



Newsletter

July 2022

Ursula Taylor Church of England School

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'Living God's Love, together we flourish'

At the end of another busy and exciting school year, I wanted to send out a newsletter to finish off the school year and also share with you some of the successes and highlights from 2021 / 2022.

It has been a challenging year for everyone, not least because for a large part of the year we have been managing the effects of COVID on our children, staff and families and at times have been so short staffed that we have only just managed to keep classes open and our children learning. As ever, the staff have pulled together so very well and have supported, helped and guided each other to make things work.

Despite these challenges, and in the early part of the school year having to operate under a whole raft of restrictions, we have been able to have an almost 'normal' school year - which is wonderful. Most of the usual trips, clubs, activities, school events and experiences have taken place and our children have had a broad and interesting year to support their academic and personal development.

Some of the highlights include:

- Harvest Festival, Easter and Christmas services in the Church with Stephen, Remembrance on the playground, Bishop Richard's welcome to the Trust Worship
- Joining the Diocese of St Albans Multi-Academy Trust
- PTA events and activities, Summer Fair
- RAF Day at Shuttleworth, Panto in school, St Albans Abbey, 2 Residentials, Woodland walks,
- Bikeability Lessons, Scoot fit, Dan the Skipping Man, Gigs for Kids, Music sessions - samba, ukulele, Singing lessons,
- Sports festivals, inter-school competitions, SSG clubs after school, Art Club, Science Club, Choir
- Anti-Bullying Week, Science Week, Safer Internet Day, Mental Health Week, World Book Day.
- 7 Christmas Plays, Candle Light Service, 4 Sports Days and 1 Proms!
- Growing, harvesting, cooking and eating all sorts of things. Fish and Chips, Hot Cross Buns, Tacos, French breakfast, SATs breakfast mornings, Pancake Day, Pottage, Soup and bread!
- Values assemblies - all led by the children, Celebration Worship - as a whole school again!
- New Play equipment, new hall windows and a refurbished swimming pool!

This is all in addition to the huge amount of day to day teaching and learning! It has been a great year, so much has been achieved and we are already looking forward to the new school year.

My thanks and appreciation go to everyone who has supported and worked with our school this year. Have a wonderful summer break and we will see you all on the 5th of September!

Mrs Morrall

The following dates have been set and can be added to your diaries!

1st / 2nd September TRAINING DAYS - Staff only please

[5th September - All children start back at school](#)

18th / 19th October Parent Consultations

22nd November - Panto (in school)

Christmas Plays:

Y6 5th December

Y5 6th December

Y4 7th December

Y3 8th December

Y2 9th December

Y1 12th December

Reception 13th December

3rd January TRAINING DAY - Staff only please

20th February TRAINING DAY - Staff only please

17th April TRAINING DAY - Staff only please

25th / 26th April Parent Consultations

8th May Y6 SATs week

19th June Reception Sports Day

20th June Year 1 / 2 Sports Day

21st June Year 3 / 4 Sports Day

22nd June Year 5 / 6 Sports Day

10th July Reports come home

12th July Optional Parents Consultation

21st July Y6 Leaver's Service

Term dates for the year are on the school website:

Parent Info -> Term dates -> 2022- 2023



School Dinners

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 all receive Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM). You don't have to do anything to access these and children will be able to choose what they want each morning. Menus will come home once we receive them from Caterlink.



Year 3 - 6 Children who wish to have school dinners need to have an account with Caterlink to pay for meals in advance. New Year 3 cohort - information about how to do this will come home in September, your child will be able to have meals even if you haven't set this up straight away.

Free School Meals (FSM) these are meals that parents can access if they are eligible. These are different to UIFSM, as they are linked to a set criteria. If you do qualify and we already have information about this, your child will receive the meals from the first day in September. If you think you might qualify, but haven't accessed the meals - there is a link below which will show the criteria and allow you to apply.

<https://www.bedford.gov.uk/schools-education-and-childcare/education-welfare-service/free-school-meals/>

The cost of meals for September is:

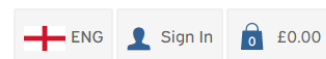
Year 3 children £2.22 per meal

Year 4, 5, 6 Children £2.32 per meal (bigger portions)

Children can of course, have packed lunches if you prefer.



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URSULA TAYLOR CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Excellent ★★★★★ ★ Trustpilot

FREE RETURNS

OUTSTANDING QUALITY ETHICALLY SOURCED

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School Uniform <https://price-buckland.co.uk/> (Do NOT get orders delivered to school - you won't be able to collect)

We are asking children to come back in September wearing full school uniform, our uniform policy is minimal and we don't require logoed clothes, they can be purchased anywhere. The only exception to this is that we ask for a PE T-Shirt with a logo. If you can't get one of these, don't worry - a white T-Shirt will be fine. We DO want children to come in wearing black school shoes - but PE Trainers can be any colour, please don't go out and spend lots on new trainers - whatever they have that fits will be great.

We ask our children to come to school on PE days wearing their PE kits - once we have been in school for a few days, the Class Teachers will let you know which days PE will be on, so you can make sure they are in their kits on the days they are needed.

PE kit in the warmer months is: White T-Shirt, Navy shorts. In winter, or when it gets colder, children will need a Navy Blue tracksuit or hoody or can wear an Ursula Taylor Jumper / fleece in either red or Navy. We do have PE outside all year round, so children will need these.



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy year, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support for our school.

Despite continuing challenges caused by Covid, I have been really pleased to see so many activities, trips, and concerts happening and hope that from September we will continue to see a more usual programme of events. All of this would have been impossible without our wonderful staff, who work tirelessly for all our children in the school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their extraordinary efforts in teaching and caring for all of the children.

As Chair of Governors, I have a question for you. Have you got marketing skills or business experience? The governing body are looking to appoint another parent governor with these particular skills. If you are interested and would like to find out some more about what the governing board does please make yourself known to myself or Mrs Morrall or email me at SHammond@ursulataylor.bedssch.co.uk

I wish you all a happy and healthy summer break.

Sarah Hammond

Chair of Governors



We would like to say a huge THANKYOU to our PTFA for all their efforts and hard work this year - we have had the benefit from lots of great activities and events and they have successfully raised a great amount to support our school and children.

The Summer Fair raised more than £1700! Thank you to everyone who contributed, helped out and attended. It was such a successful day. Special thanks to Gemma and Neetu for their epic work!

If you would be interested in becoming involved with our PTFA, please keep an eye out around September when information will come out about how you can get involved.

Information for September

There are a few things for September that we would like to make you aware of if your're new to our school or remind you of, if you are existing parents.

Parking

Parking in every school is a problem and here at UTS it is no different. We have a very busy school entrance and need to keep the cars coming in and out to an absolute minimum.

The School car park is for Staff and visitors only.

The exception to this is before 8:15 when dropping off at breakfast club or after 4:15 when collecting children from clubs which finish at 4:30pm.

If you do park for pick up / drop off at the above times PLEASE do not block staff in. If you are disabled and need to park in our disabled spaces, please speak to Miss Daley in the office to gain permission.

Parking at the Horse and Groom / Bellinis

We do not have permission for parents to park in our neighbours properties.

If you have to drive, please be mindful and respectful of our neighbours when you park and also in the way that you behave outside and inside of our school grounds.

Smoking / Vaping

We are a no smoking site (including e-cigarettes and vaping)

This includes ALL areas of the school grounds, the drive, playground, field and all of the buildings.



Dogs

Dogs are not allowed on the school site for a number of reasons. If you have a dog, please do not bring it into school, either on a lead or being carried and do not tie them up anywhere near the school gates. (The only exception to this is Guide Dogs / Hearing Dogs for the Deaf or Therapy Dogs who are visiting as part of an agreed curriculum session)



Please support us by keeping to these rules to ensure that our school is a calm, respectful and friendly place to be.

Drop off / Pick up points are:

Reception - in the Reception Garden near the appropriate door

Year 1 - Through the Church Gate and by the Y1 back doors.

Year 2 - 6 ALL to be dropped off on the playground and dismissed from the playground, Year 2 and Y3 use external classroom doors and Year 4/5/6 go up the corridor. (This may change but initially everyone on the playground please.)