

May 2014

Dear Readers,

I am delighted to be able to tell you that “Ufton Adventure” opened officially last Friday. Some of your children will have been at the event because the opening coincided with our school’s first three day residential stay there by Mrs Lancaster’s class and they were joined by a group of year 5s who went just for the evening. The sun shone, the camp looked magnificent and children had a wonderful time.

It was 6 years ago that I stood in our staff room with Martin Salter (ex- MP for Reading) talking about how good it would be to set up a residential camp nearby for the use of Whitley children. He suggested we contact the Benyon family who own Ufton Court to see if they were willing to work with us to raise the funds to build a camp in the country park surrounding the house. Thankfully, the Benyon family were happy to work with the schools in Whitley, and with Aspire 2-our charity to embark on a serious fund raising campaign to construct the site and it’s now finished -complete with cycle track, fire pit, volley ball court, canteen/cooking facilities and of course superb accommodation – the log cabins are the best I have seen on any residential site

All those involved have been determined from the beginning that we would provide the very best outdoor facilities for our children, and it’s certainly that and more besides!

I’d love to have gone there when I was at school and I’m delighted that every Whitley child will have the opportunity to stay there more than once before they go on to secondary school and then when at secondary school they’ll be able to visit again –sometimes as a mentor to younger children.

King regards  
Charlie Clare