

**Ursula Taylor C of E (VC) Lower School
Newsletter
6th November 2009**

**Let's show you how the children are learning
numeracy**

Monday 16th November 3.45-4.30pm OR 6.00-6.45pm



The staff would like to share with you the ways in which numeracy is taught in our school which, for most of you, will be different from the way you were taught at school. We are, therefore, holding two sessions as above when teachers in each year group will be showing, demonstrating and answering your questions about the methods used to teach addition throughout the school. This will take place in the hall and you are invited to visit the different year groups to see how the children progress through the school.

We are holding two identical sessions in the hope that all of you will be able to attend one of them. Children are welcome to come with you as we are sure that they would also like to tell you about their learning. This is the first time we have held such a numeracy session and on this occasion, will be concentrating on addition only. If you find the session useful we will run further sessions on different aspects of numeracy.

Supporting children coping with 'loss'



Most children at one time or another will cope with a loss of some kind, be it through the death of a family member, the death of a pet, divorce and separation, changing school, moving house etc. Ms Cooper has now been trained to offer support for children in these difficult situations. She will be holding an 'Open House' session twice a week at lunchtimes for children who would like to talk through their worries and anxieties surrounding any type of loss. We shall be talking to the children about this, but if you feel your child would benefit from such support please talk to him/her or have a word with the class teacher or myself.

Poppies



Poppies are now on sale in school. On Friday this week children from Active Kids will be selling **Poppy Biscuits** during school time at 10p each, the proceeds going to the poppy appeal.

**Active Kids' Club is looking
for tiles!**

Do you have any spare or left over tiles from a kitchen or bathroom? Active Kids' Club will be making a mosaic from ceramic tiles of any colour and would welcome any donations.

Children's Centre



Just to let you know that the Children's Centre is now up and running. If you are a parent of a pre-school child or know someone who is (or will be) and would like more information please call in. The family worker can be found in the Children's Centre between 9.30 and 3.30pm and would be only too pleased to show you around and tell you about activities and events. The entrance to the Children's Centre is from Church Walk as signposted.

Operation Christmas Child



Our school values for this half term are 'sharing and giving'. These will be underpinned from the Christian perspective in our Collective Worship. As part of this we shall be taking part in the Operation Christmas Child, an initiative of Samaritan's Purse which works through local churches overseas to proclaim and demonstrate the love of God amongst communities in need in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. We feel that it would be too much to ask children to make up a whole box each, but it would be great if each child could feel involved by giving just something very small, such as one of items below.

Each class will be making up shoeboxes of goodies to give to boys and girls aged 5 to 9 years old. To make up these boxes children are invited to bring in any of the following:

- **Toys** – bears, soft toys, tennis balls, finger puppets, jigsaw, yo-yos, building blocks, small musical instruments, trucks and cars, dolls, clip on earrings.
- **Educational supplies** – felt pens, pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, colouring books, chalk, pencils cases, stickers
- **Hygiene items** – toothbrushes, toothpaste, hairbrushes, combs, hair clips, bars of soap, flannels
- **Other items** – gloves, scarves, sunglasses, hats, bangles, necklaces

We would also appreciate some shoeboxes for packing the items!

We will need donations by Wednesday, 11th November, please.



Baby boy for Mrs Wood!
Born Monday evening – mother and
baby Thomas doing well!

