

Ursula Taylor Church of England School

Newsletter 16th June 2014



Staff News **Congratulations!**

We would like to congratulate Mrs Chance on her wonderful news that she and Mr Chance are expecting a baby! Mrs Chance will be going on Maternity Leave sometime in October and hopes to return in the Summer Term. I am sure you will join with us to wish them both the very best for a new chapter in their lives.

We would also like to congratulate Miss Sunner on her successful appointment in a permanent Teaching role for September. We will all miss Miss Sunner and are very grateful for all her hard work over the last year and wish her every success for the future.

Pocket Toys

We have noticed that playground pocket toys have been increasing in size and becoming a real problem during break and lunchtimes. Please can you ensure that if your child brings in a pocket toy, that it does actually fit in their pocket!

In September we have taken the decision to stop the pocket toys altogether. We will provide children with different playground activities to give them a focus at break and lunchtimes. This is in line with Foundation who do not bring pocket toys to school.

Hairbands / Bobbles

Please can you make sure your child is wearing a small, unobtrusive hair decoration if they need their hair tying up. The large flowers etc. are not school uniform and are very impractical for PE and swimming.



JUNE VALUE 'FAIRNESS'

Fair doesn't mean giving every child the same thing, it means giving every child what they need.

Class Teachers for September

We are currently looking at class groups for September, you will be told which class your child will be in before the school transfer days coming up in the near future. Please be reassured that every care is taken to group the children in the best way possible and that all factors are taken into consideration.

The Teachers in each Year are as follows:

F Stage Mrs Lee (Snails) and Mrs Williams (Caterpillars)
Year 1 Mr Burton (Dormice) and TBC (Butterflies)
Year 2 Miss Wintle (Bees) and Mrs Fidler (Puffins)
Year 3 Mr Roderick (Owls) and Ms Cooper (Otters)
Year 4 Miss Marks (Swallows) and Mrs Chance (Squirrels)

NB We are currently finalising teachers for Year 1 and Mrs Chance's Maternity leave. We are looking to use teachers known to us and that have tried and tested quality teaching and learning skills. I will announce the final decisions in the next few weeks when the appointments are confirmed.

Friday June 27th

Mufti Day

We are holding a mufti day on the 27th June to support a tombola for our end of term celebrations. Please can you send your child in on that day wearing Mufti and donate a bottle towards a Tombola stall.

Bottles need to be : unopened and non refrigerated. If you are donating alcohol, please make sure you hand it directly to a member of staff and DO NOT send your child in to school with it.



Shoes! - We have noticed children wearing shoes that are not uniform. The uniform policy states black school shoes. We understand that children may have grown out of their current pair and that buying new ones would be a waste of money, if that is the case, please ensure if they are wearing something else, that they are black and practical for school. No trainers with other colours or bright laces please. Thank you.

Staff Vacancies

We are looking to recruit some extra lunchtime supervisors for September to cover our growing number of children!

If you would like to be considered for the posts please contact Ms. Daley in the school office who can explain our requirements in more detail.

We would also like to have some casual staff on the books to cover staff absence when required.



We have been asked to bring to Parents / Carers attention some career opportunities and voluntary opportunities at Yarl's Wood. If you would like information about this please see Ms. Daley in the school office.

REMINDER!

Our Summer Term ends on the Wednesday 23rd July 2014. We will be finishing at 3:30pm as usual on that day.

There will be a golden Assembly that day to celebrate Summer Holiday birthdays!

Sports' Day 2014

We are holding our annual Sport's Day on Tuesday July 1st at 1:30pm. The format will be similar to last year. The whole school will be mixed into different country teams and will spend the morning learning about their country. The afternoon sees the children complete a variety of different activities following a carousel approach. The children will accumulate points on each event which will be totalled to find which team is victorious!

Parents and Carers are welcome to attend. Please be mindful of the size of our grounds when bringing the family, there won't be room for huge numbers of people.

We also ask that you let the staff manage the children and do not take any children to the toilet / for a drink / home without the express agreement of the class teacher. This is to ensure your child's safety and to allow us to effectively manage what is a busy and potentially complicated afternoon.

There will be drinks for purchase by visitors provided by the PTFA, so please come with money to spend!



Transfer Events

We are fast approaching the time when we have a series of sessions for the children to prepare themselves for moving into a new class. We will be letting you know which teacher your child will have at the start of w/b 7th July.

w/b 7th July is our Transfer week.

Year 4 are at Lincroft for 3 days (Tuesday 8th, Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th)

On Wednesday and Thursday our children will spend the day in their new class with their new Teacher and Teaching Assistant. These days will involve the children learning about new routines and give time for staff to get to know their new children.

Thursday 10th July between 3:45pm and 4:15pm there will be an opportunity for parents to meet the teacher who will be having their child in September and see where they will have their class base. Please note this is not an opportunity to speak with your child's current teacher but to get ready for September.

If you have any specific issues you wish to relay to your child's new teacher, please arrange an appointment with them after school rather than address it at this session.

The children's school reports will be coming home on Friday 11th July.



DANGEROUS DRIVING IN OUR PLAYGROUND

I have received a worrying report about a parent driving dangerously in our playground after collection from Active Kids. Apparently the parent was seen wheel spinning and revving the car repeatedly.

I would like to make it clear that this is not behaviour we expect of our parents and that it is wholly inappropriate. I have been given a description of the car and staff are aware to be on the look out in case of a reoccurrence.

The playground is opened as a convenience for parents needing to drop off and collect from Active Kids. Any repeat of this nature will result in the gates being locked and no access to the playground being allowed.

This may seem a harsh message but the safety of our parents and children is paramount.

I would like to thank those parents that drive and park responsibly and I hope we will not have to resort to closing the playground to parking.



REMINDER!

Please can parents ensure that children are not wearing jewellery to school. (Only stud earrings are permitted) There has been an increase in bracelets and 'loom' bands and these are not part of our school uniform. There is a Health and Safety risk attached to jewellery which we need to manage carefully.

Please can you also make sure if your child wears earrings (studs) that they can be removed by your child for PE and swimming. Children are NOT permitted to have tape over their earrings in the pool as they come off and damage the filter. We cannot allow children to swim unless they can take out their earrings or have come to school without them in. Swimming donation money is £14 per family or £2 weekly.

Thank you for your on going support.



Important Diary Dates

18th June 6 pm Lincroft Open Even for Year 4

23rd June 7pm New Foundation Children Parent's Evening

27th June Mufti Day - Bring a Bottle for Tombola

30th June International Week (Details to Follow)

1st July Sports Day 1:30pm Parents and carers welcome to attend

2nd July Year 3 Corn Exchange Sing on!

8th / 9th / 10th July Year 4 at Lincroft

9th / 10th UTS Transfer Days

11th July Reports to go home

18th July End of Term picnic (details to follow)

23rd July END OF TERM

24th / 25th July and w/b 28th July, w/b 4th August - HOLIDAY CLUB

w/b 28th July Church PowerPoint Club

