



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

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Newsletter – May 2021

A note from Miss Cooke

As we approach the half term holiday, I wanted to keep all families informed and hopefully reassured of how we are continuing to observe Covid protocols during this time of increased infection rate in Bedford.

We will be keeping in place staggered start and end of the school day, to limit the number of parents accessing the site at any one time. We ask that parents continue to wear a face mask when they are on the school site. We also ask that parents maintain social distancing when waiting before or at the end of the school day.

Within school, children continue to sit in rows in classrooms, observe a one-way system around the school, do not mix phase bubbles and continue to wash their hands regularly. Staff continue to wear masks in communal areas of the school and are undertaking Lateral Flow Tests twice a week. Through these measures we hope that it will not be necessary to close further bubbles, but that hope is reliant on parents, families and staff continuing to exercise caution when interacting with others outside school.

Although national restrictions have been relaxed, it is very important that everyone in Bedford continues to exercise caution when meeting up with friends and family.

Below is information issued by the Local Authority about surge testing in four wards in the town. If you live in one of these wards, please go and get tested. This will help to protect all in Bedford and our school.

We are all looking forward to life returning to some sort of 'normality.' But must still be vigilant and careful with social interactions. Please remember the government advice – Hands, Face, Space, Fresh Air

Miss Cooke

Update from Bedford Borough regarding the recent increase in Covid 19 cases in Bedford

A COVID-19 variant of concern has been identified in Bedford Borough and we're urging **everyone who lives in Queens Park, Cauldwell, Kingsbrook or Wixams to take a PCR test.**

If you live in one of these areas Mobile Testing Units will be available for drop ins from Thursday 20 May until Friday 28 May with no appointment necessary:

- Oasis Beach Pool, Cardington Road, Kingsbrook, Bedford, MK42 0BZ (8am to 6pm)
- John Bunyan Sports and Fitness, Mile Road, Cauldwell, Bedford, MK42 9TS (8am to 6pm)
- Enterprise House, Old Ford End Road, Queens Park, Bedford, MK40 4PF (8am to 5pm)
- Seasons Garden Centre, Bedford Road, Wixams, MK45 3HU (8.30am to 6pm)



Further collect and drop off points for tests will be available in each of the areas from Friday at London Road Surgery, Cauldwell Community Centre, Althorpe Street, Queens Park Community Centre and Lakeview Village Hall at the Wixams and these will be open 8am-6pm.

Don't attend a Mobile Testing Unit if you have symptoms of COVID-19, as you could spread the virus to other people. Anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19 must self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test by calling 119 or visiting www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

Free tests are available in Bedford. Book your test at nhs.uk/coronavirus or by calling 119 now.

- If you have any of the symptoms of coronavirus you must self-isolate and get tested.
- No one in your household should leave home if anyone has symptoms.
- If you test positive for coronavirus, you must share information about where you have been and who you have met, with the NHS Test and Trace service, helping us all to stop the virus spreading and save lives.

Bike Safety

Unfortunately, a couple of weeks ago a child's bike was stolen from inside one of the school's bike sheds during the school day.



We encourage children to ride their bikes to school as part of a healthy life style, but school cannot accept any responsibility for those bikes while they are on the school site. So we encourage anyone with a particularly expensive, particularly desirable bike, to ensure that they use their own lock on their bike during the day.

As a response to this incident, the school has started to lock the door of the bike shed on the KS2 playground during the school day, but there are still short periods of time when the bike shed is accessible. Also, if a child is being collected early from school, and has to collect a bike from the store on KS2 playground, this will take longer as the bike shed will have to be unlocked.

School Social Media Accounts

The school has launched its social media accounts on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.



We intend to use these social media accounts to share with parent's information, events and reminders about things that are happening in school.

These social media accounts will be closely monitored by the school and we hope they will prove to be popular.

No social media accounts should be used as an opportunity to make a complaint, attack an individual or moan about a situation in school. If any parent has a concern they **MUST** continue to approach the school in the same ways that they do at present.

One of the most important parts of e-safety that we teach to the children is that an individual should not express something on line that they would not be prepared to say to a person's face. We expect parents to support us with this message and adhere to it in relation to the school social media accounts.

Change of Training Day

A screenshot of a 'Weekly Calendar Template' showing a grid of months from September 2021 to August 2022. The template includes a search bar at the top and a grid of days with some dates highlighted in blue.

After seeing the Bedford Borough proposed academic calendar for next year, we have applied and have been granted the permission to change the date of one of the proposed training days next academic year.

For ease for parents, a training day will start each new term and will not take place after a half term holiday.

The four training days for the academic year 2021 -2022 will take place on:

Thursday 2nd September 2021

Friday 3rd September 2021

Tuesday 4th January 2022

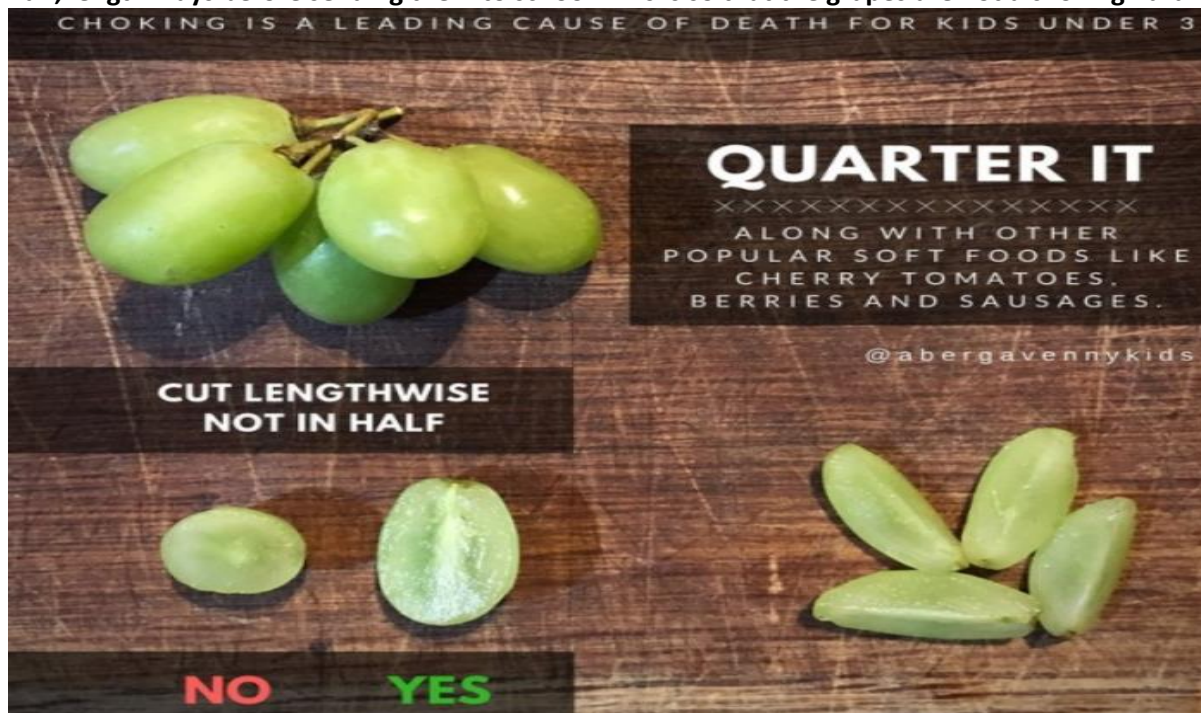
Tuesday 19th April 2022

The full list of term dates is laid out towards the end of this newsletter and a pectoral calendar page showing term time and holiday dates is available on the school web site.

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.**

If the snacks that you are providing for children in Reception or KS1 are grapes, we ask that you cut the grapes in half, length ways before sending them to school. This is so that the grapes are not a choking hazard.



Happy Shoes Day – Friday 28th May

As part of our walk to school strategy, we are going to be holding a *Happy Shoes Day*. To mark this day, we are asking all children to come to school in odd shoes if they walk to school, even if they walk part of the way.

Of course we want everyone to stay safe and enjoy the day so we ask that the shoes have flat soles and are approximately the same height.

Please avoid heelies, football boots and high heeled shoes.

We look forward to seeing your odd shoes next Friday.



Sustran – 10 minute challenges and Margo the Cargo

Please look out for a couple of activities that children and families could be involved with over half term. We will be sending out via email, a ten-minute challenge from Sustran along with a competition that children could enter.

Naming school sweatshirts and cardigans.



I am sure that all parents put their child's name in their school jumper or cardigan at the start of the school year. I am also certain that jumpers and cardigans have been washed many, many times since the start of the year.

As we are moving towards the warmer weather, please could all parents re-name their child's jumper and cardigans so that if children remove them during the warmer weather they can be returned to the correct owner. If there are no names in articles of clothing, it is extremely difficult

to ensure they gets back to the rightful owners.

Ditto – Online Safety Magazine

The free online safety magazine, DITTO Edition 24 is now available for download. It's a PDF file and you can download directly by clicking the link below.

Included in this edition is

- Children's Rights
- Digital Footprint
- YouTube Supervised Experience
- On Off Screen Relationships
- Instagram Live Rooms
- Brand New Parents Section

<https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/>

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 the Attendance Bear in April have been:

12th - 16th April

Garnet, Jade and Sapphire Class

19th - 23rd April

Garnet and Ruby Class

26th - 30th April

Sapphire Class

Stars of the Week
April 2021

Amber

Areez
Monty

Topaz

Cong
Nabila
Kai

Pearl

Chido
Claudia
Sophia

Emerald

Eliza
Irine
Ryker

Jade

Cameron
Kenzo
Harees

Opal

Bradley
Nathan
Malvina

Ruby

Henry
Nathan
Imogen

Garnet

Koko
Wiktorja
Maria

Quartz

Lui
Amelia
Reece

Aquamarine

Jason
Filip
Charlotte

Sapphire

Kristo
Wojciech
Ruby

Dates - Summer 2021

May

Fri 28th Happy Shoes Day
School finishes for Half Term

June

Mon 7th 1st Day back for children
Wed 23rd Class photographs

July

Fri 2nd Race for Life
Fri 9th End of school year Reports out to parents
Tue 13th Parent Consultations if required
Thur 22nd Last day of term – End of the school year

Autumn term 2021

Training Days – Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd September 2021
Children return - Monday 6th September 2021
Half term: Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October 2021
Children return – **Monday 1st November 2021** (Change from previous newsletter)
Term Ends: Friday 17th December 2021

Spring Term 2022

Training Day – Tuesday 4th January 2022
Children return - Wednesday 5th January 2022
Half Term: Monday 14th February – Friday 18th February 2022
Term Ends: Friday 1st April 2022

Summer Term 2022

Training Day – Tuesday 19th April 2022
Children return – Wednesday 20th April 2022
May Day – Monday 2nd May 2022
Half Term: Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2022
Term Ends: Friday 22nd July 2022