



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

Newsletter – November 2020

A message from Miss Cooke

What a treat it was, last Friday, to see all the children, staff and some parents dressed as either superheroes, in their pyjamas or wearing spots to celebrate the BBC Children in Need appeal. In these strange times it is great that as a school we can still take part in some familiar events and have fun in the process. A **HUGE** thank you to parents and families for their kind donations. We raised £220 and this will be sent to Pudsey's piggy bank to help support the work that Children in Need do at home in the UK and abroad.

I would like to thank most parents for complying with our request to wear a face covering when on the school site. As was explained previously this is to try and protect the whole school family and try and keep the school free from a case of Covid as long as possible. I am aware that there are some parents and carers who are exempt from wearing face masks, I would ask that those who are exempt wear their lanyards when they come on to the school site so that your exemption is easily recognisable.

I still have to raise the fact that there are a few parents, carers and those who drop off and collect children from school who are not observing the one-way system, especially if a member of staff is not out on the playground. 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.

As I am sure you will appreciate, the school will NOT be putting on any Christmas productions this year. We are trying to make some arrangements so that parents are able to see some form of very brief performance by the children through the use of technology. This is very much in the planning stage and a hope at present, but we hope to be able to share viewing guidance soon. Cross your fingers!!!

If parents have any issues or questions that arise, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school, preferably via email us on office@ecls.org.uk, your child's class email address or telephone us on 01234 345636, rather than in person, and staff will do all that they can to assist you.

Miss Cooke

Charity Donations

Over the past few weeks we have had a few charity and dress up days. Thank you so much to each family for the support shown on these days. The school has raised and sent to each of the charities the following amounts.

Young Minds – Wear it Yellow campaign - £191

Breast Cancer Awareness – Wear it Pink campaign - £172

Children in Need - £220

A graphic with the words 'THANK YOU!' in large, colorful, block letters. 'THANK' is on the top line and 'YOU!' is on the bottom line. The letters are in various colors: green, yellow, blue, pink, red, and orange.

COVID 19 Advice - Reminder

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

- **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.

Attached at the end of this newsletter is the Bedford Borough flowchart to assist parents in making decisions about when to send a child to school. This flowchart is also displayed on our school website.



Reading

Many teachers have noticed a reduction in the number of parents who are reading with their children each evening.

We are aware that most parents supported their children in an unprecedented way during the initial lockdown and worked hard with them on the learning tasks that the school set. This was a huge support to each child.

But now that children are back in school and working hard to catch up on the learning that was missed as a result of part time attendance or not attending school, your children **NEED** your help again!

Please, please listen to them read as often as you possibly can, every evening would be fantastic, but 3 or 4 times a week would also make a **HUGE** difference.

As I informed parents in my October newsletter, we do not have the army of reading volunteers that usually come into school each week to support children reading and so now more than ever it is vital that parents do all they can to listen to their children read.

All homework tasks that are set are designed to help your child practice skills and reinforce the knowledge that they have covered in school. They support their learning and may prepare for future learning. If your child does not complete homework they are missing that learning opportunity.

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.

Bedford Modern School Swimming Pool Car Park

Edith Cavell and Livingstone schools have been contacted by BMS, to ask us to remind parents that the car park and area around the front of the BMS Swimming Pool is not a public right of way and as such parents should not use it as a cut through to Clarendon Street and beyond.

We would ask that you respect all our neighbours' property and ensure that when walking to and from school you remain on the public highway and if you are driving you park respectfully on the roads surrounding the school.



Annual Survey

Our annual survey is now available to complete (please click on link below).

We need as many parents/carers as possible to give us their views to ensure we get an accurate picture of the 'lived experiences' of SEND families in our community.

All of the feedback collected will be fed into the SEND Improvement Board at the Local Authority and will form the basis of our State of the Nation report to be published at a later date.

You can enter a draw to win £50 Love Bedford Vouchers when you complete the survey. It should only take you a maximum of 10 minutes to complete.

The survey can be accessed on - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AnnualSurveyBBPCF>

No pens Wednesday – Wednesday 25th November 2020

No Pens Day Wednesday is an annual day of spoken language activities that takes place in schools, colleges and early years' settings across the country.

Spoken language skills (sometimes called **oracy**) are fundamental for learning to read and write, managing emotions, developing friendships and entering employment.

In school, we will be putting out pens, pencils, writing and drawing implements away for the day and focusing on learning through developing and using our language.



Jewellery



Please can we remind parents and children that **NO** jewellery should be worn for school. This includes earrings, smart watches, necklaces, bracelets or rings.

If your child has pierced ears, we would request that if they are unable to remove and replace earrings themselves, that parents remove the earrings at home prior to coming

to school and replace them at the end of the school day.

No jewellery can be worn for health and safety reasons during PE lessons and if your child has long hair this must also be tied back. School accepts no responsibility for any items lost at school.



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.](https://bedford-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_School_Meals.)



Class emails

If you need to communicate with the school office, we would prefer if this could be done via the telephone or email 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

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

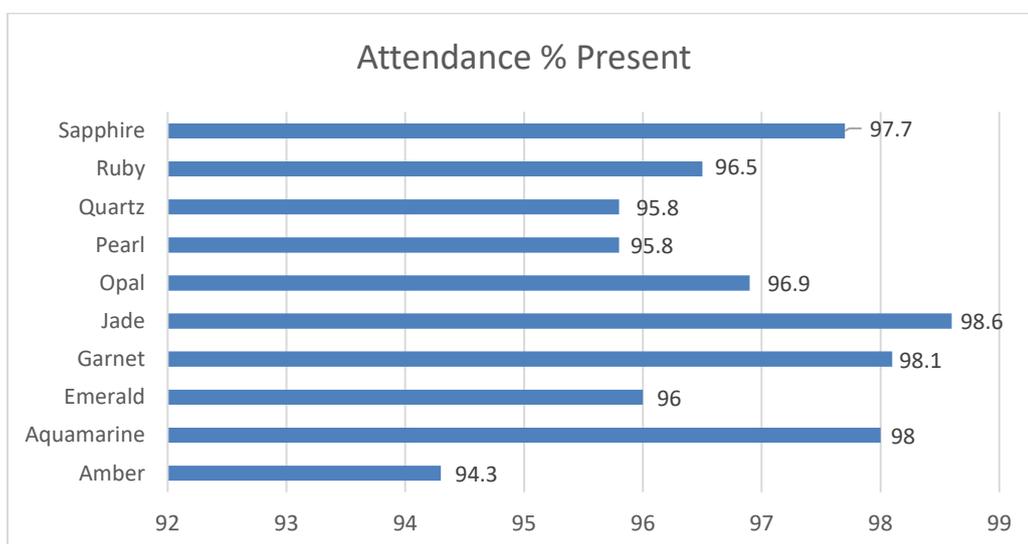
28th Sept - 2nd Oct Aquamarine, Jade and Ruby Class

5th - 9th Oct Jade Class

12th - 16th Oct Jade Class

19th - 23rd Oct Sapphire Class

Attendance since September 2020



Stars of the Week
October 2020

Amber

Pearl

Miracle
Maciej
Kayla
Kevin

Emerald

Bobbie
Angad

Jade

Willem
Kenzo
Connor
Amelia

Opal

Sabrina
Ivan
Yousif
Maciej

Ruby

Elijah
Jhene
Frankie
Laura

Garnet

Kaio

Quartz

Alessio
Asi
Avaneesh

Aquamarine

Mia
Amber
Daniyal
Alex

Sapphire

Kevinas
Reuben
Rabiyah
Mikolaj

Dates – Autumn 2020

November

Fri 20th Odd socks Day – Anti bullying

December

Tue 1st Last LKS2 Gym

Fri 11th Christmas Dinner

Christmas Jumper Day

Fri 18th End of Term

Spring 2021

Tuesday 5th January 2021 – First Day back at school for children

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

Polling Day – Thursday 6th May 2021 – School Closed - proposed

This Polling Day is an addition to the calendar. This is the delayed elections from May 2020. We want to give parents advance warning of the possibility of the school being closed on this date.

School Term Dates 2020 – 2021 <https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2020-2021-Approved- March-2019 .pdf>
<https://www.bedford.gov.uk/schools-education-and-childcare/schools-and-collegescadem/school-term-and-holiday-dates/>

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

