

**Ursula Taylor
Church of England
School**

Newsletter 18th March 2015



**MARCH VALUE
'Respect'**

A PERSON'S A PERSON, NO
MATTER HOW SMALL.
DR SEUSS



Parent Consultations

The consultation sign up sheets are up in the foyer and are available before and after school. If you are unable to get in to school, please ring the school office or send a note to your class teacher who will be able to provide you with a time. There are plenty of slots available and alternative dates can be made with your class teachers should you be unable to attend the dates offered.

Over the next week or so, the children will be having their 'PIT stops' where they have an interview with their class teacher. This interview is then shared with parents/carers at the consultation.

We also encourage parents to bring their children with them for consultations as we would like the consultation to be a shared experience for teachers, parents and children. If a parent or teacher needs to talk about something in confidence or of a sensitive nature, we will ask the child to wait outside the classroom. If you would prefer not to bring your child to consultation, it is of course, your decision.

Parents / Carers attending the Wednesday afternoon session can collect their child from the Hall prior to the consultation. Please allow a few minutes for this as it can take time to locate one child amongst 286! You are also welcome to take your child home with you after the consultation slot, although your child will need to be signed out in the hall please.

We hope the consultations will be an enjoyable experience and provide you with the information you need regarding your child's achievement's, progress, strengths, areas for development and pastoral information.

Easter ' Big Breakfast'

I have been asked by parents to clarify the arrangements for the Easter Big Breakfast on Friday 27th March. I have spoken to the PTFA and the following should clarify things.

- The Big Breakfast will start at 9am and the children will parade around the field wearing their bonnets at about 9:15am.
- Children are asked to make their Easter Bonnets at home and bring them to school on the morning of the 27th ready for the parade. There will be a prize for the best bonnet in each class.
- Breakfast Rolls - These are for **parents/carers/visitors** to pre order - NOT the children. After the parade the children will be returning to class to complete their lessons. If you have pre - ordered for a child this is not a problem, any pre-payment made will be refunded.
- If you have not pre-ordered a Bacon roll, Sausage in a roll or Danish Pastry, there is still plenty of time to do so. (Payment is not required in advance)

I hope this helps to clarify things. Any further queries please contact Grainne Brown, Bryony Barker or any other member of the PTFA, who I am sure will be happy to help you. Thank you.





Staff News

Miss Charlotte Marks, one of our Year 4 teachers will be leaving us at the end of July. Miss Marks has successfully been appointed as a Key Stage 2 teacher in a Church Primary school in Northamptonshire. We are very sad to see Miss Marks leave, as she is a valued and loved member of staff, who has been at Ursula Taylor since qualifying. I am sure that you will join with us to wish her every success in the future and hope that she will be very happy in her new school.



Mrs Laura Chance, who has been away on Maternity Leave will be returning to Ursula Taylor in late June. Mrs Chance will continue to be supported by Mrs Lane and Mrs Watterson for the rest of this year, to ensure the best possible transition for our Year 4 Leavers. We all look forward to seeing Mrs Chance and hearing about her lovely little boy, Patrick.

Mrs Tracey Williams, Foundation Stage Teacher will be returning to work in September on a part time basis. Mrs Williams will not be teaching in Foundation Stage but elsewhere in the school. Mrs Williams is a valued teacher who has worked very hard in Foundation to ensure our children get the best possible start to their school journey. Mrs Williams will continue to be a feature among our staff, whilst also spending more time with her family.

We will be, very shortly, advertising for 2 full time teachers for September, one for Foundation Stage and one for Year 4. I am also intending to let you know about the staffing structure for September, and which class your children will be in, as soon as they have been finalised.

We are very fortunate at Ursula Taylor to have an excellent staff team and we will be looking to make two appointments of the highest calibre to complement our current team.



**'DO TO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD
HAVE THEM DO TO YOU.'
MATTHEW 7.12**

Sickness absence

In the last week or so, we have had quite a number of children and staff absent from school because of sickness bugs, chicken pox or viral infections. I would like to thank parents for dealing with this so sensibly. The 48 hour rule has been adhered to, ensuring that children are only returning when they are fit and well enough to be in school. This means that we are able to reduce the spread of the bugs to a minimum. We have been encouraging children to wash their hands regularly and thoroughly and also frequently blow their noses when needed.

We are running out of tissues and would really appreciate some boxes donated by parents. If you could send a box in with your child for their classroom it would be very helpful. Thank you.



After School Club

Our very successful 'Active Kids' club managed very ably by Mrs Proctor and her team has reached its peak in term of the number of children we can accommodate. Mrs Proctor and I have set a limit on the number of children per session, which is a maximum of 50. There have been a number of occasions lately where we have reached 50 and have unfortunately had to turn children away. We have been operating a waiting list style system, which has been working well thus far. If your children are regular attendees at Active Kids, they will be accommodated for in our numbers. The problem is most apparent when parents ring up at short notice for the same day or the next day, when we haven't always been able to accommodate requirements.

We will, as far as possible, do our best to accommodate your childcare needs, but please be aware that this is not always possible and that you may need to make alternative arrangements.

Mrs Proctor or Mrs Harte are available on the playground each morning and also contactable through the school office during the school day - 359128, the phone number to use during Active Kids hours is 352074.

Mrs Proctor and I have also met to discuss the Summer Club offered for the first 2 weeks of the school holidays. Mrs Proctor will be sending information out regarding this very shortly, although Mrs Proctor is already taking reservations for places.

Active Kids Club and Summer Club Prices

The cost of sessions at Active Kids and Summer Club have not increased since 2008. We have purposely kept the costs low to ensure that it is a cost effective method of child care for working parents and also an affordable opportunity for parents wishing to give their children the time to play and interact with their friends. (continued page 4)



Active Kids continued...

We recognise how useful parents find Active Kids and as our numbers have grown, the requirement for more staffing, more space for the children has also grown. Mrs Bartle (School Bursar) and I have been researching local After School Clubs in terms of pricing and have compared the hours we offer and the prices we charge to other providers.

We are very happy with the prices charged and these will be remaining the same. We feel that we are affordable and priced sufficiently to cover all staff, energy and resourcing costs. Therefore there will be no changes made to the Active Kids or Summer Club costs.

Mrs Proctor and I are however, considering opening Breakfast Club at 7:45am instead of 8:00am. This is to allow parents who need to drop their children slightly earlier the opportunity to do so. The cost for Breakfast club, whether it is used from 7:45am or 8:00am will remain the same. If you feel that this would be a useful service, please add your name to the list in Active Kids. This will just give us an idea of the number of people who would use the extra time and allow us to see if it will be financially viable. If there are sufficient numbers this will begin in September 2015.

Diary Dates

20.3.15 Headteacher for the Day - Leo Sharp-Nelaj
w/b 23.3.15 Consultation Week (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)
24.3.15 Year 3 / 4 Science Day supported by Unilever
26.3.15 Easter Service in Church (Children and Staff only)
27.3.15 BIG Easter Breakfast 9am / Easter Bonnet parade
27.3.15 Monthly awards assembly 3pm
27.3.15 BREAK UP FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS

Summer Term 2015

13.4.15 - Training Day (Staff only)
14.4.15 First day back for children
16.4.15 PTFA meeting 5:45pm @ UTS
21.4.15 Year 4 Frontier Centre, Parents Information meeting 3:45pm
24.4.15 PTFA Family Fun Night - (Further details to follow)
13, 14, 15th May 2015 - Year 4 Frontier Centre Trip
w/b 25.5.15 HALF TERM
1.6.15 Children back to school
7.6.15 PTFA Treasure Hunt (Further details to follow)
17.6.15 Year 4 - Lincroft New Intake Parents Evening
26.6.15 Mufti Day - Bring a bottle for the Tombola
7th, 8th and 9th July Year 4 Transfer Days at Lincroft
7th and 8th July - Ursula Taylor Internal Transfer Days
10.7.15 BIG Summer Picnic 2pm - 4pm
17.7.15 BREAK UP FOR SUMMER HOLIDAYS (w/b 20.7.15 and 27.7.15 Summer Club see Mrs Proctor)

