



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

Headteacher: Miss Heather Cooke

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<https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/>

Newsletter – March 2022

A message from Miss Cooke

As the end of the Spring term is approaching, I wanted to write one more newsletter out to parents before the Easter holidays.

I firstly want to say a **HUGE** thank you to families and friends who supported our sponsored skip back in February. We have raised over a **MASSIVE** £2,000. This is an amazing amount in the current financial climate and I cannot begin to say how grateful we are for the huge effort that families put in to raising that amazing amount of money.

We have told the children that we will be spending £1,000 on new reading books, but also each class may choose £100 of books to expand the reading stock on their class library shelves. In that way each class will be able to choose books for their class libraries that they are interested in and want to read. We hope that as the books start to arrive in school after Easter that we can take photographs and share on social media so that you can see the books that have been purchased with the money raised. If anyone has yet to forward the money that they raised for the sponsored bounce, we are still very happy to receive further donations and funds.

As you may be aware, the rates of Covid infection in Bedford have been rising again in the past couple of weeks. This is reflecting the national trend. This means that we all still need to be vigilant and take precautions to prevent the spread of the virus.

As a school we will continue to follow Public Health advice and if a child is displaying Covid symptoms, we will ask parents to collect their child, complete a PCR test, and inform the school of the results of that test. If the test results are negative and the child does not have a temperature, they may return to school. If the results of the test are positive, they should isolate at home. On day five, they can take an LFT test and if that test is negative, take another LFT test 24 hours later. If the second test is negative, then the child can return to school.

In school we have also seen the rise of children and staff suffering with upset stomachs and heavy colds. The cold like symptoms are very similar to Covid symptoms and so we urge parents to test their children if they are suffering with cold like symptoms including a temperature, cough and runny nose.

As a result of the increase in these two viral infections, in school we are again highlighting the importance of good hand hygiene and reminding the children of the importance of washing their hands carefully with soap and water to stop the spread of germs.

The Easter holidays will provide a natural break in the spread of Covid and other illnesses, but when we return to school, it will be very important to maintain the good habits around hand hygiene to try and keep infection rates in various viral infections as low as possible.

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By working together, we can continue to keep as many children and staff in school as possible and continue to keep children learning.

Just a reminder – The children return to school for the summer term on **Wednesday 20th April 2022**

Please stay safe.

Miss Cooke

Early Finish on Friday 1st April 2022

A reminder that parents may collect their children Early at 1.45pm on Friday 1st April 2022. If parents wish their Y5 and 6 children to be released at 1.45pm to walk home alone, permission must be given via this link <https://forms.gle/X57tvZ3rEu4Lhn5x7>

There will be just two points at which children may be collected or dismissed, either the early finish time indicated in the table below, **or** at the normal end of day from their collection/dismissal point listed – **not** at any other time.

GEMS – Afterschool Club

The after school club will be available **until 4.30pm on Friday 1st April 2022** and bookings should be made in the normal way via Parent Pay.

Price Increase for Breakfast and After School Club

In light of recent well publicised increases in the cost of basic goods and services, it has been necessary to review the charges for our breakfast and after school clubs.

We have not raised our charges for these clubs for two and a half years, but in the current set of price rises nationally, it cannot be avoided.

From after the Easter holidays, when we return to school for the summer term on Wednesday 20th April 2022, the new prices are outlined below.

	Current charge	New charge from 20/4/22
Breakfast Club		
Cash payment	£4.20	£4.30
Parentpay	£4.00	£4.10
After School Club		
First hour of care		
Cash Payment	£4.70	£4.80
Parentpay	£4.50	£4.60
2 hours		
Cash Payment	£8.20	£8.30
Parentpay	£8.00	£8.10

The price rises constitute a 50p per week increase for Breakfast club and either a 50p or £1 per week increase for after school club depending on one or two-hour booking. We hope that you agree this still constitutes value for money.

Price Increase for school uniform

We have also been informed by our uniform suppliers that there will be (a small) increase in the cost of branded school uniform from April 2022.

	Current charge	New charge from 01/04/22
Sweatshirts	£9.25	£9.50
Cardigans	£10.75	£11.25
Embroidered Bookbag	£4.00	£5.00
Satchel Bag	£7.00	£7.70

Easter Play Scheme

Over the Easter holidays, SSG are running a play scheme that will be based at Edith Cavell. If parents require child care over the holidays they can book and use this service.

If a child is entitled to FSM (Not infant free school meals) then they can book a place Free of Charge.

Book online: www.SSGservices.co.uk

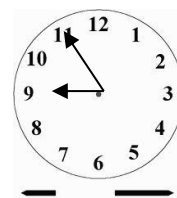
Call us on: 01234 340782

Email: info@ssgservices.co.uk



Punctuality

We have noticed recently an increase in the number of children that are arriving at school after the 8.55am bell when classroom doors are closed. This is a very worrying trend and we ask that you make concerted efforts to ensure that your child is in school and ready for registration at 8.55am. Being late regularly has a negative impact on your child's learning. We will be keeping careful records of children that are late and the reasons for lateness. These will be passed on to the Education Welfare Officer in cases where there is persistent lateness.



We would like to remind all parents that children should NOT play on the outside play equipment, or field at the start or end of the day and that scooters and bikes should not be ridden on the school grounds.

Parental Supervision

It has been noticed on a number of occasions that children in Year 4 or below are not being accompanied to school each morning and are being left on the playground before school without suitable supervision.

The safety, behaviour and well-being of the children remains with parents until 8.45am each morning. This means that all children below Y5 should be brought to school every morning and parents **MUST** wait with their children and see them go in to school safely. Any parents who are not complying with this are being neglectful to their children. Should parents require children to be supervised by school staff before 8.45am, they can make a booking for Breakfast club that operates from 8am every morning. Details of breakfast club can be found on the school web site or from the school office. Any children below Year 4 who are seen arriving at school unsupervised by an **adult**, will be noted and parents contacted. If the situation continues parents will be expected to attend a meeting with Miss Cooke to discuss the situation.



Camping trips for Year 4, 5 and 6.

Thank you to all parents who attended one of the briefing events about the camping events coming up in June. For those parents who were not able to join one of the meetings, a copy of the information powerpoint has been added to the school web site. <https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/school-trips-and-visits/>



Further information and copies of the forms to be completed and returned will be added to this section as we get closer to the visits.

Payment schedules have been set up on ParentPay. If you have any issues with payment or forms, please contact the office and note that we will **NOT** be accepting any cash.

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Parents Online Safety Videos



Over the past few weeks we have been sending to parents the links to a series of Online Safety Videos presented by Alan Mackenzie. These videos will be available for parents to access until the end of the calendar year. Please see the series of emails that you have been sent for links to these videos.

Change to Term Dates – Additional Bank Holiday for Queen’s Platinum Jubilee

School Closed Friday 22nd July 2022

To help celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee this year, an additional bank holiday has been put into the National calendar for 2022. As the day assigned as the additional bank holiday has been placed within the May Half term holiday, schools have been asked to add the bank holiday into their school term dates.

The Governors have agreed that the additional day of holiday will be the final day of the school year on Friday 22nd July 2022.

Therefore, the final day of the school year, the final day that the children will be in school before the summer holidays will be Thursday 21st July 2022. **The school will be closed on Friday 22st July 2022.**



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

A message from the Friends of Edith Cavell

BIG NEWS!

After 2 long years with no summer fair... It's back! Bigger and better than ever!
FOEC present this year's summer fair (finally...!):

THE GREAT BIG BOUNCY ONE

Thursday 14th July from 3.30pm to 5.30pm:

Featuring bouncy castles, bouncy slides, bouncy assault courses, Miss Cooke's famous bottle stall, soft play, hot dogs, popcorn and even candy floss!
There's something for everyone (bring the family!) - as we bring our amazing school community together and share some fun in the sun!

Lots more details to come, but right now - WE NEED VOUNTEERS to run the stalls and the inflatables so that we can make this fair a reality!

If you can help then please contact Abi on 07740463638 and be part of the biggest, bounciest one yet!

A message from the Governors



A message from the governors - Wellbeing and Personnel Committee

We mentioned in our previous newsletter that our next instalment about how we govern the school would be about the Wellbeing and Personnel committee, the second of our three formal committees (the other two committees being Finance and Health & Safety, which we outlined last newsletter, and Curriculum, which we will cover next term).

Originally this committee was just called the 'Personnel Committee', where the governors and the senior team would simply discuss the team needs of the school (e.g. need for a new teacher assistant because one of the team was retiring), but the governors were worried that just discussing 'personnel' issues did not reflect the additional 'wellbeing' needs of the current team. Therefore, in addition to personnel issues, the committee discusses the wellbeing needs of all the staff members and has put in place processes and activities that support wellbeing. This started with a member of the staff team, given the role of championing the wellbeing needs of the whole team, feeding back to the governors how everyone is doing and putting in place activities that help alleviate some of the pressure on the team overall.

As you will all hopefully appreciate, the school has been under an enormous amount of pressure in responding to and handling the issues Covid has thrown at the school, so the governors are very mindful of everyone's health and wellbeing at what is still a very difficult time for schools, parents and children.

In terms of the make-up of the actual committee, these include the Committee Chair, who was the previous Chair of governors for the school and has been a governor at the school for almost eight years, so knows the team and school really well, a parent governor and a further co-opted, both of who have known and worked with the school for over five years now. All three have a combination of deep business and education experience that they bring to the roles.

As ever, parents should talk to Headteacher, Miss. Cooke, if they are interested in becoming a governor or want to know more about the role of governors.

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 February have been

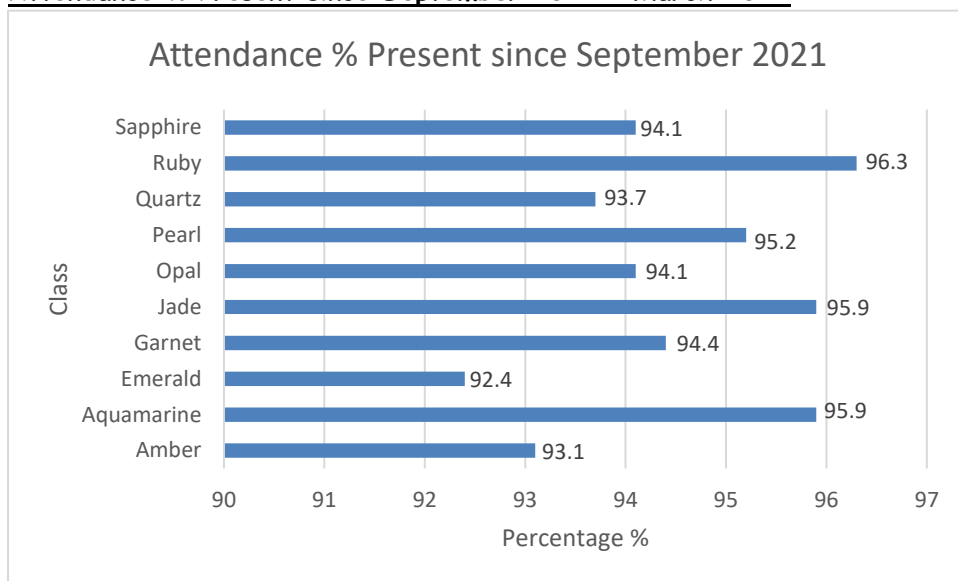


31st Jan – 4th Feb Aquamarine Class

7th – 11th Feb Jade Class

21st – 25th Feb Jade Class

Attendance % Present since September 2021 – March 2022



Academic Year 2021 – 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

Children return – **Monday 6th June 2022**

Term Ends: Thursday 21st July 2022 – change from previously published date

Please take note of Edith Cavell term dates – Local schools may have different term dates.

Dates – Spring 2022

April

Fri 1st End of Term – early finish 1.45pm

Summer Term 2022

April

Wed 20th First day back for children

Tue 26th Y5 Sports Festival – Castle Newnham (Selected children)

May

Mon 2nd **School closed – May Day**

Wed 4th Aqua – Sports Festival

Mon 9th Year 6 SAT tests

Emerald – Sports Festival

Fri 13th Pyjamarama

Wed 18th Y6 Sports Festival (Selected children)

Mon 23rd Bikability

Tue 24th Y3/4 Quad Kids Sports Festival (Selected children)

Fri 27th Half term

June

Mon 6th First day back at school for children

Wed 8th Y3 Adventure Day

Y5/6 Cricket competition (Selected children)

Thur 9th Y4 Camping Trip

Mon 13th Y5 Camping Trip

Tue 14th Y6 Camping Trip

Mon 20th SEN parents' consultations

Tue 21st Y5/6 Girls football festival (Selected children)

Wed 22nd Class Photographs

New Reception Parents evening – 6pm

July

Mon 4th Year 6 Transition Day – Dependant on school transferring to

Tue 5th Year 6 Transition Day – Dependant on school transferring to

Wed 6th Year 6 Transition Day – Dependant on school transferring to

Friday 8th Race for Life

Annual Reports to parents

Mon 11th UKS2 Sports morning

Tue 12th LKS2 Sports morning

Nursery Sports

Parent consultations – if required

Wed 13th KS1 Sports Morning

Y6 Leavers Concert – 6.30pm

Thur 14th Open Afternoon – 2.30pm

FoEC Summer Fair – 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Fri 15th Reception Sports morning

Thur 21st End of School Year

Stars of the Week

February 2022

Amber

Kachi
Dawid
Ray

Pearl

Pearl Class
Claudia
Mikolaj

Emerald

Joshua
Dalton
Nimrat

Jade

Kian
Remel
Mariyum

Opal

Kevin
Opal Class
Leah

Ruby

Eliza
Smayani
Isla

Garnet

Kaio
Ava
Saoirse

Quartz

Mia
Quartz Class
Ayaan

Aquamarine

Annabella
Jenna
Emaan

Sapphire

Amine
Safaah

COVID-19 Guidance for Parents/Carers in Bedford Borough Education Settings From 24th Feb 2022

For any **SUSPECTED** or **CONFIRMED** case of COVID-19 in a young person please follow the flow chart below.

