



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

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Newsletter – March 2021

A note from Miss Cooke

It has been so wonderful to welcome all the children back to school this week. To see their smiling faces, to hear the chatter of children around the school and hear the sound of children playing in the playground again has been amazing. Just like a school should be.

I am sure some children (and parents?) have found the adjustment to getting up early again and having to be at school for a certain time, a challenge. Some of the children are certainly tired at the end of the week. Getting back in to good bedtime and morning routines can be a challenge, but is so important to ensure that the children arrive at school in the right frame of mind and ready to learn. Please persevere.

The staggered start to the school day is to try and limit the number of parents accessing the school site at any one time. I know it has meant that some families are having to wait around for a period of time at the start and end of the school day. It is really important that children arrive on time for the start of their classes school day. Learning starts as soon as the children are in and have washed their hands, so if your child is arriving at school 20 minutes after the rest of the class they have already missed important input and teaching.

I hope after Easter, once we are all back in the swing of being back at school, we will be able to reduce the length of time between start and end of school day times. More to follow closer to the end of term.

In the letter from Vicky Head, Director of Public Health in Bedford, sent out last week, it outlined that all parents of children in schools are entitled to access Lateral Flow Home Testing kits. These kits can be collected, without appointment, from the testing centres on Prebend Street or at The University of Bedford on Polhill Avenue. If parents use these kits, we are all helping to try and stop the spread of Covid 19 by people who may be asymptomatic. These kits are the same ones as are being used by NHS staff, secondary aged pupils in school and staff here at Edith Cavell. The instructions and information about these kits has been translated into different languages and these can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/instructions-for-covid-19-self-test?utm_source=10%20March%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

It is imperative that we are all still vigilant and follow the government guidance and do all that we can to prevent the spread of Covid 19, so that schools can remain fully open. The national message is still 'Stay at Home' and this means that, unless part of a consistent support bubble, children should not be visiting each other's houses for visits or play dates. Families should not be congregating in the park or each other's houses or gardens. The next stage of the 'roadmap' out of lockdown is due to come into effect on March 29th when the 'rule of 6' comes back in and up to 6 people or two families can meet up outdoors.

Once again I must say thank you to parents who worked so hard during lockdown to complete home learning with their children. Although the children are all back in school, we do still look to parents to support us with the children's learning. Please, please keep listening to your children read and sign their reading record. Please support them to complete homework tasks as these are to assist with gaps in learning that such an extended time away from school has created.

Miss Cooke



Parent Consultations – School Cloud

All families should have received details of how to register for School Cloud and how to book a parent's consultation with their child/ren's class teacher. Individual personalised log-ons are required to access the system and these were printed on the reverse of the letter that you received.

Please, book an appointment on line to meet with your child's class teacher. If you are having any problems using the system, please refer to the help sheet that was included with your letter, or if necessary please contact the school office.

The link to access School Cloud is <https://edithcavellprimary.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Comic Relief – Friday 19th March

Next Friday is Comic Relief; we will be raising money to support this charity by asking the children to bring a minimum cash donation of £1 on the day, or you can make a minimum donation via the following link which sends donations directly to Comic Relief.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=2688>

In school to celebrate we are inviting those who have made a donation to the charity to come to school in

their own clothes with **crazy hair**. They may use colour, hair ornaments or any non-permanent way to make their hair look crazy.

We look forward to seeing how creative the children can be.



Polling Day – 6th May 2021

Bedford Borough have notified the school that it is no longer required to be used a polling station on Thursday 6th May 2021. **School will be open as normal on this day and all children should attend.**

Children's Centres Consultation

I have been asked to share with parents the link to the Bedford Borough consultation around the local Children's Centres.

If you wish to contribute to the consultation before it closes next week, you can do so here before

<https://www.bedford.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/have-your-say/consultations/children-centre-consultation/>

World Book Day



Thank you to parents for making such an effort with costumes for children on World Book Day. It was amazing to see all the different costumes that children in school and at home were wearing to represent their favourite book characters.

All the activities that children took part in, including decorating a potato were really memorable and made staff and pupils smile.

I hope that every child will be able to use their £1 book voucher towards a book of their choice when shops re-open. Please don't forget about the digital vouchers.

Bedford Borough Parents and Carer Survey

I have also been asked to share with families the link for all parents to contribute and give their opinions about the home learning that Edith Cavell provided during the most recent lockdown. If you wish to share your thoughts, please follow this link.

<https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/FBRPMKY>

Counter Terrorism

In the UK recently, the terrorism threat level has been reduced. I have been asked to share a link to this new national web site that anyone can use if they are at all worried about any activity in the local area that could be related to extremism. We will also be placing a link to this web site on the school web site so that parents can access it again in the future should they feel the need.

www.actearly.uk



www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

Ditto e-safety Magazine – new edition



The e-safety magazine Ditto has a new edition.

In this edition parents can find advice about children's rights, leaving a digital footprint, You Tube, and Instagram.

<https://www.esafety-adviser.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/DITTO-Ed-24-March-2021.pdf>

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 displayed on the school web site.

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.



If any family are eligible, even for a short time, the school will receive financial support for six years, so any applications that are successful will support you and the school.

Packed Lunches

If your child brings a packed lunch in to school, please ensure it is healthy (no chocolate spread sandwiches 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, crisps or sweets should be brought to school as these are not healthy snacks.**

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

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.

Parking on any form of yellow lines, on any of the roads surrounding the school, is risking the safety of all road users and pedestrians and we kindly ask that parents refrain from violating the Highway Code.



Stars of the Week
February 2021

Amber

Elsie
Mariyum
Kian

Topaz

Eusebiu
Miller
Damian

Pearl

Gina
Kayla
Jesse

Emerald

Year 1 KW Bubble
Isadora
Jessica H

Jade

Sheila
Kelvin
Esmae

Opal

John Paul
Tereza
Hooriya

Ruby

Isaiah
Annabella
Eden

Garnet

Erinayo
Koko
Piotr

Quartz

Mateusz
Julia
Dia

Aquamarine

Muhammad
Emaan
Ava

Sapphire

Silvia
Sapphire Class
Anna

Dates – Spring 2021

Fri 26th March End of Spring term

Summer 2021

Tue 13th April 1st day back for children
Tue 20th Individual photographs
Mon 3rd May May Day – School closed
Fri 28th School finishes for Half Term

Mon 7th June 1st Day back for children
Wed 23rd Class photographs
Thur 22nd July Last day of term – End of the school year

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>
<https://www.bedford.gov.uk/schools-education-and-childcare/schools-and-collegescadem/school-term-and-holiday-dates/>