



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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Newsletter – June 2020

A note from Miss Cooke

Hello to all, from a very differently operating school, but one that is essentially the same warm, welcoming and hardworking school.

As of Monday 29th June, the school will be open to children in all year groups, on a part time basis, if parents have expressed a wish for their child to return to school.

We have slowly increased the number of children attending school across a three-week period to enable the new ways of working to become embedded, understood by all and to ensure that the school is as safe as we can possibly be.

We very much appreciate the co-operation from parents in working with us to safeguard children, parents and staff through observing the one-way system around the outside of the school and the different drop off and pick up times that enable us to maintain social distancing.

If any additional parents wish their child/ren to return to school before the end of the school year on 17th July, please contact the school office to discuss your request.

As ever if you have any questions or queries please contact the school either by email on office@ecls.org.uk or via telephone.

Please stay safe.

Miss Cooke

Timetable for Groups A and B

As we have an A and B timetable in operation for all year groups **until the end of the summer term on Friday 17th July**, below is how this will work for each group until the end of term.

	Mon 29/6/20	Tue 30/6/20	Wed 1/7/20	Thur 2/7/20	Fri 3/7/20
Week beginning 29 th June	Group A	Group A	Group A	Group B	Group B
	Mon 6/7/20	Tue 7/7/20	Wed 8/7/20	Thur 9/7/20	Fri 10/7/20
Week beginning 6 th July	Group A	Group A	Group B	Group B	Group B
	Mon 13/7/20	Tue 14/7/20	Wed 15/7/20	Thur 16/7/20	Fri 17/7/20
Week beginning 13 th July	Group A	Group A	Group A	Group B	Group B

So children in Group A will have their last day in school, this academic year on Wednesday 15th July. Children in Group B will have their last day in school this academic year on Friday 17th July.



Staggered start and end times to the school day

The staggered start and end times for the different year groups are outlined below

	Start	End of day			Start	End of day
Nursery	12.30pm	2.30pm		Jade	9.00am	3.30pm
Reception	8.45am	3.15pm		Quartz	9.00am	3.30pm
Emerald	8.30am	3.00pm		Opal	8.30am	3.00pm
Ruby	8.30am	3.00pm		Pearl	8.45am	3.15pm
Garnet	9.00am	3.30pm		Aqua	8.30am	3.00pm
Sapphire	8.45am	3.15am				

Social Distancing

It continues to be vitally important that children, **parents** and staff maintain social distancing at all times on the school site. I have seen some parents congregating to talk when dropping off or collecting children from school and they are not maintaining social distancing with parents from other households. **Please, please, please** set a good example to your children and other parents and maintain social distancing when on the school premises. **We would also ask that parents try to wait away from the natural thoroughfare and path around the school** so that all parents can easily maintain social distancing when moving around the school.

The following measure will remain in place at the school until the end of the summer term to ensure good standards of hygiene and do all we can to try and prevent and spread of the virus.

- Children will be reminded regularly, throughout the day about social distancing
- The start and finish times of each year group that is in school will be different.
- Children will sit at individual tables in the classrooms
- Children will have their own 'kit' in a named zip bag to avoid sharing resources
- Shared resources such as laptops will be wiped down after each use
- Children will be asked to attend school in school uniform, but may wear trainers or shoes suitable for outdoor activities as no children will change for PE lessons, therefore PE bags/kits will not need to be brought in to school.
- Children should not bring book bags, rucksacks, or water bottles to school. Children will be given a plastic cup each day and water will be available at all times.
- No reading or library books will be sent home, but your child will be listened to read in school regularly. Please continue to use family reading books to read with your children at home.
- Playtimes and lunchtimes will be staggered and separate. The school field will be divided in half with a 'No mans land' section in the middle. Trim trail equipment will NOT be available.
- There will be NO whole school assemblies.
- At lunch time, on larger than in the classroom tables, all children will sit at opposite ends of the table. Tables and chairs will be disinfected between groups of children using them
- We would prefer that children have school dinners, but if parents still wish their child to have a packed lunch, please can this be in a named plastic sandwich box and **NOT** a fabric lunch bag

Attendance

The Government has directed that no family will be penalised or fined for not sending their child to school, in the current circumstances, but that some families in certain circumstances will be urged to allow their children to return to school.

Children of Key Workers

If you are a key worker, your child may attend school full time if parents are working full time. Please be aware that by attending school full time, children will need to be part of two 'Bubbles' and not with the same children or staff all week. If you require your child to attend school full time, please make contact with Miss Cooke to discuss the situation with her.

Learning Packs

During this period of a phased return to school, we will continue to provide weekly learning packs to those children who have not returned to school. This will continue, until the end of the school year on 17th July so that if parents have made the decision that they do not wish their child/ren to return to school, the children are still able to access learning.



If families require learning packs to be printed, please request this via email to class teachers. Printed packs will be available to be collected from the school after noon on a Monday.

Home learning packs will continue to be emailed out each week and are available on the school web site.

All home learning packs can be found at <https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/home-learning/>

Phone calls home

Class teachers will continue to make phone calls to families where children are not attending school. This is to maintain contact with families and to answer questions or queries. This is one way that we are trying to keep in touch with all the children and families in the school and provide what support that we can.

Please be ready to tell class teachers what you have been up to. Class teachers will ask how you have been getting on with the home learning packs that have been sent home and what other things you have been learning outside the formal school curriculum. They would love to hear about what you have been cooking, baking, doing in the garden or building.

Remember that class teachers can be contacted using the class email accounts. Teachers will be happy to respond to any questions and provide feedback on home learning activities.

Class	Email address		
Opal	opal@ecls.org.uk		
Quartz	quartz@ecls.org.uk	Ruby	ruby@ecls.org.uk
Pearl	pearl@ecls.org.uk	Emerald	emerald@ecls.org.uk
Aquamarines	aqua@ecls.org.uk	Jade	jade@ecls.org.uk
Sapphire	sapphire@ecls.org.uk	Amber	amber@ecls.org.uk
Garnet	garnet@ecls.org.uk	Little Treasures	treasures@ecls.org.uk

Eligibility to Free School Meals.(FSM)

We are very aware that some families may be facing changing financial circumstances due to the Coronavirus outbreak. If, through change of circumstances, you feel your child may have become eligible for free school meals, we would urge you to consider applying for this benefit. Details of those who may now be eligible for FSM can see eligibility criteria on the school web site at <https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/free-school-meals/>

An application for free school meals can be made at https://bedford-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_School_Meals.



School Website

Please keep a regular eye on the school web site as we are regularly updating the information on there.

Each of the letters, newsletters and information leaflets that we have been sending out are also available on the school website, so can be re-accessed at any time.

Mental health and Well-being

We have a whole section on our web site where you can access resources to support your children's well-being. We will continue to add to this section as we locate more quality resources. The available resources can be found at <https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/mental-wellbeing/>

End of school year reports

Teachers have prepared end of school year reports as they do each year. These reports take in to account that the school closed on 20th March 2020 and for some children will not open again until September.

Consequently, it has been impossible to cover the same amount of curriculum content through the learning packs that have been sent home, as would have been covered had the school remained open as normal.

As a result, many children will not have attained the Expected standard of achievement at the end of the academic year, as they were expected and targeted to do.

This is not any reflection on the ability of the children or effort of teaching and support staff in school. It is a situation that has arisen as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic and the closure of schools to most pupils on 20th March 2020.

You may have been expecting your child's attainment grade to be Expected(EXS) but, you may find that it is in fact Working Towards plus(+) (WTS +) In using this grading teachers are trying to show that, although your child has not attained the expected end of year standard, they were on track to do so and not achieving the Expected standard is as a result of the closure of schools on 20th March.

End of year reports will be sent out with children who are in school for children in Group A on Tuesday 7th July and for children in Group B on Wednesday 8th July. If your child is not currently attending school, their end of year report can be collected from the school office from Thursday 9th July.

Within the end of year report will be information about which class and with which class teacher children will be when we return in September 2020.

Summer Reading Challenge

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present



Bedford Libraries are again running their Summer Reading Challenge.

This year the challenge has gone on line. Information can be found on the Bedford Libraries web site

http://virtual-library.culturalservices.net/webingres/bedfordshire/vlib/0.children_teachers/whats_in_the_library_for_me.htm

Summer Reading Challenge 2020

sillysquad.org.uk

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

Academic Year 2020 – 2021

Autumn Term 2020

First Day of Term for children - Monday 7th September 2020
October Half Term - Monday 26th October 2020
First day back after Half Term for children - Tuesday 3rd November 2020
Last Day of the Autumn Term - Friday 18th December 2020

Spring Term 2021

First Day of Term for children - Tuesday 5th January 2021
February Half Term - Monday 15th February 2021
First day back after Half Term for children - Monday 22nd February 2021
Last Day of the Spring Term - Friday 26th March 2021

Summer Term 2021

First Day of Term for children - Tuesday 13th April 2021
May Half Term - Monday 31st May 2021
First day back after Half Term for children - Monday 7th June 2021
Last Day of the Summer Term - Thursday 22nd July 2021

These dates are also displayed on the school website

<https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/information-for-parents/school-term-dates/>

Please stay safe – wash your hands regularly – and socially distance.