

Friday 12th December 2025

Dear Parent/Guardians,

Design and Technology Unit – Spring 1- Mechanisms - Fun at the Fair

Upper Juniors are very excited to announce our Spring One topic 'Fun at the Fair' where pupils will be designing and making their very own spinning funfair ride.



For this DT unit, we request that children bring in **a small decorated shoe box** by **Friday 9th January 2026**. This will be housing the mechanism for their funfair ride, so it is important that the shoe box is sturdy. As part of their design skills, children will need to create their own unique theme. For example, perhaps a 'JUNGLE FEVER' ride with swinging monkey chairs, or 'INFINITY' with little seats in the shape of rockets? The theme is up to the children; having said that, they would greatly benefit from your support in helping them decide a suitable theme and collecting any additional decorative items for their finishing touches.

From past experience, we have found that children find it extremely difficult to decorate the box at the end of the unit. Therefore, we would greatly appreciate any support you can give by helping them to either paint the box or wrap it in paper linked to their theme (i.e., zebra print/flames/camouflage). However, they **MUST** make sure the lid is **NOT** wrapped shut as the inside of the shoe box needs to be fully accessible for the mechanism and electrical circuit.

Over the next few weeks, here are our suggestions to items that will be extremely useful for their designs:

- decorative paper (not Christmas themed)
- thick, corrugated cardboard
- items that might make suitable funfair seats, such as: yoghurt pots, deodorant lids, egg boxes, coloured cups as children will need four - six seats for their ride (possibly matching)
- ribbon and/or coloured string
- large plastic lids (Celebration, Quality Street style ones)

To support the cost of this wonderful experience, we would be grateful for a small donation via Scopay (recommended £3) to contribute towards the cost of the battery holder, batteries, motor, wheels and pulleys. Ultimately, the children will get to bring their rides home at the end of the unit.

We are very much looking forward to seeing the children's creations and would like to wish all our families a very Merry Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

The Upper Junior Team

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'That they may have life; life in all its fullness' John 10:10



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