



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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Newsletter – September 2018

A message from Miss Cooke

A huge welcome back children and parents to the Autumn 2018 term. I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable holiday and is ready for the new term ahead.

It is very exciting to start the final part of our move to be a full primary school and have our first class of Year 6 children. The school is larger than it has ever been previously and this brings its own challenges as we work through practicalities of the increased number of children, staff and parents accessing the site each day, so please bear with us.

We welcome a number of new staff to the school Mrs C Jackson as Emerald class teacher, Ms E Banks as Garnet class teacher (M-W), Mr C Parks as Sapphire class teacher, Mr J Chorley as Pearl class teacher and Miss B Clark as Quartz class teacher. We also welcome Mrs E Hartley and Miss J Clarke to the support staff team.

Following our Ofsted inspection on 10th July 2018, the report should be available within the next two weeks and as soon as it is available I will ensure that parents are aware and can access the report.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with all parents and carers to ensure that the children's learning journey is exciting, stimulating and appropriate for every child.

As ever if you have any concerns or worries, please do not hesitate to speak to school staff or to make an appointment to speak with me directly.

Miss Cooke

Brain Awareness Week

As part of the settling in and new term activities, the school is holding a Brain Awareness Week. This is a week dedicated to increasing our understanding of the human brain - how it thinks, learns and remembers. Over the week the children will participate in a range of exciting activities to learn about the amazing human brain. They will learn about brain cells, how they learn best, ways in which everyone is smart, ways in which we solve problems and the thought processes and skills involved. The week will culminate in the children sharing some of the key aspects that they have learnt about over the week with the rest of the school.



P.E. Kits

For P.E. lessons, we request that your child has the appropriate kit in school each day. Every child should have a white t-shirt, black shorts and plimsolls or suitable footwear that fits. No jewellery of any kind should be worn and we ask that all long hair is tied back. If your child has pierced ears, we would request that if they are unable to remove and replace earrings themselves, that parents remove the earrings at home prior to coming to school and replace them at the end of the day.



Value for this half term



The value for this half term is **Respect**. The children will be thinking about how we show respect in many different situations.

- ❖ It is vital that we all respect one another and show respect in all that we do, say and demonstrate.
- ❖ We might not always agree with everyone in school but that does not mean that we don't respect them.
- ❖ We have respect for others, and we should also have respect for ourselves.

So your child is now in

To inform parents about what to expect now that their child has moved in to a new year group and class we have arranged a series of information sessions.

Wednesday 12th September at 9am and 3pm – Upper Key Stage 2 (Y5 & Y6)

Thursday 13th September at 9am and 3pm – Key Stage 1 (Y1 & Y2)

Wednesday 19th September at 9am and 3pm – Lower Key Stage 2 (Y3 & Y4)

In these sessions the class teachers will explain about the expectations of homework, the content of the curriculum for each year group as well as answer any questions that you may have.

Parents should attend at either 9am **or** 3pm **Not both sessions**. The sessions will all take place in the hall.

Bedfordshire Music Service



Music for Bedford Borough is launching its new-look Saturday Morning Music Centre at *Castle Newnham School, Polhill Avenue, MK41 9DT* on **Saturday 15th September at 9:00am**. Group tuition for new beginners is available as well as existing ensembles for children who already play an instrument.

They also offer music classes for 3-4 and 5-6 year olds!

Prices start at £4.50 a week for 30 weeks of lessons and less than £1 a week for instrument hire!

Remissions are available.

Just email music@bedford.gov.uk to book your place at the launch. Bring along your child too! There is no obligation to join and your contact details are not shared or kept on file.

Parking Consultation

I have been informed that Bedford Borough Council has opened a consultation period on restricting parking on Kneller Close, Lely Close/Rowlandson Way, Turner Way/Gainsborough Rise junction, Turner Way and Morland Way. The proposal also includes proposals for no parking on one side of Kneller Close between 8am and 9.30am and 3pm to 4.30pm Monday to Friday. Notices have been published on the lampposts in the roads mentioned. Any letters of objections or support need to be submitted by 28 September 2018.

For further information please see

http://www.bedford.gov.uk/transport_and_streets/highways/schemes_and_projects/traffic_regulation_orders/proposed_tro.aspx



Water bottles

As part of our healthy eating programme children are encouraged to bring their water bottles. It has been scientifically proved that keeping hydrated and maintaining blood sugars assists children to concentrate for longer periods of time. They are available to buy from the office for £1 if you do not have one. Please also ensure it is named. Children should bring them into school every morning with water only in them and take them home at night to wash and refill.

The number of children without water bottles in school every day has been steadily rising and this means that those children are not able to keep as readily hydrated, which hinders their learning.

PLEASE PLEASE make sure that your child has a water bottle in school every day.



Eligibility to Free School Meals.

If you feel that your circumstances have changed and as a result your child may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) we would **STRONGLY** request that you complete the eligibility form in school. Even if you are only eligible for a short time, but register, the school receives vital extra funding for a number of years. We would also be able to offer you a reduction in the cost of school visits.



This possible extra funding is becoming extremely important to the school in this time of decreasing school budgets.

Even if your child has packed lunch and never has school dinners, you could still apply for FSM and allow the school to access the additional funding.

If your child is in Reception or KS1 and they receive a Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM), please it is still necessary to complete the eligibility form if you feel your circumstances have changed and you may now qualify for FSM.

Holiday requests



We have received a number of requests for leave of absence for the purpose of a holiday recently so it is appropriate that we share again the school policy on requesting permission to go on holiday.

Legislation came into force in September 2013 that prevents school granting requests for leave of absence for the purpose of a holiday. Leave of absence, for up to ten school sessions (5 days), may be granted in exceptional circumstance, but not for a holiday. Due to this change in legislation the school will not be authorising any applications for holiday in term time.

It is also worth reminding parents that where a leave of absence is not granted, and the holiday in term time is taken this will be noted on the child's file. If a second leave of absence is requested in the same or subsequent years, not authorised, but still taken, a fixed penalty notice will be issued by the Educational Welfare Service when that child returns to school. When a leave of absence has not been requested but a holiday is still taken in term time a fixed penalty notice will be issued by the Educational Welfare Service when that child returns to school. When a child does not return to school after a school holiday period due to extension of holiday arrangements, a fixed penalty notice will be issued by the Educational Welfare Service when that child returns to school.

A copy of the Statutory Instruments relating to this change can be found at

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2013/756/contents/made>

Healthy Snacks

We would like to remind parents that children may bring a small **healthy** snack in to school each day in a small container clearly labelled with their name and class. Reception and Key Stage 1 children are also provided with a free piece of fruit at break time. Healthy snacks could include fresh and dried fruit, vegetables, currants, cheese strings or pita bread. We ask that **NO NUTS** are included as part of snacks as we have a number of children in school who are allergic to nuts. Please keep these snacks separate from lunch boxes and in small hand held named containers, as it makes them easier and quicker to locate at break time. **No chocolate or sweets should be brought to school as these are not healthy snacks.**

Packed Lunches

If your child brings a packed lunch in to school, please ensure it is healthy (no chocolate spread sandwiches please). We ask that **NO NUTS** are included as we have children in school with severe nut allergies.

Any rubbish or left over food is then sent back home with your child so you can monitor how much of their lunch your child has eaten.



Library books

If you have found any library books or reading books over the summer holidays which you think may belong to school, we would be very grateful if you could you return them.

School milk

All children under the age of 5 are entitled to free school milk. If your child would like to continue having milk after their fifth birthday it can be ordered through "Coolmilk" either via our school app or at www.coolmilk.com

Harvest

Our Harvest Assembly is on Wednesday 10th October, and once again we will be giving any donated food to The Bedford Food Bank.

The people who work there are always very grateful for tinned and packet food especially tinned vegetables, tinned fruit and items which just require hot water eg.

Pot Noodles, soups

They are also very grateful for toiletries.

Please could you start sending in your donations as soon as possible so we can display them in the hall.

Please could you delay sending any fresh produce until Tuesday 9th October.

This is an internal assembly for the children only which takes place during the school day, it is not open to parents.



A note from FOEC

Friends of Edith Cavell is the charity that raises money and runs events for the school and is run by parents and carers.

It's a new school year and we'd love to invite anyone that would like to get involved to come along to our first meeting and see what it's all about. The meeting will be on **Weds 12 Sep at 2pm** in the staff room. Just come to reception and they will send you through.

Hopefully you will have noticed more work has gone on in the Tesco garden at the front of school and there's still more painting and planting to come. If you'd like to help get this space finished and ready for use then please let reception know.

We've lots of events coming up – Movie Club, the Fancy Dress Disco, Christmas Fair (is it too early to mention Christmas..!) and we would love you all to get involved.

Dates – Autumn 2018

SEPTEMBER

Tue 11 th Sept	1 st day – part time for Reception
Wed 12 th	9am & 3pm – Parent session – Now they are in UKS2 2pm – FOEC AGM
Thur 13 th	9am & 3pm – Parent session – Now they are in KS1
Fri 14 th	1 st Swimming for Y5 1 st Rugby session for Y6
Mon 17 th	Reception full time
Wed 19 th	9am & 3pm – Parent session – Now they are in LKS2 FoEC – Lego Club x 4 weeks
Thur 20 th	1 st Open the Book (OTB)
Mon 24 th	Existing Nursery start
Wed 26 th	New Nursery start

OCTOBER

Mon 1 st Oct	Black History Month Into the net performance – Y4 – am
Tue 2 nd	KS1 Parent consultations
Wed 3 rd	KS2 Parent consultations
Thur 4 th	FoEC Movie Club
Wed 10 th	10am Harvest Festival
Fri 12 th	Edith Cavell Day
Mon 15 th	Y5/6 G&T sports event – Tag Rugby – am
Tue 16 th	Garnet class – Sports festival – am – Scott
Thur 18 th	FoEC Discos
Fri 19 th	Wear it Pink day Half Term
Mon 29 th	Training Day
Tue 30 th Oct	1 st Day back for children

NOVEMBER

Fri 2 nd Nov	Provision maps reviewed, written and forwarded to Lorna
Tue 6 th	Reception Parent consultations
Wed 7 th	FoEC Lego club x 4 weeks
Fri 9 th	Emerald class sports festival – am – St Thomas More
Mon 12 th	Anti - bullying week – Choose respect
Tue 13 th	3pm SEND Parent consultations
Fri 16 th	Children in Need
Fri 23 rd	Non uniform day for Christmas Fair
Thur 29 th	Y3/4 G&T sports event – am – Bunyan - Athletics
Fri 30 th	Last swimming & Rugby sessions

DECEMBER

Sat 1 st Dec	FoEC – Christmas Fair
Mon 3 rd	Theatre of Widdishins
Wed 5 th	Flu vaccinations Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5
Thur 6 th	Y5/6 G&T sports event – Bunyan – Athletics
Mon 10 th	2.30pm – Open Afternoon
Tue 11 th	12.30 Nursery Performance
Wed 12 th	9.30am – KS1 – Dress rehearsal 2.30pm Rec Dress rehearsal
Thur 13 th	9.30am – Rec performance 2pm – KS1 Performance FoEC – Christmas Movie club
Fri 14 th	Wear your Christmas Jumper 9.30am KS1 Performance Christmas Dinner
Mon 17 th	2pm UKS2 Dress rehearsal
Tue 18 th	9.30am LKS2 dress rehearsal 2pm UKS2 Performance
Wed 19 th	9.30am UKS2 Performance 2pm LKS2 Performance
Thur 20 th	9.30am LKS2 performance Children's parties
Fri 21 st	End of Term