

**URSULA TAYLOR VC LOWER SCHOOL**

**9<sup>th</sup> January 2009 Newsletter**

**Newsletters can always be viewed on**

**[www.ursulataylorschool.co.uk](http://www.ursulataylorschool.co.uk)**

On behalf of the staff I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. We would like to welcome new families to our school and hope that they will soon feel very much part of our school community.

I am pleased to welcome Mrs Lee as Senior Teacher responsible for the Foundation Stage (Reception classes) and hope that she will soon feel very much part of our school community. Mrs Lee joins us from Christopher Reeves Lower School where she held the position of Senior Teacher and Foundation Stage teacher.

We also welcome Mrs Ghisi to our team of midday staff and later on this term we shall be joined by Mrs Crook.

**School Values and Collective Worship**

Following our introduction of Values Education last term the value we shall be promoting is that of perseverance in line with our PSHE programme. We shall also be reinforcing the value of perseverance from a Christian perspective during our Monday and Friday Collective Worship. As part of the school's Christian heritage the children will also be learning about the Lord's Prayer and gaining an understanding of the words.

**Opinions of parents and carers**

It is now a year since we conducted a survey of parents and carers. It is of utmost importance to us that we gather your views and we do hope that we have addressed the main concerns from last year. We now need to gather your views once more in order to look at the next stage in our school's development. A survey will be sent to you early next week.

We also need your views on the future of swimming in our school. It is likely that we shall need to spend a considerable amount of money on our pool before it can be used this summer which we are prepared to do if it is felt that this is the best way in which we can use part of our school budget. Financial contributions from parents and parent help are also essential in enabling us to provide a swimming curriculum for the children.

Please help us by completing our survey and returning to school by Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> January.

## **School Curriculum**

Details of your child's curriculum for this term will be sent home either today or within the next few days.

## **School Dinners and Milk Money**

Payment for next half term's dinners will be as follows:-

School Dinners      29 days @ £1.70 per day = £49.30

Friday Dinners      6 days @ £1.70 per day = £10.20

Milk Money            29 days @ 30p per day = £8.70

## **Cheques should be made payable to Eden Foodservices Ltd**

## **Church Drive Access**

As you will be aware repair work is currently taking place at the church. Please could you give consideration when parking to the residents of Green Lane and the safety of the children.

## **Tissues**

Once again we are running short of boxes of tissues and, due to the number of colds around, please could each family send in a box of tissues. If your child does have a cold please could you send him / her in with a wad of tissues as well. Many thanks

## **Pantomime Trip – Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> January**

Just to remind you that the pantomime trip will be taking place next Thursday.

Children who normally have school meals on a Thursday will be provided with a packed lunch by the school as we shall be eating earlier than usual.

We are expected to return about 4.30pm. Active Kids will still take place for those children whose parents would normally collect them after 4.30pm

When collecting children after the pantomime we ask that parents wait in the school hall where you will be informed when the coaches have arrived and the children are safely back in their classrooms. At that point children can be collected from outside on the balcony as usual.

## **Attendance Vouchers**

Children whose attendance exceeded 95% for the autumn term will shortly be receiving vouchers for Robinson Pool. This is likely to be the last time that we shall be issuing such vouchers due to our reservations regarding the scheme. I would be interested to receive your comments.

**The Cheerleading Course is now full, but there are plenty of places still available on the gymnastics course.**



