

ST URSULA'S E-ACT ACADEMY
ACHIEVE, BELIEVE
CREATE

5th February 2019

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you haven't been too troubled by the recent snow and indeed received some enjoyment from it. Living on top of a hill in the Chew Valley caused me to decide between being house bound or having a snow ball fight with my two younger children. My children of course made sure there wasn't anything to decide! The fun of snow aside, I do appreciate that the school closing on Friday may have caused inconvenience to some of you but as many of the staff do not live locally and have to drive to St. Ursula's, I deemed it was unreasonable and therefore unsafe to ask them to do this. Combined with the likelihood that there would be no one to open the school or not enough staff to teach any children that did arrive, the most sensible thing to do was to close it for the day. Thank you to all of you who supported this decision.

Before the snow hit last week, a lot of learning had indeed taken place. I spotted a lot of newspaper writing going on across quite a few year groups and children working very hard in maths on written methods of calculation. Amidst all their learning, years 4 to 6 attended workshops ran by Sally Townsend, an Education Community Development Coordinator from Alzheimer's UK. The children got a lot from these workshops, so much so, that some of them have asked can they organise some fundraising events for Alzheimer's UK. I'm humbled by your children's thoughtfulness and we will no doubt hear what fundraising ideas they come up with shortly! A huge thank you to Laura Barrington, one of our Early Years teachers and PSHE lead, who organised these workshops.

We're only two weeks away from half-term and if you aren't already aware, there is an E-Act holiday sports club at St Ursula's E-Act Academy, which runs the entire week of half-term. My own children attended this during the October half-term and had a great time. I'm not just saying this, they told me so! You

can find more information on the holiday sports club in the messages section below.

The academic calendar for next year (2019-2020) is nearly finalised. I'm just waiting to receive confirmation regarding regional and national inset days from E-ACT. As soon as this information is available, I will share it with you. The calendar for this current academic year is available in the stand next to the office hatch.

Please don't forget to do the parent survey – details below in the messages section – if you haven't already done so.

Kind regards,

Nicky Reynolds,
Interim Headteacher

Class News

Reception

What an exciting week... we have baked our own Gingerbread men, exploring what happens when we mix materials together and cook them. We had to read the recipe to find out what we needed and after we had made them we wrote our own delicious recipes.

We had to say goodbye to Miss Dolphin this week, Miss Dolphin has been working in Gruffalo Class as a student teacher doing her PGCE. She will be missed a lot by everyone. In Maths we have been deconstructing teen numbers and trying to find patterns in numbers. We hope you had lots of fun building snowmen on Friday, we look forward to hearing all about it this week.

Year One

In Year 1 we have been learning all about how to make Snail porridge! At the start of the week we made text maps to help us learn the instructions. We practised spotting the 'bossy words' and used them to help us order the instructions. We enjoyed using our maps to help us write the instructions. In Maths we've been busy learning how to order numbers on a number line and using ordinal numbers to describe position. We loved making human number lines in our classes.

In Science we've been collecting and observing data about the weather and in History we've been learning about John Cabot and using our imaginations to think about what it was like to live on his boat.

Year Two

In Year 2 we have been continuing our learning on multiplication and division and in English we have been learning about explanation texts; writing about the lifecycle of a panda.

We started our PSHE lessons with the children talking about their dreams and goals.

In topic lessons, we evaluated our moveable dragons and continued learning about the history of China.

In science we checked on how well our plants were growing and decided they could do with another few weeks.

We also had a look at some previous KS1 SATs papers to give the children a look at what to expect for May. They were all very excited to have a go, which was lovely to see and they were very positive about their next steps.

Year Three

We had another busy week in Year 3 (before the snow arrived on Friday!)

In English lessons, the pupils put their debating skills to use when looking at texts containing arguments for and arguments against. The pupils learned how to structure these types of texts; this involved lots of writing and good discussions.

In maths we looked at multiplying with some BIG numbers! The pupils are becoming more and more confident with more complex sums, using the written and mental methods they have learned.

The pupils continued to impress us with their creativity in art, using paint to produce vibrant and colourful creations. We look forward to more creativity and focused learning in week 5!

Year 4

Last week, Year 4 learnt about division using a range of methods. We continued to learn about the Shang Dynasty, thinking about a day in the life of a person living in ancient China, and included our superb writing skills.

Our science topic has broadened our knowledge of food chains, and we are excited to invite Year 4 on a school trip to Bristol Zoo at the end of the term!

Year Five

This week in year 5, children have been reading the exciting news of Mr Todd's discovery of an ancient coin in the school grounds of St Ursula's. Children have begun to write their own news articles on this.

In maths they have been practicing multiplication calculations of up to 4 by 2 digits.

In art, children have been preparing their Viking art inspired print tiles, ready to print onto paper next week.

Year Six

This week, year 6 learnt about the inner workings of the human heart in Science.

Our writing has been focussed on creating a discussion text. Children have each created a text discussing the for and against arguments for Quidditch being played at Hogwarts.

In maths, year 6 have worked on the fluency, reasoning and problem solving of Ratio and Proportion.

Messages

Parent Surveys

If you haven't already completed the parental survey, it can be found at the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=GO7B01t5ske0wJc0nDNaDrgKbQanA3dGiPGdjp5kKJUNU5XT0VFUldHS1NVSTdGOVM0ME1SUVVQNY4u>

This link is open until Friday 15th February.

If there are any issues concerning the accessing of this survey please let the office know.

Blue Badge Holders

Should there be anyone who is a blue badge holder or has difficulty walking their child to and from the playground/classroom could they please email Danielle Larner at daniellelerner@hotmail.com

The school is currently trying to assess how many parents/carers may need support.

February Half Term Sports Club- Early Bird Discount

This February half-term sees the return of the E-Act holiday sports club right here at St Ursula's E-Act Academy. Taking place from Monday 18th- Friday 22nd February from 9am- 4pm with doors opening at 8.30am and after care available until 6pm. The club is for boys and girls in early years classes through to year 6 and will feature all kinds of sports and games throughout the week.

The cost to attend for the day should be £15 but we are offering parents an **early bird discount** with **20% off** if booked before February 8th, meaning it costs just **£12** per day. You can also get a further **10% sibling discount** making it the best and most affordable provision around. All profits made go towards supporting projects within St Ursula's so by attending you are helping to support your children's school. The clubs are open to children from all schools so please help to spread the word.

To book a place please visit e-act.bookinglive.com.

Spare PE Kit- Help!!

The PE staff are now completely out of spare PE kit to give to children that do not have kit on their PE day. The spare kit is very useful as it allows children to

take part in PE rather than sitting out. If your son or daughter has borrowed PE kit and you have it at home please could you return it to the school office or directly to any member of PE staff. Similarly, if you have any old PE kit that is to small and no use for your children the PE staff would be very appreciative of any donations.

Thank you
The PE Team

School Uniform

Any parents/carers who have items of clothing loaned from the school could they please return these to the school office as soon as possible.

Concerns or Issues

Should anyone have an issue or concern about anything at all please let the office know. The email address is: ReceptionURS@E-ACT.org.uk The office will forward emails received to the appropriate member of staff.

Children Who Arrive Late

Children who arrive late to school (currently 9:01am onwards) must be accompanied by an adult to the office where they will be signed in.

Medication

Medication (including calpol) shouldn't be kept in your child's school bag, it must be handed into the office.

Key Dates	
Friday 8 th February	Lifesavers Parents meeting 9-9:30am
Friday 15 th February	Last day of Term 3
26 th and 28 th of March	Parents' Evenings

Dear Parents.

Public Health England launches new Change For Life campaign focusing on sugar reduction

The Government agency has launched a new campaign to encourage families to 'make a swap when you next shop' to help them cut back on sugar. Try and make a swap for your child's lunch time and break time snacks. For healthy recipes and healthy swaps please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life>



St Ursula's and the Alzheimer's Society

Over the past year St Ursula's have been lucky enough to work with Sally Townsend, an Education Community Development Coordinator from Alzheimers UK. The aim of the partnership has been to raise awareness of the disease and educate children and adults on the subject, as well as also providing support for any children and families affected by Dementia.

During this time Sally has delivered assemblies and Dementia Friends workshops to all our current pupils in years 1-6 and last year's year 6 pupils. Whilst working in KS2 last week Sally led her 100th Dementia Friend Session meaning she has created over 2,500 Dementia Friends in schools across Bristol.

Sally has also delivered a Dementia Friends workshop to staff and parents, held an information and signposting stand at Parents Evenings and supported the EYFS team to set up their Intergenerational Project with local elderly assisted living home, Abbeyfield.

Sally has commented to say that she has had a very enjoyable time working with St Ursula's and that this is the biggest commitment she has had from any school she has worked in so far.

We would like to thank Sally for all her time and hard work and look forward to hopefully working with her again in the future.

Arts and crafts



Wind down and relax



Outdoor activities



**Josie's
club**

**Come and join us for
some after school fun
with friends!**

Two sessions per afternoon

1st session 3.30-4.30pm

Two engaging, fun activities
to get stuck into.

2nd session 4.30-6.00pm

Wind down and chill out session
with healthy snacks provided.

Booking information

Book via: e-act.bookinglive.com

Any queries please email:

josie's.club@e-act.org.uk

Dance



Fun with food



Sport

