



Newsletter

October 13th 2017

Ursula Taylor Church of England School

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'Living God's Love, together we flourish'

A message from our Senior Leadership Team:

We have had a busy few weeks at school in the run up to half term, with lots of interesting things happening in classrooms. Foundation stage have been learning to be astronauts and are trying to build up to 66,000,000 steps through walking, running, skipping - anyway possible to get those steps in! Year 1 are still in the middle of the 'Deep Dark Wood' and have met the Gruffalo and also the Owl who was afraid of the dark. In year 2 there have been mischievous elves, leaving shoes, tape measures and glitter all over the classroom! Year 3 are becoming archaeologists, learning about Egypt and all things Mummified! In Year 4 the children are continuing on their journey to Rome and being challenged with eggs along the way! Year 5 are experiencing all things Greek - Perseus and the Minotaur, pottery making and reading the Jungle Book.

In addition to these things we have also:

- ◇ Hosted a McMillan Coffee Morning - raising £451 for a very worthy cause. Well done Foundation for your lovely entertainment and also a big Thanks to all who donated or attended.
- ◇ Organised a book fair - which has taken just over £1000, £600 of which comes back to the school to purchase new books with - Thanks everyone, this is really great for our library!
- ◇ Run our ever popular 'Bedtime Story' event, thanks to parents who helped with hot choc and biccies and also to staff for staying late and running super reading sessions
- ◇ Presented 2 harvest festivals, with a lovely selection of songs, poems and prayers and also some stray peas in Foundation Stage! Thank you to all who donated goods for the Bedford Foodbank - we have a lovely big pile which will be gratefully received.
- ◇ Sunday 15th October - sees us venture out across the wilds of Clapham to enjoy the great outdoors and raise money to support Children in Need - we leave school at 11am - join us if you can!

PTFA - We have had our PTFA AGM, which was sadly very poorly attended. Those who came already do a huge amount to raise money for the school and really do need support and more parents to help out. Without extra parents, we fear that events will not go ahead, which will be a real shame, both for our children and also our school funds which rely on the donations from the PTFA to buy extra resources for our children. PLEASE help where you can.

Mrs Morrall, Mrs Hall and Mrs Lee

School Website

www.ursulataylorschool.co.uk

Our website has now been updated with each class having an area to share information. We will be updating the class pages roughly every half term, adding photos of children learning and also some examples of their work.

There is also information about our curriculum, reading and phonics scheme and extra Curricular clubs. There is also a variety of policies and statutory information which may prove to be useful.

As we move through our first year as a Primary school, policies and information will be updated on a rolling cycle, so keep an eye out for new information and also updates where relevant.



Our PTFA arranges a variety of events across the school year which are enjoyable for our children and also raise important funds for the school.

We have a few events coming up in the next few months:

December 1st - Mufti Day (Bring a Bottle towards the Tombola)

December 7th - Wreath Making Night

December 8th - Christmas Fair 3:45pm onwards



A letter has come home this week from the PTFA - please make sure you have read this, and, where possible, offer help to the parents who do such a good job for our children.

If you are interested in joining the PTFA, or simply helping at an event or two, please speak to any of the committee or pop into the school office to see Miss Daley.

PTFA members - Anna Glasswell, Nikki Hageman, Jo Reynolds, Paula Hurley, Neetu Thapar, Sophie Hardwick, Amy Akdeniz and Kristina Castle.

ALL parents are very welcome to join and support our school and children.

Thank you...

It has been a busy half term so far and we have been really pleased with the support and encouragement from our parents and families. Thank you to those who have supported fundraising by attending events, sending in cakes and goods or donating.

Also, thank you very much to the parents who helped with Bedtime story - making hot chocolate and delivering it to the classrooms - it was appreciated by all.

Thank you to parents who have sent in tissues and the £5 donation towards funds, this has been a great



Tucasi - Online payments for After School Club

Our online booking and payment system is working well for After School Club, thank you to those who have been using this.

We have now trialled our first school trip on the system, which has been used successfully by many parents. This makes a huge difference to the admin time spent managing income and trips.

Staff have been thinking about trips they would like to do in the year and when they have been chosen, they will be added to the system for online payments to be used.

If you have not yet set up your online payment area, please do so as soon as possible, ready for when payments need to be made. If you have lost your letter about logging on, please speak to Mrs Mulholland, in our school office, who will be able to generate you a new one.

Dinner Money

Please be reminded that Dinner Money CANNOT be paid for through the school payment system. This is because Caterlink lunches are completely separate to Ursula Taylor and we are not responsible for any payments.

Your payments must be made either by cash or cheque to Caterlink. If you have a query about Dinner Money please ring Julie at Caterlink on 01234 268767 (Mondays and Wednesdays only)

School Dinner costs for Autumn Term 2nd half:

Dinners are £2.15 each

Or £10.75 for the week

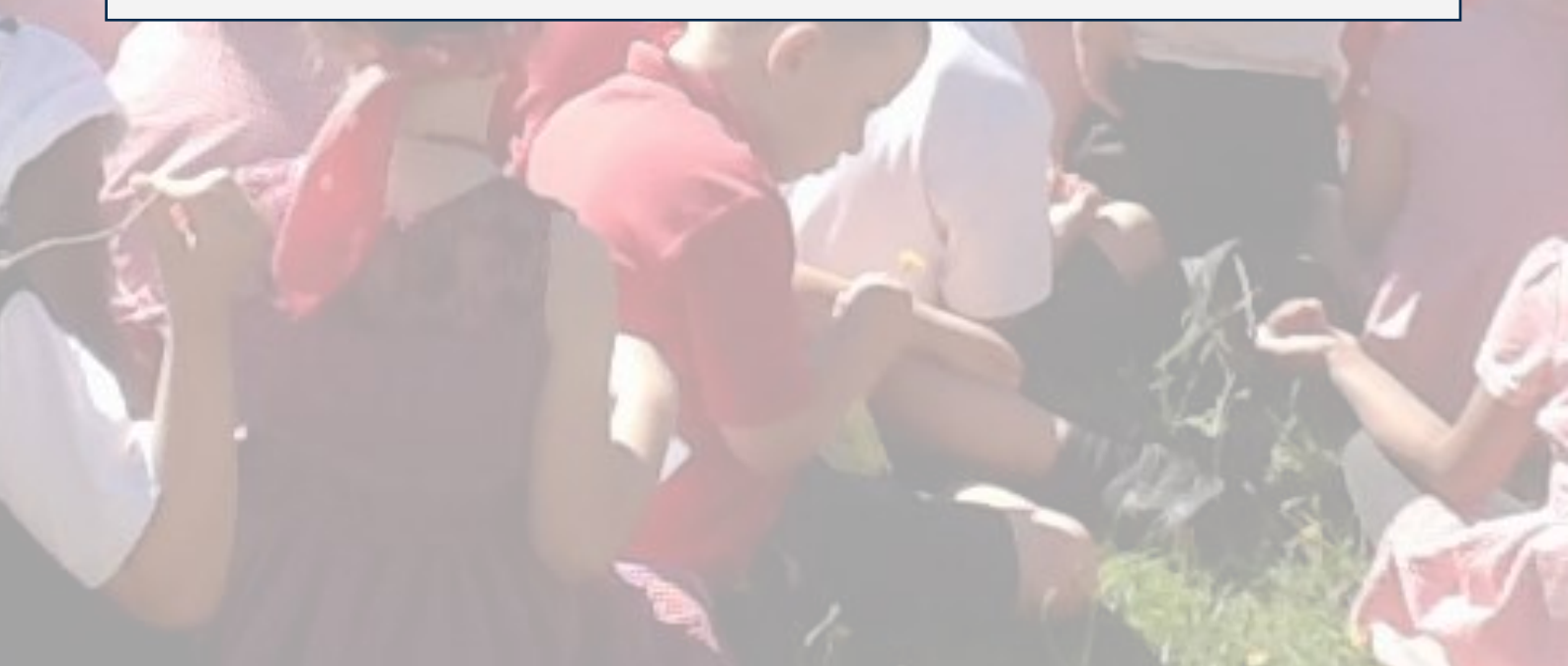
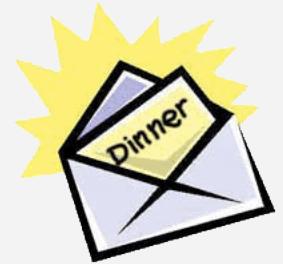
Next half term is 36 days at £2.15 each = £77.40

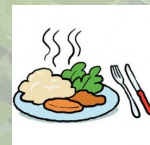
If you have lost the menu - it is available on our website. (Information> School Meals) a new menu will be sent home in the Spring Term as soon as it arrives in school.

Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 receive Universal Infant Free School Meals - this means they are free until your child leaves Year 2.

In addition to this, children from eligible families can claim 'Free School Meals' and the Pupil Premium. This means that their meals will continue to be free into Year 3 and beyond and each year we receive a pot of money to use to support your child's learning in school.

If you think you may qualify, or you are not sure - please see Miss Daley who will be able to help out.





MacMillan Coffee Morning

Friday 29th September 2017

We are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning at 9:00am in the school hall to raise money for a very worthy cause.

Tim Peake Class (Foundation Stage) will be serving drinks and cakes and entertaining our guests!

Please pop along, donate some cakes, spend some time in our lovely school - or just send in some pennies towards the cause!

Bring family, friends **EVERYBODY IS WELCOME!**

(Golden Assembly will be at 2:45pm this Friday)



Events in the next term:

28th September - School Photographs (Individual) - Please see information on the last page

29th September - MacMillan Coffee Morning - UTPS 9am

6th and 9th October 3:30 - 4:30 BOOK FAIR in school hall

10th October Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 HARVEST FESTIVAL 9am - School Hall. (Parents welcome to attend max 2 per family please)

10th October BEDTIME STORY 6pm - 6:45pm (See Below for Details) BOOK FAIR at the same time.

12th October Year 3,4, 5 HARVEST FESTIVAL 9am - School Hall. (Parents welcome to attend max 2 per family please)

SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER - UTPS Countryfile Ramble in aid of Children in Need. SAVE THE DATE!
Information to follow

17th, 18th, 19th October Parent Consultations (2 after school and 1 in the afternoon)

20th October 9am Half Term Awards Assembly (You will be sent a text if your child is nominated)

w/b Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October HALF TERM

MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER - TRAINING DAY (Staff only - no children please)

31st October - children start back.

Thursday 7th December - PTFA Wreath Making Information to follow.

Tuesday 12th December 6:30pm Ursula Taylor Carol Concert SAVE THE DATE! Information to follow

Monday 18th December Grandparents / Senior Citizens Concert 2pm

Tuesday 19th December - BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS

January 2nd 2018 - TRAINING DAY

January 3rd 2018 Children start back for the Spring Term

Bedtime Story

Every year we invite the children to come back to school at 6pm dressed in their pyjamas, slippers, dressing gowns and with their teddies, pillows and blankets to share a bedtime story session with the staff. We start at 6pm until 6:45pm and children come into their classrooms. They are given hot chocolate and biscuits and share stories with the teachers and classmates. Parents then collect their children at 6:45pm from their classrooms. This is a much loved event which we have been doing for a number of years.

We do need some parent helpers to help with hot choc etc - if you can help, please let Miss Daley know! (Dietary requirements will all be met in the usual way)

The school book fair will also be open at the same time!

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest festival will take place on different days this year, to give all our children the opportunity to take part and allow as many parents as possible a chance to attend.

Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 will be on October 10th at 9am

Year 3, 4 and 5 will be on October 12th at 9am

We are supporting Bedford Foodbank again this year. This is a superb cause which helps local families in need and allows us to positively impact upon children and their families in our local area. Last year we had a tremendous response to the appeal, providing a huge van load of tins, packets and cartons for the Foodbank.

Please try to donate something in Harvest week towards this good cause:

Items desperately needed include:

UHT Fruit juice

Tea Bags (40/80s)

Tinned Fruit and Vegetables

Tinned meat

Tinned Tuna

Tinned Tomatoes

Cup-a-Soup

Tinned Rice Pudding

UHT Milk

Toilet Rolls

Washing up Liquid

Washing Laundry Tablets



THANKYOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY

School Photographs 28th September 2017

We have the photographer coming to school for the annual individual photographs. If you have younger / older children not at Ursula Taylor, you are welcome to bring them in for a group photo with their siblings. Please arrive at 8:30am for this. If you have children who both/all attend Ursula Taylor - you do not need to bring them at 8:30, we will get them together during the day for the sibling photos. Individual photos will be taken during the school day.

Any questions - Please ask Miss Daley in the school office.