



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

Newsletter – October 2020

A message from Miss Cooke

Firstly, a **HUGE** thank you to parents and families for the supremely impressive quantity of donations that we received last Thursday 1st October for our virtual Harvest Festival. The produce has been forwarded to a very grateful Bedford Food Bank who will use the donations to support families around Bedford.

As the days shorten and we move into Autumn, some of the weather that we have had recently is really not nice. Please can every parent ensure that **EVERY** child comes to school **EVERY** day with a suitable coat. Even when the weather is a little damp, children will still have playtimes outside where possible to ensure that they have the opportunity to run around and have a break from the classroom.

I would like to thank most parents and children for complying with the one-way system that we have set up around the school and observing it, but there are a few parents, carers and those who drop off and collect children from school who are not observing the one-way system. The gate to Slade Walk, outside Amber classroom is **AN OUT GATE** – no parents, carers or children should enter the school site via this gate – even if they are only going to Amber class. We ask, for the safety of **ALL** coming on to the school site, that the one-way system is observed.

Some parents have expressed concern about the effects that the hand sanitising products used in school appear to be having on children's hands. Part of the risk assessment to facilitate the reopening of the school fully in September, was that the children will need to wash their hands repeatedly throughout the day and also use hand sanitiser regularly. This is a vital part of the fight against the spread of Covid 19 and a key part of the Governments message – Hands, Face, Space.

I would like to assure parents that the products that we use in school are the same ones that we have used for the past couple of years. They are designed to be 'kind and gentle' to the skin and 'maintain skin condition.' Children are being reminded in school, that as the weather is turning colder, it is vital that they dry their hands properly after washing and we would ask that parents reinforce this message.

Going forward, if any parents have concerns about resources used in school, I would ask that they are addressed directly with the school, rather than airing concerns on social media.

I am sure all parents have recognised how the school is embracing the use of technology to communicate messages and information to parents, rather than relying on paper based communication. We will continue to increase the amount of communication that is shared in this way, so encourage all parents to respond to surveys, permissions or messages that they receive in the same way.

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.

Miss Cooke

COVID 19 Advice - Reminder

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.

The Bedford Borough flowchart to assist parents in making decisions about when to send a child to school is attached to the end of this newsletter and displayed on the school web site.

#Hello Yellow – 9th October

On **Friday 9th 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 preferably on the school Parent Pay site



Parents' Evenings – Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th October



We have communicated to all parents to ask them to book either a Google Meets or telephone appointment with their child's class teacher.

Please note that to have a Google Meets appointment you need to have a Google account or email address.

These first parents' evenings of the year are an important opportunity for you to discuss how your child has settled in to their new class, how parents can support learning at home and general organisational points for homework, reading and PE. If you have not yet made an appointment with your child's class

teacher, please make contact via the class email address – these are printed below. Any parents that do not make appointments will be issued with appointment times.

Homework

In this period of returning to school after lockdown, as children missed a great deal of learning last summer term it is more important than ever that all children are supported to complete homework that is set by class teachers.

Hearing your child read every day can have such a huge positive impact on their reading ability, confidence and language development. As a school we are not able to welcome in the army of reading volunteers that usually support the children in school with their reading on a daily basis and so the importance of parents supporting their child with reading cannot be stressed enough.

Each teacher has already or will at parent consultations share and reiterate homework expectations with parents. The frequency and amount of homework varies according to the age of the child, but the importance of reading and discussions about what has been read, does not fade as the child moves up the school.



Bikes and Scooters

We encourage children to safely ride bikes and scooters to and from school.

There are signs at each entrance to the school reminding children and parents that **NO ONE** should ride their bikes and scooters on the school premises. This is for the safety of everyone who accesses the school site.

Would all parents and carers please ensure that their child abides by this safety rule. Just because a member of staff is not seeing the child riding, does not mean that it is OK for them to do so. This rule is for everyone's safety as there have been a few near misses on the school site recently.

It is also a little concerning how many children riding bikes do not wear a helmet. Wearing a helmet could significantly reduce the level of injury in the event of a child falling off their bike or scooter.

Outside the school grounds, children on bikes and scooters still need to be aware of pedestrians on busy pavements, as we have had a child injured by another child riding a bike down Slade Walk.



pixtastock.com - 58038413

PE kits



Children are currently being asked to come to school in their PE kits when they have PE in a morning session and will come home in their PE kits when they have an afternoon PE session.

We have asked parents that **all** children have a tracksuit/jogging bottoms and sweatshirt **as well as** shorts and t-shirt available as their regular PE kit. These tracksuits/jogging bottoms and sweatshirts should be plain and not displaying large logos or brightly coloured. School sweatshirts can be used as sweatshirts in the event of no other suitable item being available to your child.



Earrings should be removed on PE days and children should ensure that they bring to school all items of their school uniform, including school shoes, on days that they come to school in their PE kits.

Below is a list of PE times for each class.

KS1		
Emerald	Monday afternoon	Wednesday afternoon
Jade	Friday morning	Tuesday afternoon
Ruby	Monday morning	Thursday afternoon
KS2		
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

Sports Festivals

Over the year all classes and other selected groups of children usually attend sports festivals and events at other schools, organized by the Borough.

We have been notified that, due to the situation with Covid 19 these sports festivals and events have been cancelled until further notice.

As soon as it is safe to do so, these sporting fixtures will be reinstated and schools invited to attend.

Wear it Pink Day

On **Friday 23rd October** we will again be supporting Breast Cancer Awareness by inviting the children to come to school dressed in the colour Pink and making a minimum £1 donation to the charity. This is a charity that we have enjoyed supporting regularly. Seeing the children in such varying shades of Pink and with such great ideas for wearing pink in creative ways is a great fun, a great sight and supporting a very worthwhile 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 pink clothing.

Parents can make this donation preferably on the school Parent Pay site



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2020



When we return from half term on **Tuesday 3rd November**, in each phase of the school, **NOT** at the school office, the children will have the opportunity to give a donation to acquire a commemorative poppy. There will also be other Royal British Legion Poppy merchandise available to purchase for set prices.

Children should bring their money to school if they wish to take part in this appeal and items will be brought to each class in each phase of the school, so that merchandise and children **do not** cross phase bubbles.

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 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

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

Stars of the Week
September 2020

Amber

Pearl

Natasha
Miracle
Kayla

Emerald

Madiya
Bobbie
Rithighaa

Jade

Harees
Willem
Yahya

Opal

Qasim
Sabrina
Maja

Ruby

Isaish
Elijah
Eden

Garnet

Naveed

Quartz

Matthew
Alessio
Boden

Aquamarine

Jasmine
Mia

Sapphire

Tina
Kevinas
Sebastian

Dates – Autumn 2020

October

Fri 9 th	World Mental Health Day - #Hello Yellow Day
Mon 12 th	Parent Consultations
Tue 13 th	Parent Consultations
Fri 23 rd	Wear it Pink Day Half Term

November

Mon 2 nd	Training Day
Tue 3 rd	First Day back for children Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal will start in school
Fri 13 th	Children in Need
Mon 16 th	Anti Bullying week – United against bullying SEND parent consultations
Fri 20 th	Odd socks Day – Anti bullying

December

Tue 1 st	Last LKS2 Gym
Fri 11 th	Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day Last UKS2 Swimming
Fri 18 th	End of Term

2020 – 2021 **Autumn Term 2020**

Monday 7th September – Friday 18th December 2020

Half term: Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October
Inset day Monday 2nd November – School Closed

Spring Term 2021

Tuesday 5th January 2021 – Friday 9th April 2021

Half Term: Monday 15th February 2021 – Friday 19th February 2021

Summer Term 2021

Tuesday 13th April 2021 – Thursday 22nd July 2021

Half Term: Monday 31st May 2021 – Friday 4th June 2021

May Day bank Holiday – Monday 3rd 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>

Coronavirus information for Parents/Carers (Sept/October 2020)

For general advice about COVID-19 and the symptoms to look for go to: www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

