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# EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing*

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

Headteacher: Miss Heather Cooke

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[www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk](http://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk)

## ***Newsletter – September 2020***

### **A message from Miss Cooke**

Welcome back to the 2020 – 2021 Academic year. It has been wonderful to see all the children return to school so eager and happy to be back in their new classes. It has also been lovely to chat with parents on the playground at the start and end of the day. I am sure that there will be many challenges that come up over this term, but the children enjoying their learning, making progress and developing their skills is, as ever, the focus of all and can be successfully achieved with the continuing strengthening of the relationships between children, parents and all staff in school. It is sure to be an interesting year!

In this new Covid era, we are having to find new ways of working and are aiming to considerably strengthen and extend our on line communication with parents and families. We will be trying as much as possible to move away from paper based communications. This will be for information, permissions and money coming into the school. To ensure that you do not miss out on any important information, please ensure that the school holds your up to date phone number and email address.

As the school is working to enhance lines of communication and sharing information with parents, we must **strongly request** that parents work with us and take note of timescales, dates and information that are shared and ensure that they comply with stated dates and requests.

We are working on launching official, formal Edith Cavell Primary School social media accounts in the near future, that will also help us move away from paper based communications and towards online forms of communication.

I am sure that parents have seen on the news that the Covid infection rate across the country is rising rapidly. At this point we have no information about if this will mean a further closure of schools, but it is also possible that individual children or families may need to self-isolate. What is clear is that as a school we must be making plans to swiftly move to remote home learning should the need arise. To this end, clear knowledge of the IT equipment that children do or do not have access to is vital to our planning process to ensure that we can continue to improve on the home learning offer that we have in place. We ask all parents to respond to the IT survey that has been circulated so that we can gather the information that may allow us to apply for additional Government funding to fund the purchase of additional IT equipment.

If parents have any issues or questions that arise, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school, preferably via email or phone, rather than in person, and staff will do all that they can to assist you.

I look forward to continue working with every child and every family over the coming year and further developing the family of Edith Cavell.

*Miss Cooke*

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## **COVID 19 Advice**

No child should attend school if **they or any member of their household** are displaying any of the symptoms of Covid 19 which are:-

- **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child starts to display these symptoms, we ask that you inform the school why your child is not in school and obtain a test for Covid 19. Once the results of the test are obtained, we ask that you communicate this to the school.

### **Supervision on the playground at the start and end of the day**

Parents are reminded that children in Year 4 and below, **must** be supervised by an adult until their start of school time in a morning and **must** be collected by an adult at the end of the day. We are aware that the staggered start and end to the end of the school day may have caused some issues for some



parents, but these change in start and end times of the school day are organisational variations that the Government has required us to implement in an attempt to limit the number of parents who are on the school site at any one time and also maintain social distancing between parents.

Parents please remember to social distance when you are waiting on the playground at the start and end of the school day and when arriving or leaving the school site.

### **Permission to collect**

If you as a parent do not collect your child every day, please supply the school, in writing, a list of people who may collect your child on occasions. This may be grandparents, aunts and uncles, or just friends of the family, but in order to keep your child safe we must know who has your permission collect your children. If you know in the morning that someone other than a parent will be collecting your child that evening, please inform the class staff – via email if possible to the class email addresses listed below. If there is a change of collection arrangements over the day please phone the school office to inform us and we will pass that information on to the class staff and your child.

### **Parent Pay Shop**

Many parents have already found the addition to the school web site – the Parent Pay Shop. You do not need a Parent Pay Account to be able to use this feature.

On the Parent Pay Shop you can order and pay for items of uniform from the school office.

Once you have ordered and paid for your items, these can then be collected from the school office or we can have these dropped off to your child's class.

You can access the Parent Pay shop at

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=1083>



### Parent Pay – school dinners

Please remember that school dinners, Breakfast and After School Club should always be paid for in advance through Parent Pay. If you have still not yet activated your Parent Pay account then please contact the school office for your activation details.

The cost of school dinners is as shown in the table below.

Dinner money total 2020/21		
Year 3 & 4	Year 5 & 6	
£2.15	£2.25	per day
£10.75	£11.25	per week
£43.00	£45.00	per month (20 days)
Cheques payable to Caterlink Ltd		

### 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 on the borough web site. 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.

An application for free school meals can be made at

[https://bedford-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free School Meals](https://bedford-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_School_Meals).

### Packed Lunches

If your child brings a packed lunch in to school, please ensure it is healthy (no chocolate spread sandwiches or packets of sweets 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.**

## 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 website or at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)

## Jigsaw – The mindful approach to PSHE (Personal, Social Health Education)

This term we are taking on board a new PSHE scheme across the school. Jigsaw is a unique, spiral, progressive and effective scheme of work, aiming to prepare children for life, helping them really know and value who they are and understand how they relate to other people in this ever changing world.



This new scheme includes characters, songs, chimes, celebration activities and assemblies. Through this new scheme we will recognise where children are demonstrating characteristics and actions that are being identified and celebrated. These will be recognised in celebration assembly on a Friday and will replace where we have previously focused on values.

## Assemblies

The advice is that we do not yet start to hold whole school assemblies to avoid having large numbers of children together at one time and the operating bubbles do not mix. To this end, **we will not be planning** any class assemblies, Christmas productions or birthday assemblies for parents to attend.

## Harvest

Each year we hold a Harvest Festival assembly and we ask parents for donations that we then share between The Bedford Food Bank and SMART Prebend Street Centre. This year we will be unable to hold a Harvest Assembly, but wish to still hold a collection for the two charities.

So **on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October**, we will place tables out on the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds. Any parents who feel that they would be able to donate a tin or packet of food that can then be passed on to the two charities will be able to place items on these tables at the beginning or end of the school day.

As an alternative, The Bedford Food Bank have also suggested that parents may be able to make a 50p or £1 donation. On the school Parent Pay site, parents would have the option to make this donation.



## #Hello Yellow – 9<sup>th</sup> October

On **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October** we will again be supporting the Young Minds Hello Yellow campaign. We ask that all the children wear some form of Yellow for the day and make a minimum £1 contribution that will go to the charity. This day is **NOT** a general non uniform day, but an opportunity to show support for this charity by wearing at least one item of yellow clothing.

Parents can make this donation on the school Parent Pay site

## 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.

## Water bottles

As part of our healthy eating programme children are encouraged to bring their water bottles. It has been scientifically proven that keeping hydrated and maintaining blood sugars assists children to concentrate for longer periods of time. They are available to buy water bottles from the office or Parent Pay Shop 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 the end of the school day 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.**

## P.E. Kits



In the current situation we are going to introduce a new system for PE and PE kits across the school.

If your child has a morning PE lesson, we are asking that they come to school in their PE kit (t-shirt and shorts **under** a tracksuit) **and bring their school uniform to school with**

**them.** After their PE lesson they will then change in to their school uniform.

If your child has an afternoon PE lesson, they will change into their PE kit in school, but will be sent home in their kit at the end of the school day.

Government guidance states that as many PE lessons as possible take place outside. We will be following this guidance and most PE lessons will take place outside, even as we move into the Winter months.

Therefore, we advise that **all** children have a tracksuit/jogging bottoms and sweatshirt **as well as** shorts and t-shirt available as their regular PE kit. Every child must also have well-fitting trainers/plimsolls.

By introducing this new system, we are trying to cut down the amount of lesson time lost to changing and gain back some of the learning time that is being lost due to additional handwashing during the day.

Below is a list of PE times for each class.

<b>KS1</b>		
Emerald	Monday afternoon	Wednesday afternoon
Jade	Friday morning	Tuesday afternoon
Ruby	Monday morning	Thursday afternoon
<b>KS2</b>		
Garnet	Tuesday morning	Monday afternoon
Aquamarine	Tuesday morning	Thursday afternoon
Sapphire	Tuesday morning	Wednesday afternoon
Pearl	Wednesday morning	Swimming Friday
Opal	Wednesday morning	Swimming Friday
Quartz	Tuesday afternoon	Friday afternoon

## 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.

I have again been contacted by more than one local resident who is unhappy at the way in which and where parents are parking when coming to collect or drop off children at school.

Every driver is responsible for ensuring that when they park they obey road markings, road signage and show consideration for the residents of the street on which they are parking. I have advised the residents who have contacted the school that they should contact Bedford Borough Council and the Police if they feel any road traffic rules have been broken by motorists when parking their cars. Inconsiderate parking on local roads paints the school in a bad light with local residents and tarnishes the schools good reputation in



the local community and I would strongly urge every driver to examine their own behaviours and consider parking further away and walking in to school. This will also have health benefits for parents and children alike.

### **NSPCC Underwear Rule**

In our PSHE lessons this term, we will be discussing the NSPCC's Underwear Rule. This is designed to teach pupils how to stay safe from sexual abuse without giving explicit information or telling scary stories or even using the term "sexual abuse". In the lesson, children will learn about the 'PANTS' acronym, which stands for

- Privates are Private
- Always remember your body belongs to you
- No means no
- Talk about secrets that upset you
- Speak up, someone can help

The lesson will be delivered in a way that's fully age appropriate. More information about the Underwear Rule, including a short film and a parent guide can be found at [www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule)



### **Class emails**

If you need to communicate with the school office, we would prefer if this could be done via phone or email and as this would be preferable to physically visiting the office. Class email addresses for your child's new class teacher are listed below and can be used to communicate with class teachers as face to face meetings are highly discouraged. A phone call can also be made by a class teacher after the end of the school day.

The school office can be contacted on 01234 345636 or [office@ecls.org.uk](mailto:office@ecls.org.uk)

<b>Class</b>	<b>Email address</b>
Opal	<a href="mailto:opal@ecls.org.uk">opal@ecls.org.uk</a>
Quartz	<a href="mailto:quartz@ecls.org.uk">quartz@ecls.org.uk</a>
Pearl	<a href="mailto:pearl@ecls.org.uk">pearl@ecls.org.uk</a>
Aquamarines	<a href="mailto:aqua@ecls.org.uk">aqua@ecls.org.uk</a>
Sapphire	<a href="mailto:sapphire@ecls.org.uk">sapphire@ecls.org.uk</a>
Garnet	<a href="mailto:garnet@ecls.org.uk">garnet@ecls.org.uk</a>
Ruby	<a href="mailto:ruby@ecls.org.uk">ruby@ecls.org.uk</a>
Emerald	<a href="mailto:emerald@ecls.org.uk">emerald@ecls.org.uk</a>
Jade	<a href="mailto:jade@ecls.org.uk">jade@ecls.org.uk</a>
Amber	<a href="mailto:amber@ecls.org.uk">amber@ecls.org.uk</a>
Little Treasures	<a href="mailto:treasures@ecls.org.uk">treasures@ecls.org.uk</a>

## **Message from FoEC**

Hello everyone! It's so nice to see everyone and get some sense of normality back!

The Friends of Edith Cavell are a charity that raises money for the school. Our aim is to put on events for the children and raise money but also to support the school community as a whole.

This year we have, obviously, been unable to generate any revenue and as it stands we will not be running any events for the foreseeable future until we get a clearer idea of what is or isn't possible under social distancing.

Our big project will be turning the house located within the school site into a school library. Unfortunately this is on hold along with everything else. BUT be assured that as soon as we can we will be back and we are committed to making the library project happen.

Everyone is welcome to join in! We always need help and this really doesn't mean hours of commitment. Once we know what we can do we will be in touch to ask for help and support.

Be assured - we are in deep discussion with Santa Claus to work out what magic and fun he CAN deliver this Christmas... (he's open to ideas!!)

We all hope this term is going well and keep safe!

## **Dates – Autumn 2020**

### **September**

Tue 15 <sup>th</sup>	LKS2 – Gymnastics start
Thur 17 <sup>th</sup>	Half Amber class visit
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>	Half Amber class visit
	UKS2 – swimming first week
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	Amber class 10am – 1pm
Tue 21 <sup>st</sup>	Amber class 9.30am – 1.30pm
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Amber class 9am – 2pm
Thur 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Amber class 9am – 3pm
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	Amber class 8.45am – 3.15pm
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup>	Amber class – Full time 8.45am – 3.15pm

### **October**

Thur 1 <sup>st</sup>	Harvest Festival – donations only
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	Black History Month
	Walk to School Month
	UKS2 – G & T – Tag Rugby - am
	Parent Consultations
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	World Mental Health Day - #Hello Yellow Day – non uniform day
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup>	Garnet – Sports Festival – am
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	UKS2 – G & T – Football - pm
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Wear it Pink Day – Non uniform Day
	Half Term

## November

Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Training Day
Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup>	First Day back for children
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need
	Emerald – Sports Festival - pm
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Anti Bullying week – United against bullying
	SEND parent consultations
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Odd socks Day – Anti bullying

## December

Thur 3 <sup>rd</sup>	UKS2 – G & T – Athletics - am
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>	LKS2 G & T sports festival – athletics - am
Tue 8 <sup>th</sup>	Last LKS2 Gym
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Dinner
	Christmas Jumper Day
	Last UKS2 Swimming
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term

### **2020 – 2021** **Autumn Term 2020**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Half term: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Inset day Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – School Closed

### **Spring Term 2021**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

Half Term: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021

### **Summer Term 2021**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021**

Half Term: Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**May Day bank Holiday – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 – School Closed**

School Term Dates 2020 – 2021 <https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2020-2021-Approved- March-2019 .pdf>