

**Ursula Taylor
Church of England
School**

Newsletter 16th December 2014



**DECEMBER VALUE
'Hope'**

**DON'T LOSE HOPE, WHEN THE
SUN GOES DOWN, THE STARS
COME OUT.**
UNKNOWN

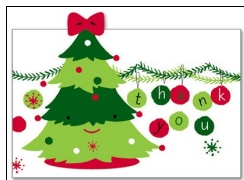
Diary Dates

Children Return to School 6th January 2015
(NB TRAINING DAY 5th January 2015 - Staff ONLY)

Staff News

Mrs Butler will be finishing teaching Rabbit Class on Friday. Mrs Butler was employed to complete a terms cover whilst we employed a Deputy Headteacher to replace me as I moved into the Headship role. We are very pleased to have appointed Mrs Kate Hall who will be starting with us in January. Mrs Hall is an experienced Senior Leader and Key Stage 1 and 2 teacher. Mrs Hall will be working very closely with Mr Burton and Mrs Butler. Mrs Butler will be retaining a Rabbits class teaching responsibility on Fridays when Mrs Hall has her Deputy Head release time.

Our thanks to Mrs Butler for her hard work and commitment and we look forward to her continuing with us in Year 1 and as a supply teacher.



Golden Assembly

Our final Golden Assembly for the term will be on 19th December 2014 at 9:15am. This will be for the end of the month awards and also birthdays for the period 1.12.14 - 4.1.15



Christmas Fair News!

I am sure you will all agree that the Christmas Fair on the 5.12.14 was a great success and really enjoyable. We would like to say a big THANKYOU!

To the PFTA team and everyone who helped make the event such a success, it was lovely to see so many people giving their time and donating items to support our school and children.

I am very pleased to say that the Christmas Fair raised £2000! This is wonderful and a great start to the library project which we will be starting after Christmas.

We are hoping to...

- Invest in an extended range of books
- Update the Library environment
- Install a computer system and Junior Librarian to keep track of the books and allow the children to have Librarian Monitor roles.
- Timetable each class for sessions and weekly borrowing
- Encourage more reading at home across the school.

Christmas Performances

The Christmas Performances have been wonderful, the children have really worked very hard to learn some very complex songs and also master a range of lines and movements. Thank you to parents for providing costumes and props and the staff for their hard work putting together such engaging Christmas delights!

We have a super amount of money to donate to CHUMs, it is growing with every performance. We will let you know how much has been raised when we have a final total.



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**Save the Children Christmas Jumper
Day!**

What a wonderful Day! Who knew
there were so many different Christ-
mas jumpers available?!

The staff and children raised £250 for
Save the Children.



School Uniform

Thank you!

My thanks to all parents who have read and followed the Uniform
Policy which was sent home recently. There has been a marked
improvement in the standard of dress and also the behaviour of
the children. It really does make a difference.

School Dinners Cost (Year 3 and 4 only)

Per day £2.15 or £10.75 per week

The new menu will follow in January

Attendance

Thank you to those parents who have informed us of any holiday absence planned. I appreciate you tak-
ing the time to let me know about absence, so I know why your child/ren might be out of school
however, I am still unable to agree holiday requests unless there are exceptional circumstances. All re-
quest for holiday absence are responded to on an individual basis and in writing.

Please note: If a child is away from school and no reason is given, we are responsible for finding out
where the child is and why they are not at school. This will involve a telephone call from either Miss Da-
ley or myself. We have a responsibility for safeguarding and child protection for every child in our school
and we are expected by the Educational Welfare Officers to follow up any absence to satisfy us that our
your children are safe. This responsibility is something I very take very seriously. Please do not be offend-
ed if you receive a telephone call asking where your child is and why they are not at school, there have
been times when parents do not respect this responsibility and respond in a way which we find
unacceptable. I ask that you always bear in mind that we are doing our very best to safeguard your chil-
dren's well-being.

Also, I have been informed about some parents who are taking their children out of school and claiming
that there have doctors appointments in far flung places. I would much rather parents were honest
about their intentions and we are able to work together to ensure the highest attendance possible for
your children. The higher the attendance, the more chance there is of a child achieving their best and
excelling at school.

Thank you, once again, to those parents who respect the position I am in and those who are acting in an
open and honest way regarding attendance / holiday absence.

My very best wishes for a happy and peaceful Christmas

Mrs Morrall