



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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Newsletter – March 2019

A note from Miss Cooke

I am sure it has come to the attention of many parents through social media about the online game Momo. I personally have seen a number of social media posts regarding this game. There appears to be quite a bit of concern about the game and how it appears to flash up in the middle of people using other applications. The National Online Safety website has responded to this by producing 'a balanced guide which provides parents and carers with information to help.' They 'encourage parents and carers to read this guide which includes tips to better monitor online activity and have meaningful conversations with their children about online safety. The guide can be accessed at:-

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/momo-online-safety-guide-for-parents/>

We were very fortunate last week to have some unseasonably warm weather, but we are now back to a more normal temperature for the time of year, so please would parents ensure that children are wearing suitable coats for the time of year every day. Should we have a return of the unseasonably warm weather we will take this in to account at each break or lunch time, but it is important that all children have the appropriate clothing to be outside whatever the weather.

Miss Cooke

Value for the half term - Hope

Our value for this half term is Hope. In assembly we have thought about the different meanings of the word hope and the different ways we use the word in our conversations and writing. We have also thought about the different things that we hope for and if we can actually influence some of the things that we hope for. To have hope is to, stay positive, to see the best in people and situations, to do your best, to do something different, to dream.

希望
Hope

Sponsored Bounce



Following our very successful Sponsored Bounce on Thursday 21st February, now is the time to be collecting in the money that people had pledged to give and bring in to school. Please could all money towards the Sponsored Bounce be sent into school by Friday 8th March.

As advertised, prizes for any child collecting more than £25 will be awarded the following week along with the prize for the most amount of sponsor money collected.



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 to 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.

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

Parent Pay – School Meals

The introduction of Parent Pay to manage payment for school meals has not changed the requirement of Caterlink to operate a zero debt policy. All school meals should be paid for prior to a meal being taken. For this to end parents who have accrued a debt will be notified each week and if the debt is not cleared no further school meals will be provided. In this instance parents will receive a phone call to inform them that they must clear the debt immediately, provide a packed lunch for their child or collect them to have lunch at home.

If you have any issues with Parent Pay, please contact the school office.

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.



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.**

KS1 SAT Parent information session

In order to inform and prepare parents of children in Year 2 for the upcoming National SAT tests that the Year 2 children will be sitting; we have arranged a parent information session **on Tuesday 12th March at 5pm.**

At this session we will talk parents through the assessments that the children will be sitting and advise how parents can support their children in the weeks prior to the assessments and also during the assessment period.

We look forward to seeing all parents of Year 2 children at this event.

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/uksi/2013/756/contents/made>

Digital Parenting

During safety week, we sent home the latest issue of the Digital Parenting magazine. To supplement the magazine, Digital Parenting have produced a set of stories - a fun way for Key Stage 1 and 2 children to learn about the essentials of internet safety. Story Time is different from the other internet safety resources out there — it takes the shape of children's books and blends the important message of staying safe in the digital world with colourful illustrations. To access Story Time please follow this link

https://parentzone.org.uk/article/vodafone-%E2%80%94-story-time?utm_source=Parent+Zone+Newsletter&utm_campaign=693fd4e352-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_02_05_03_25&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1ee27d9000-693fd4e352-179180437

Red Nose Day



Friday 15th June is Red Nose day.

On this day in support of this national charity, the children are invited to wear red as a non-uniform day. We ask for a minimum donation of £1 towards the charity.

Mother's Day Breakfast

After the success of last years' event we have decided to once again the invite all pupils along with their Mums, Step Mums, Grandmothers or significant female carers to join us for Mother's Day Breakfast on Friday 29th March. Doors will open at 8am.

Breakfast club will take place in Topaz room on this day.

NHS Screening Letters

Over the past few weeks, the School Nurses have been in school completing a range of screening activities in various different year groups. The letters that are sent to parents following these screenings, come directly from the school nurses. The school does not have sight of these letters or decide who they are sent out to. If you have any concerns about the content of the letters, please make contact with either your own GP, or use the contact number on the letter that you have been sent.

Parking on Manton Lane, Turner Way and Kneller Close

We again respectfully ask that parents observe the Highway Code, road markings and respect our neighbours when parking to collect or drop off children to school. It is extremely dangerous for parents to park on Manton Lane on the opposite side of the road to the school and then cross the road between traffic with their children.



Parking on any form of yellow lines, on any of the roads surrounding the school, is risking the safety of all road users and pedestrians and we kindly ask that parents refrain from violating the Highway Code.

Head Lice advice

As in every school, we regularly have children who suffer a case of head lice. If a child in any class is suspected of suffering with a case of head lice, the whole class will be advised via the usual letter. We strongly request that every parent is vigilant with their child and regularly checks for any head lice. The most effective treatment for a case of head lice is outlined on the information found at <https://www.chc.org/for-parents/>



To support parents with keeping on top of treatment and detection of head lice, school is able to sell the fine toothed combs that can be used with conditioner to treat and prevent head lice. The combs are priced at 50p each and can be obtained from the school office.

FOEC

We have had a great first term where we as a community raised over £2000! We quickly got to work to spend it on the children. Miss Cooke told us that the children had requested toys for playtime and so Miss Cooke asked the school council to go back to their respective classes and formulate a list, and WOW what a brilliant list was put together. It included bean bags, hula hoops, time stacks, chalk, toy cars, baby dolls, wobble boards, basketball posts, big building bricks, rugby balls, tennis balls, bug hunting equipment.... As you can see the list was endless and together we have achieved it. THANK YOU because together this is what we are providing for our school and it's amazing!

The big event this term is the Garden Opening on Thursday 4th April. Details to follow but it will be at about 2:30pm. We will be selling biscuits to continue our fund raising but please come if you can, buy a biscuit and enjoy the garden!

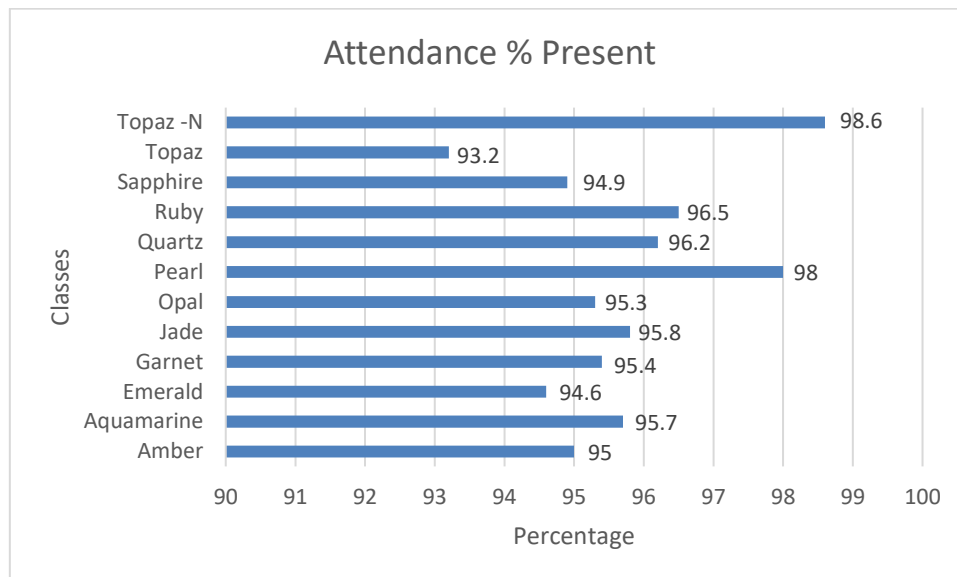
Attendance

Each week in school we award the 'Attendance Bear' to the class that has had the best attendance in the school. The children enjoy having Attendance Bear in their classroom for the week and eagerly await the results each week. Please help your child's class earn the privilege of looking after Attendance Bear for the week by ensuring that your child attends school every day. The winners of Attendance Bear in February have been.



28 th Jan – 4 th Feb	Quartz class
4 th Feb – 11 th Feb	Pearl class
18 th Feb – 25 th Feb	Pearl class
25 th Feb – 4 th Mar	Quartz class

Attendance by class for the Autumn Term



Stars of the Week
October 2018

Amber

Jhene
Bentley
Laura
Kritikesh

Topaz

Pearl

Emily
Jenny
Julia
Melanie

Emerald

Przemyslaw
Erinayo
Emaan
Koko

Jade

Mia
Summer
Olivia
Silvia

Opal

Bilal
Rehan
Kyla
Kaiden

Ruby

David
Vanja
Tina
Amy

Garnet

Yemisi
Kayla
Steffan
Erdi

Quartz

Vaiva
Quartz Class
Olivia
Mahek

Aquamarine

Sharez
Aquamarine Class
Mia-Rose
Owen

Sapphire

Tereza
Dara
Michelle
Rafael

Dates – Spring 2019

Mon 4 th March	3.30pm – SEND Parent Consultation
Tue 5 th	Sapphire sports festival – pm
Wed 6 th	Garnet class assembly
Tue 12 th	KS1 SAT's parent session
Thur 14 th	Y5 boys' football G & T event FoEC Cake and uniform sale
Fri 15 th	RED Nose Day
Wed 20 th	Y5 & 6 visit to Cadbury's World
Mon 25 th	Open Afternoon 2.30pm
Tue 26 th	Y5/6 girls' football G & T event
Wed 27 th	Sapphire Class Assembly
Thur 28 th	FoEC Mother's Day Shop
Fri 29 th	8am Mother's Day Breakfast
Sat 30 th	FoEC – Mad Scientist and Forest School morning
Mon 1 st April	Y 3 & 4 visit to St Albans
Wed 3 rd	Jade class sports festival – am
Thur 4 th	FoEC - Open Tesco Garden formally opened
Fri 5 th	End of term

Summer 2019

Wednesday 24th April 2019 – Friday 19th July 2019

Half term: Monday 27th May 2019 – Friday 31st May 2019

Inset Day - Tuesday 23rd April 2019 – School Closed

Thursday 2nd May 2019 – School Closed for use as a Polling Station

May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May 2019 – School Closed

2019 – 2020

Autumn Term 2019

Wednesday 4th September – Friday 20th December 2019

Half term: Monday 21st October – Friday 25th October

Inset day Monday 28th October 2019 – School Closed

Spring Term

Monday 6th January 2020 – Friday 3rd April 2020

Half Term: Monday 17th February 2020 – Friday 21st February 2020

Summer Term 2020

Tuesday 21st April 2020 – Friday 17th July 2020

Half Term: Monday 25th May 2020 – Friday 29th May 2020

May Day bank Holiday – Monday 4th May 2020 – School Closed