

**URSULA TAYLOR VC LOWER SCHOOL**

**24<sup>th</sup> October 2008 Newsletter**

**Parents' Evenings**

It was very good to see such a good turn out for our parents' consultations. I hope that you found the discussions useful and informative.

**Diocesan Harvest Festival –**

The choir represented our school last week at the Harvest Festival in St Paul's Church, Bedford. There were many schools present at this event and the church was full. We were honoured to be asked to lead the prayers during this service. Seven of our Year 4 children bravely volunteered, speaking confidently and with dignity. Many thanks to Joseph, Daniella, Jessye, Elise, Rajan, Katy and Omar.

**Deputy Headteacher**

Unfortunately we were unable to appoint to this position at the present time. We shall therefore be advertising immediately for a full-time experienced and well qualified Early Years teacher to lead our team of able and dedicated staff in the Foundation Stage (Reception).

**Reading**

Many Reception parents recently attended a very informative (and enjoyable) evening on 'helping your child to read', led by Mrs Chapman. Many parents commented that this would help them to do much more to help their child.

As a result of this we shall be running three sessions of two hours on helping your child with reading (suitable for any age). This will be open to all parents, but we would particularly encourage parents (or grandparents etc) to attend whose children are finding reading difficult. A flyer will come out after half term.

**Values Education for next half term**

As you will know we introduced Values Education at the beginning of this term, concentrating over the past few weeks on 'Respect'. This does seem to have had an impact upon the children in school (and hopefully at home!). For the next half term we shall be addressing the value of '**CO-OPERATION**'. Once again this will be reinforced during our Collective Worship.

It has been good to see some regular parents at our Friday Achievement Assemblies. Please do continue to support us on these occasions.

**Bedford Young Musician of the Year 2009**

The Rotary Clubs of Bedford are once again organising this now annual event. Entry is open to soloists under 18 with the youngest age group being for 6 – 10 year olds. If your child is a musician and would like to take part please ask at the office for further details.

## **Dinner and Milk Money for next half term**

34 days = £57.80

7 x Fridays only = £11.90

Milk money 34 days = £10.20

Milk money should be paid in by 7<sup>th</sup> November

After half term there will be a new dinner menu, a copy of which is sited next to the front door.

## **'Active Kids' Club' (Before and After School Club) – from Mrs Proctor**

We have had a very successful first term at 'Active Kids', enjoying creative activities, baking and most of all relaxing after our day at school. With Christmas fast approaching, 'Active kids' is happy to accept any extra children should you need to do any last minute shopping. If you have any queries please speak to me. You can find me in the morning buttering toast in the library until 8.50am or after 3.00pm`

## **Poppy Appeal**

This will be taking place immediately after half term. Donations for poppies can be sent in with your child

## **TRAINING DAY**

Please remember that, following our half term break next week, the school will be closed for staff training on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November.