton in February, where they managed to place 5th out of 13 other teams in their category on their first attempt. The team are entering again this year, rebranded as Cosmic Racing, and are hoping to go one step further and qualify for the National Finals. This competition is not funded by school and as part of the project they are tasked with raising money through fundraising and sponsorship. If anyone is interested in contributing to their efforts please get in touch with the school.



FREE online talk by

Jane Keyworth

FACE family Advice Lead Facilitator

Decreasing Depression

23rd April 7-8pm



Book online

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Parents - Live Talks page



PROJECT REVERB

YOUTH CLUB



**Are you age 11 to 16?
youth club provides space
and time for YOU!
Come along for pizza and
tell us what you'd like to
do...**

**MONDAY 20TH APRIL
CRACOE VILLAGE
HALL
6PM - 8PM**



**EVERYONE WELCOME!
WE HOPE TO HOST IN
GRASSINGTON, KETTLEWELL AND
BURNSALL SOON**

**For any more information
email Anne
cypfreverb@gmail.com**



PROJECT REVERB IS A REGISTERED CHARITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES 1140928

MENINGITIS + SEPTICAEMIA

Meningitis
now

Meningitis is a serious condition where the protective layers around the brain and spinal cord become inflamed. Septicaemia is when the bacteria enter the bloodstream to cause blood poisoning. They can happen to anyone, so it's important to know the symptoms and risks.

Early symptoms, such as fever, vomiting, aches, muscle pain, cold hands and feet and headaches, can look similar to common illnesses like colds or flu. But someone with meningitis or septicaemia will usually become seriously ill in a matter of hours. That's why it's crucial to keep checking on anyone who is unwell.

MENINGITIS SYMPTOMS?

- fever
- a very bad headache (this alone is not a reason to get medical help)
- vomiting
- stiff neck
- dislike of bright lights
- rash (DO NOT wait for a rash to appear before seeking medical advice)
- confusion, delirium
- severe sleepiness, losing consciousness
- fits

SEPTICAEMIA SYMPTOMS?

- fever and shivering
- severe pains and aches in limbs and joints
- vomiting
- very cold hands and feet
- pale or blotchy skin
- rapid breathing
- diarrhoea and stomach cramps
- red or purple 'bruised' or blotchy rash on skin that does not fade under pressure - do the glass test. On dark skin, check paler areas of the skin, such as the palms of the hands, soles of the feet, inside the mouth (roof), and the eyelids
- difficulty walking or standing
- severe sleepiness, losing consciousness

If you become worried about yourself, your child, or a friend, particularly if symptoms are getting worse, seek medical help urgently.

EARLY TREATMENT CAN BE LIFE-SAVING.