

URSULA TAYLOR C of E LOWER SCHOOL

School Newsletter

24 March 2011

Pupil and Parent Surveys

As stated in the last newsletter I have attached a survey form which we would like you complete and return to school by Friday, 1st April. There will be copies of the survey available during our parent consultation evenings next week should you wish to complete and return them then. There will be a box in the entrance hall. Governors will also be available during parent consultation evenings should you wish to discuss any aspects of the survey with them.

During the past two weeks we have been conducting surveys with all our classes. Whilst it is very pleasing to read and hear their many positive comments there are two main areas which stand out as requiring attention.

Firstly many children would like to be given more information about the levels at which they are working and the results of their assessments and tests. The staff have discussed this and have agreed that more detailed feedback on marks and levels should be given to the children, especially in Years 2, 3 and 4. Their summer reports will also be more explicit with regard to their levels.

Secondly we have discussed behaviour. Visitors to our school always comment on the very good behaviour which they see and certainly the adults in the school would endorse this, Most children reported that other children are friendly, everyone gets on and teachers are firm! However, the children also report that sometimes there is talking in assembly or in class and, at times, children can be mean. We are therefore involving the children in finding ways together to ensure the behaviour in our school is excellent, rather than good. We also believe that it is important that in school we teach the children the resilience to cope with difficult situations which I am sure you will reinforce at home.

Please do let us know your comments on any of the issues. The results of the surveys and subsequent actions will be circulated.

Golden Assembly

As mentioned above the children are aware that they should not be talking during our Assemblies. We really appreciate your presence in Golden Assemblies as friends and parents, but would ask that you also adhere to the quietness of this special time and that younger children who are being noisy are taken outside until quietened.

School Meals

Caterlink will be providing school meals from after the Easter holidays, instead of Eden Foodservices. All meals for this term should be paid for by 1st April. They will not be able to provide any extra meals during the last week of term which have not been paid for by 1st April. Meals for next term cannot be paid for until next term when Caterlink take over.

School value for April

Our school value for April is 'Forgiveness' which reflects the forgiveness of the Crucifixion. This is one of our more difficult values and is one which we do not see reflected in today's society as much as we would wish. We shall be encouraging the children to 'make up' with their friends and to not hold grudges, whilst learning the courage to 'own' up and be forgiven. As is usual our value will be developed during Collective Worship using the Bible as the source and inspiration.

Red Nose Day

Many thanks for your wonderful support of last week's Red Nose day. We made £477! Overleaf you will find a report of the day as written by Woodpecker's Class.

School Policies on the Website

Just to inform you that there are two more policies on the school website:-
ursulataylorschool.co.uk

Safeguarding policy

e-safety policy

It is very important that you are aware of these two policies.

End of Term Friday 8th April

During the morning all the children will be attending an Easter Service, Years 2, 3 and 4 together and then Reception and Year 1. Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate parents as well.

At 2.30pm we shall gather together in the hall in order to have our grand parade of the Easter Hats, to which you are invited. Please encourage your children to make and decorate a hat on the theme of Easter. We also hope that we shall be able to have other entertainments during that time, after which you may take your children home.

Can you help us with the school logo?

We are in the process of trying to create an electronic version of our current school logo, as used on the school uniform. If anyone has the IT skills and would be able to help us please speak to myself or Mrs Butler.
Thank you.

Dress for a Marathon Day

Just to remind you that tomorrow the children may dress in whatever they feel would be appropriate for running a marathon. In return we are asking for a donation of a £1.00 or more towards the children's diabetes charity, JDRF.