

## URSULA TAYLOR VC LOWER SCHOOL

19<sup>th</sup> September 2008 Newsletter

### **Curriculum Information and Class Numeracy Targets**

Please see attached sheets regarding your child's topics for this term. You will also see the numeracy targets for this half term for your child's class. We hope that you will support your child in this area. We would also continue to stress the importance of hearing your child read and also reading to him / her and helping them with their weekly spellings (from Y2 at the moment). It really does make a difference to the children's progress when they are supported at home. If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to ask.

### **Appointment of Staff**

Following the departure of Mrs Rees at the end of last term the Governing Body has agreed to advertise for a teaching Deputy Headteacher to take up post in January. The post is being advertised locally and nationally this week and we shall keep you informed.

### **Guided Reading Groups**

Thank you very much to those parents who have volunteered to help. We shall be in touch with you within the next few days.

### **Attendance**

We have signed up to two schemes for improving attendance. Once again Kids' World vouchers will be offered to all children achieving 100% attendance this term as well as vouchers for Robinson Pool being offered to children with over 95% attendance.

We appreciate that illnesses and accidents cannot be avoided. These incentives have been agreed by the Local Authority to encourage those children and families where absence can often be avoided.

### **Harvest Festival**

This will take place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October in the school hall at 9.15 in the school hall. All parents are invited to join us. Produce (fresh fruit, tins, packets, flowers etc) can be brought into school during that week. I am told that this is a very popular event and I am certainly looking forward to celebrating my first Ursula Taylor Harvest Festival.

### **Photographs**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October – All children will be photographed individually and in their family group if they have a brother or sister in school. Pre-school children can also be brought into school for family and individual photos from 8.50am as the family groups will be taken first.

Those children who have pre-school brothers and sisters should come into school and have their photograph taken as a family group before going to class for registration which will be slightly later than normal.

You will then have the choice of any photographs, but are, of course, under no obligation to buy. Please return the photographs or payment as quickly as possible.

### **Parking before and after school**

I am very grateful to Louise and Peter Anthony from the Horse and Groom who have very kindly agreed that parents and carers may use their car park at the beginning and end of the day. Their only request is that the car park is not used at other times i.e at lunchtime or in the evening during their opening times.

### **Bedford Fire Station Open Day 27<sup>th</sup> September**

The above event will take place at the Fire Station between 12 noon and 4.00pm during which time there will be a tour.

### **Paint Tots**

Oakley Village Hall – Tuesdays at 10.30am

St Marks Community Centre – Calder Rise – Wednesdays at 9.30am

For information go to [info@painttots.co.uk](mailto:info@painttots.co.uk) or 01234 824475

### **Parents collecting children at 12.00 noon**

Please be aware that on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September a funeral cortege will be leaving 11 High Street at 11.45am.

### **PTFA Uniform Shop**

The PTFA uniform shop is open on the last Friday of every month.

### **Tissues**

From time to time we ask that each child bring in one box of tissues which is kept in store and used in the classrooms. We have now exhausted our supply and would be grateful if you could send one in with your child. Thank you.

### **Parent Support Service**

As parents we are often seeking advice on a wide range of issues regarding our children. Unfortunately they do not come with instructions! The Parent Support Advisors have kindly agreed to set up a stall on Tuesday morning before school in the playground. Please do see what they can offer.

### **Date List for Autumn Term 2008**

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Harvest Festival       | Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October  |
| PTFA AGM               | Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm   |
| Book Fair              | Arrives 14 <sup>th</sup> October until 17 <sup>th</sup> October (details to follow)   |
| Parent Consultations   | Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October 3.45-6.00pm – details to follow<br>Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October 3.45-6.00pm  |
| Individual Photographs | Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October   |
| Half Term              | Break up at 3.30pm on Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October and return to school<br>on Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November (Training Day 3 <sup>rd</sup> November) |
| Christmas Fair         | Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> December (morning)   |

**Information regarding Christmas Festivities will be available shortly.**