

# Ursula Taylor Church of England School



**PLEASE NOTE - We have a  
new email address for the  
school office**

Website- [www.ursulataylor.school.co.uk](http://www.ursulataylor.school.co.uk)

Email - [office@ursulataylor.bedssch.co.uk](mailto:office@ursulataylor.bedssch.co.uk)

Email -

[office@ursulataylor.bedssch.co.uk](mailto:office@ursulataylor.bedssch.co.uk)



## Newsletter 18th September 2015

### Welcome back!

It has been a successful start to the term with children returning to school with a smile on their faces and ready to learn. Many thanks to our parents who have helped settle their children in so quickly. The first few days of children coming in on their own have been very successful, we appreciate parents and carers 'hanging back' and allowing children to organise themselves. Our new Foundation Stage children started school on the 17th September with parents being invited to settle their children in the mornings in their classrooms. Foundation Parents, please take your children into their classrooms through Snails and Caterpillars external doors. The Foundation Team are always available to speak to if you have any concerns or queries.

### Parent Link

Mrs Proctor is continuing her role as Parent Link on the playground in the mornings. Mrs Proctor can take bookings or arrange changes of times for Active Kids and also pass on messages to teachers. In the event that you need to speak urgently to a member of staff, Mrs Morrall and / or Mrs Hall will be available on the playground. You are also welcome to telephone the school office to arrange a meeting or a phone call from a teacher at a time convenient to you. Miss Daley can arrange this on 01234 359128.

In the event of Mrs Proctor being away from school, Mrs Harte will assume the Parent Link role.

Parents who are unable to bring their children to school due to work commitments are welcome to leave a message with Mrs Proctor at Active Kids, write a note in your child's learning log or telephone in to the school office.



Payment for School Dinners can be made either by cash or cheques (payable to Caterlink please) Please send any money/cheques into school in a clearly named envelope.

Please note that dinners MUST be paid for in advance. Caterlink reserve the right to refuse to provide a dinner for any child with outstanding monies.

For any queries please contact the Kitchen Manager directly on 01234 268767

Thank you

### School Dinner Prices

(For Year 3 and 4 only) for the first 1/2 of the Autumn Term (35 days)  
= £75.25

Daily £2.15 (no change from 2014/2015)

Weekly £10.75

Fridays (x7) £15.05

Half term (35 days) £75.25

Children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 have their meals provided free of charge through the Government 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' Scheme.

Children who fulfil the criteria for Free School Meals are eligible for 'Pupil Premium Funding' This is additional funding which is used to support your child's learning and can remove any financial barriers that prevent children having opportunities.

If you think you are eligible - please see Miss Daley in the School Office for an application form.

Last year the school was awarded £50,000 through Pupil Premium. A full breakdown of this spending will be available on the school website in the next few weeks.

No smoking on school grounds please!



No dogs on school grounds please!



**Please note:**

Parking in school grounds is for staff and school visitors only. This is due to the large number of staff that we have and also to safeguard our children as much as possible at the start and end of the school day. The only exception to this is that we allow parents with disabilities to park in the school at pick up and drop off time. If you need to make use of this, please see Miss Daley and be prepared to provide evidence of a disabled badge.

We are very aware of the children who use the bike shed and scooter rack and also that children run straight across the driveway, often without looking. Please can you be vigilant with your children at all times when they are arriving and leaving school.

We also ask that children DO NOT ride their bicycles / scooters in the playground. We have a lot of children who are very vulnerable to being knocked over. Children are also asked not to play on the tyres or climb the trees in the playground - we are not able to ensure the safety of children playing on these things and respectfully request that parents / carers prevent their children from playing on the tyres and in the trees / bushes.

**Snacks at School**

Children in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 have a morning snack provided for them through the 'Fruit for Schools' Government Scheme which has been running for some years now. Children in Year 3 and 4 unfortunately are not eligible for this scheme and are requested to provide their own snack for the morning break.

As a Healthy School we follow healthy eating guidelines and ask that parents only send snacks in from the following:

- Fruit - Fresh

or

- A small amount of plain crackers with a small piece of cheese



We also place great importance on children keeping well hydrated and request that all children have a water bottle in school containing only water, no squash or juice please.



**NUTS**

We have number of children in school with allergies and intolerances, some of which are serious and require medication if exposed to nuts. Please make sure that you **do not** send nuts in lunchboxes or for snack. This rule is extended to Peanut Butter in sandwiches as well. Thank you for your support with this.



## School Photographs

We have the photographer coming in to school on the 24th September to take the children's individual photographs. We are also able to offer photographs with siblings. If you would like a sibling photograph, please bring your children into school at **8:20am** to have their photo taken. If you are really unable to come in before school because of work commitments, please let Mrs Proctor know and we will arrange for your children to be escorted by a member of staff. The children's individual photographs will happen during school time when each class will be taken to the hall by their teachers.

Please can you make sure your child has their school jumper / cardigan with them for the photograph.

## Dates for the Diary - There is a lot happening this year - Here are some dates in advance.

24.9.15- School Photographs (Individual and Siblings)

7.10.15 3:45 - 4:30pm Book Fair in Hall

8.10.15 3:45 - 4:30pm Book Fair in Hall

12.10.15 6pm - 6:45am Bedtime Story and Book Fair (6 - 7pm) Information to follow

14.10.15 Harvest festival 9:30am (Followed by the Book Fair)

**PARENT CONSULTATIONS (Autumn Term) DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

**20.10.15 3:45pm - 6pm**

**21.10.15 1:30pm - 4pm**

**22.10.15 3:45pm - 6pm**

HALF TERM w/b 26.10.15

2.11.15 TRAINING DAY - STAFF only, NO children.

3.11.15 Children return to school

13.11.15 School Panto

18.12.15 Break Up for Christmas (Production dates TBD)



Parent Consultations - Spring Term - March 8th, 9th and 10th.

Parent Consultations - Summer Term - July 5th, 6th, 7th.

Sport's Day - June 22nd (Provisional Date)



Our Value for the first half of the Autumn Term is:



# Friendship

At school this week, we have been exploring the value of friendship. We have talked about what it means to be a good friend, about sharing the good times and the bad. In Collective Worship we learned about Ruth and Naomi and how they supported each other through some very challenging times.

We also listened to an acrostic poem about friendship:

**F**inding things to do together

**R**elying on each other

**I**mpossible on your own

**E**njoying being together

**N**ever selfish

**D**epending on someone else

**S**haring hopes and dreams

**H**appiness and laughter

**I**ncluding others

**P**recious

We have also thought about the bible and what messages it gives us:

**'Encourage one another and build each other up' Thessalonians 5.11**

Some ideas for your home learning about Friendship:

- ◇ Make a friendship bracelet for your friend or write a letter to your friend saying why they are so great!
- ◇ Design a Friendship poster - to remind people about this important value
- ◇ Create a model, picture, object that reminds you about friendship
- ◇ Spend a day out with a friend - take some photographs!
- ◇ Write a story to teach others about the value of friendship!

Or ... Anything else you wish! Please bring things in to school or email to Mrs Morrall on [vmorrall@ursulataylor.bedssch.co.uk](mailto:vmorrall@ursulataylor.bedssch.co.uk) All your ideas and creations will be displayed in the school foyer!

## **Ursula Taylor C of E Primary Plans - an update:**

Over the past few weeks there have been series of meetings between all the schools in North Bedfordshire. We are fully committed to working together and with our colleagues at the Diocese of St Albans and Bedford Borough Council, to pursue a solution to the mixed structure currently in place in Bedford. At UTS we are working on our consultation package which is due to begin early in November. There will be a series of meetings and events where parents and stakeholders will be able to ask questions and share thought and opinions about our proposal of becoming a Primary School.

We have no further information to share at this time, but we will keep you all posted on any developments.