

URSULA TAYLOR VC LOWER SCHOOL

6th October 2011 Newsletter

Parent Consultation Evenings

Parent Consultation Evenings will be taking place from Tuesday, 18th to Thursday, 20th October as follows:-

Dragonflies	Tuesday, Thursday
Snails	Tuesday. Thursday
Hedgehogs	Tuesday. Thursday
Dormice	Tuesday. Thursday
Foxes	Tuesday, Wednesday
Badgers	Tuesday. Thursday
Bees	Tuesday. Thursday
Kingfishers	Tuesday. Thursday
Woodpeckers	Wednesday, Thursday
Squirrels	Tuesday. Thursday

Please sign the lists on the windows next to the school office to make an appointment; please note that teachers can only make **one** appointment per child. The lists will be posted from Tuesday morning (11th October). On the evening of your appointment please use the main entrance and wait outside your child's classroom where you will be able to look at your child's work whilst you wait for the teacher to be free. Present on Tuesday and Thursday evenings will be members of the Governing Body who will be happy to discuss school issues or just chat about school and members of the PTFA who would like to hear your ideas on fund-raising and social events.

Harvest Festival

On behalf of the recipients of the harvest gifts I would like to thank everyone who sent in produce for our Harvest Festival.

October Value – Sharing

Our value for this month is 'Sharing'. Today this will be introduced by Squirrels' Assembly for the rest of the school on 'Sharing' and tomorrow they will send home details on the take home task for this month. In our Collective Worship the children will be thinking about this value through teachings and stories from the Bible. We shall be encouraging the children to share friendship, share their games, share their time, share in group-work, share their toys and share a smile. Our Friday values certificates will be awarded based on class / teacher nominations for those who have really demonstrated the value. **Sharing Money Boxes** – at the Harvest Festival yesterday Stephen spoke to the children about sharing with those here and in other countries who have so very little. This year's Bishop's appeal is for those who suffer in Cambodia, about which the children will be learning more next week. More details can be found on www.tearfund.org.uk where donations can be made. In each classroom we have a moneybox where children can make small contributions from their pocket-money if they wish to show the value of sharing in this way.

Bicycles

Please watch your children carefully as they cross the driveway to collect their bicycles. We have recently seen children running in front of cars as premises staff arrive for work.

Food Policy - Birthdays

With the ever increasing number of allergies and food concerns last year we asked parents of Foundation Stage (Reception) not to send sweets, cakes and biscuits into school to celebrate birthdays. We know from feedback from parents, that this was welcomed for a variety of reasons. We have therefore agreed to extend this policy to the whole school. It is important that we celebrate children's birthdays in class and of course we celebrate every child's birthday during Golden Assembly during the week of their birthday when their photograph is taken with other children also celebrating their birthday. We apologise if this policy appears to contradict our October value, but if you wish to do something which is non-food based please let us know!

Relief Midday Supervisors

We are looking to appoint midday supervisors to work occasional days (12.00-1.15) to cover staff absence. If you are interested please enquire at the school office.

Milk and School Meals Update

Milk – should you wish to order milk please can you do so on a half termly basis and paid for in advance. Please order and pay for milk for the next half term (November / December) before we break up on 21st October.

Reception children who have reached their fifth birthday are no longer eligible for free milk. If you wish your child to continue to have milk each morning please send in the money (£10.20 for the next half term), otherwise they will no longer receive milk. Cheques should be made payable to Caterlink please, or cash sent in with your child in a named envelope.

Reading Policy

You will find our updated reading policy on the school website within the next few days in which you will find some helpful hints for parents.

www.ursulataylorschool.co.uk