



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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Newsletter – November 2019

A note from Miss Cooke

I do hope that every parent has seen the change of dates for December that was sent out last week. The amended dates are also included at the end of this newsletter. This change of dates has been necessary due to the calling of a General Election on **Thursday 12th December**. **School will be closed on this day.**

I am very aware that school being closed on this day can be very inconvenient for parents, but it is a necessary response to the school being used as a Polling Station to ensure the safety and safeguarding of all the children. Advance notice - Please note that we also expect that the school will also be used as a Polling Station on **Thursday 7th May 2020**.

A reminder that on these dark nights when it is not possible for the children to be outside after school, we would ask that parents take advantage to support their children with homework and support the development of basic skills. The basics include daily reading, learning spellings and times tables as well as completing specific homework tasks. On the school web site there are also a list of age appropriate web sites that children could also access to support learning at home.

For any parents who wish to support their child with their maths homework, but sometimes find that the maths calculation methods that we teach in school are very different from the ways in which they learnt, the school calculation policy is available on the school web site and it explains in a step by step way the methods taught in school.

<https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Calculation-Policy-June-19.pdf>

As ever should you have any questions, queries or concerns that you would like to discuss directly with me, please make an appointment with the office to come and see me.

Miss Cooke

Value of the Half term – Peace

Our value for this half term is Peace. In assemblies we have been thinking about how we are peaceful and how we can show Peace at school and in life. Children will continue to be recognised in Friday celebration assembly and parents will be informed via a post card home.



Children in Need – Friday 15th November

To celebrate this year's Children in Need fundraising campaign, we have decided that as our effort to raise funds for the appeal, the children may come to school in Fancy Dress. For a minimum contribution of £1 per child, the children may come to school dressed as different characters. We would ask that children ensure that they have sensible footwear that can be worn in the playground and **MUST** have a coat to wear over their costume at playtime and lunchtime.



Parent Governor

We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor on the Governing Body of the school. If this is a role that you would either like more information about or would like to apply for please see the information on the school web site or come to school to discuss the role with Miss Cooke. Additional information can also be found on the Bedford Borough website.

<https://www.bedford.gov.uk/schools-education-and-childcare/schools-and-collegescadem/school-governors/becoming-a-school-governor/>

E-Safety

We continue to hold E-Safety as a key role of our work in school and would continue to encourage parents to continue to view E-Safety as high profile and something that should be reviewed very regularly.

In order to keep parents well informed in this ever changing landscape, we continue to provide links to advice and information. The link to this month's Ditto# magazine is below.

<https://www.esafety-adviser.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/DITTO-Ed-20-Sep-2019-compressed.pdf>

PE Kit

Every child is required to have in school each day a full PE kit **including suitable shoes**. Over the last few months it has become clear that a number of children do not have appropriate footwear available for PE lessons. It is not suitable for children to wear their normal school shoes for PE lessons as these shoes are not designed to be worn in PE. They are not flexible enough.

Equally can I remind you that all children should come to school in black shoes and not trainers. Trainers and plimsolls are required for P.E. lessons and should be available to change into on P.E. days but should not be worn all day. Also, girls are not allowed to wear knee length boots in school. They can be very uncomfortable and make it very difficult for the girls to sit on the floor during assembly, carpet time etc. If they wear them to walk to school please ensure that you bring their school shoes with them to change in to.



Parental Opinions

Every year we ask parents for their opinions about the school. Your opinions can be given in a couple of different ways. You can either complete the paper Parental Questionnaire that were given out at Parent consultations on 2nd and 3rd October, or you can go online to the Ofsted Parent View online. This portal is not just for the point at which a school is inspected by Ofsted, but can be used all year around.

© <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

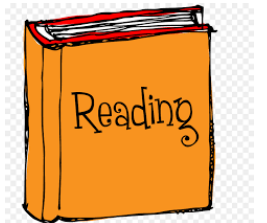
Reading Books

We have had to throw away a number of Reading Books recently as they have been discovered to have been damaged beyond repair. Damage has included pages being ripped out, pages being defaced with pictures, writing or scribble and water damage from leaking water bottles.

These damaged books have reduced our reading book stock and this may limit your child.

We would ask all parents and carers to ensure that books are returned to school in good repair and that if a book is damaged this is brought to the attention of staff.

The school does not have the funds to replace damaged reading books that have been wilfully damaged.



Open Afternoon



Advance reminder that on **Wednesday 4th December from 2.30pm** the school will hold its termly Open Afternoon. This is when parents have the opportunity to come in to school and look through their children's books and walk around the school to see any displays that their child has contributed to as well as any changes or additions that have taken place in the school as a whole.

FoEC – Non Uniform Day – Friday 22nd November

On **Friday 22nd November**, school will be holding a non uniform day in support of the FoEC Christmas Fair. In return for coming to school in their own clothes, we ask that

children bring contributions of chocolate, bottles, raffle prizes, washed teddys or donate a minimum of £1. These items will be used for stalls or prizes at the Christmas Fair on **Saturday 30th November**.

Midday Supervisors

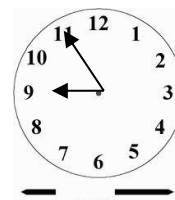
We currently have vacancies for relief Midday Supervisors here in school. Please contact the school office if you would like further information.

(Obecnie szkoła poszukuje chętne osoby na stanowisko MDS na doraźne zastępstwa w przypadku nieobecności jednego z pracowników.)

Punctuality

Since half term there has been an increase in the number of children that are arriving at school after the 8.55am bell when classroom doors are closed. This is a very worrying trend and we ask that you make concerted efforts to ensure that your child is in school and ready for registration at 8.55am. Being late regularly has a negative impact on your child's learning. We will be keeping careful records of children that are late and the reasons for lateness. These will be passed on to the Education Welfare Officer in cases where there is persistent lateness.

We would like to remind all parents that children should NOT play on the outside play equipment, or field at the start or end of the day and that scooters and bikes should not be ridden on the school grounds.



FoEC



FOEC Christmas Fair will be held on **Saturday 30th November** between **11:30am -2.00pm**.

We really hope you can join us. As always, we are looking for volunteers to run stalls so please get in touch if you would like to help.

Mufti Day for the fair is on **Friday 22nd November** and we will be looking for donations of chocolate, bottles, hamper food items, raffle prizes, washed teddies and cakes (which should be donated on the day of the fair).

Father Christmas will be in a magical new grotto and just like last year is completely free to visit!

Thank you for your continued support.

Absence - First day contact

Since September, the number of parents who have not contacted the school to inform us of their child's absence from school has increased. Can we please remind parents that it is their responsibility to contact the school, by 9am to inform us if their child is going to be absent from school, along with a reason for the absence. This applies to children in Reception up to Year 6. We would also ask that parents of Nursery children also inform us by 12.45pm if their child will not be attending Nursery, again along with a reason why.

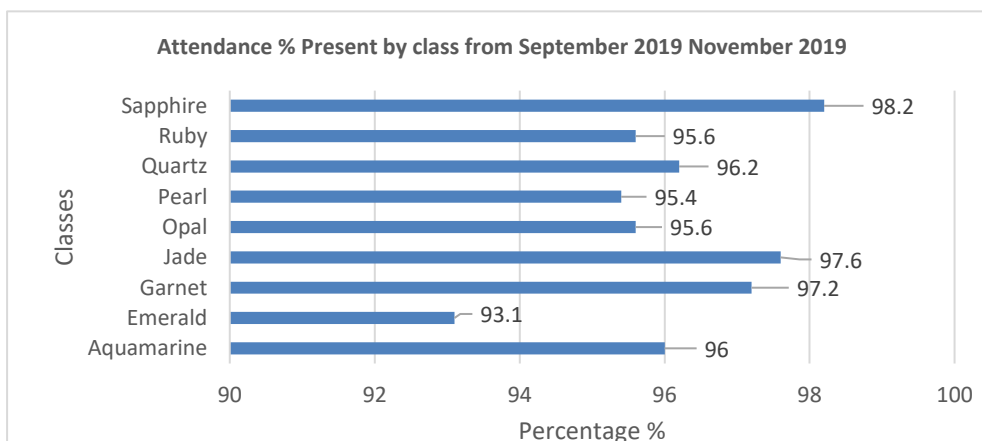
If parents do not contact the school to inform of absence, then under the school's safeguarding responsibility we will make contact with you. If we are unable to make contact with the first emergency contact number we hold, we will then use the additional emergency contact numbers to ascertain the reason for the child's absence.

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 October have been



30 th Sept – 4 th Oct	Garnet Class
7 th – 11 th Oct	Sapphire Class
14 th – 18 th Oct	Opal Class
28 th – 1 st Nov	Opal Class



Diary Dates – Revised in light of General Election

November

Fri 15 th	Children in Need – Fancy Dress
Mon 18 th	Y6 Health Screening
Wed 20 th	Quartz class assembly
Fri 22 th	FOEC Non uniform Day – for Christmas Fair
Tues 26 th	Y3/4 British Museum Trip
Wed 27 th	Sapphire Class Play Day Concert
Sat 30 th	FoEC Christmas Fair – 11.30am – 2pm

December

Mon 2 nd	Theatre of Widdershins
Tue 3 rd	Last Y3/4 Gym
Wed 4 th	10am Reception dress rehearsal – Parents with pre-school children to attend this performance please 2pm Open Afternoon
Thur 5 th	KS1 Holdenby House visit
Fri 6 th	9.30pm – Reception Performance Last Y5/6 Rugby & Swimming
Mon 9 th	9.30am LKS2 – Dress rehearsal – Parents with pre-school children to attend this performance please
Tue 10 th	Flu Immunisations – Rec, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 12.30pm – Nursery Performance
Wed 11 th	2pm – LKS2 Performance
Thur 12th	SCHOOL CLOSED – GENERAL ELECTION
Fri 13 th	9.30pm - - LKS2 Performance Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day 3pm Friday Celebration Assembly
Mon 16 th	2pm – UKS2 Dress rehearsal – Parents with pre-school children to attend this performance please
Tue 17 th	9.30am – KS1 dress Rehearsal – Parents with pre-school children to attend this performance please 2pm – UKS2 Performance
Wed 18 th	9.30am – UKS2 performance 2pm KS1 Performance FoEC Christmas Movie
Thur 19 th	9.30am KS1 performance Children’s parties
Fri 20 th	End of term

Spring Term 2020

January

Mon 6th First day of term – Children return to school

2019 – 2020
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 – Friday 8th May 2020 – School Closed – This is a change to the previously published date due to a change made by central government.

School has also been notified that it is likely to be used a Polling Station on Thursday 7th May for local elections. If this is confirmed – school will be closed on this day.

Stars of the Week
October 2019

Amber

Pearl

Tereza
Tenzing
Merab
Michelle

Emerald

Kenzo
Bentley
Nathan.W
Yahya

Jade

Erik
Sophia

Opal

Andrei
Avaneesh
Julia
Alfie

Ruby

Maks
Rylee
Insha
Emaan

Garnet

Lainey-May
Alex
Rabiya
Cassius

Quartz

Agata
Jimmy
Rehan
Verity

Aquamarine

Phoebe
Sammy
Leah
Tina

Sapphire

James
Violet
Mahaj
Antonio