

EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH Head teacher: Miss Heather Cooke Tel:01234 345636 E-mail <u>office@ecls.org.uk</u> <u>www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk</u>

Newsletter – March 2023

A message from Miss Cooke

I want to say a huge THANK YOU to all parents who supported our two recent breakfast events, breakfast with a book to celebrate World Book Day and Mother's Day breakfast. It was wonderful to see so many parents and children enjoying chatting and enjoying breakfast together.

My second THANK YOU is to everyone for their efforts towards our Sponsored Skip. The sponsor money has been flowing in steadily and the current total that we have raised is **£1,792.80**. If you have not yet returned your child's sponsorship money, please do so before we break up for the Easter holidays either in cash or via Parent Pay. We will be using the money to purchase new reading books, but each class will also be allocated an amount to purchase reading books for their class library.

We have had a large number of children and families join our school since the start of the academic year which is fantastic. I know that joining a new school is initially a learning curve for parents and children as all become familiar with established routines, regular events and the way in which the school operates. To any new parents, if there is ever anything that you are unsure about, please do not hesitate to ask, in person, via email or by making a phone call. To all our existing parents who may have been at the school for a while, please try and make new friends of our new parents and help them out by explaining some of the routines and expectations that surround our school year. Thank you.

I have started to notice that there are a number of children who are not wearing school shoes each day. Our uniform policy does require all children to wear school shoes as part of school uniform and NOT TRAINERS. I understand that many families are experiencing testing financial times in the current cost of living crisis, but children should all have well-fitting school shoes as part of their uniform. Trainers should only be worn for PE. Any shoes with white soles, are not classed as school shoes and should not be worn as part of school uniform.

As we approach the Easter holidays, I hope all families have a restful holiday and that the weather continues to show us some signs of Spring and gets a bit warmer. We return to school for the Summer term on **Tuesday 18**th **April 2023.**

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to me in the playground or make an appointment to come and see me.

Míss Cooke







Early finish on Friday 31st March 2023

We would like to give parents the opportunity to collect their children early on the afternoon of the last day of term, Friday 31st March 2023. Children may be collected at **1.45pm**.

Any child may stay in school until the normal end of the school day if parents are working or they do not wish to collect them early.

Please note: Year 5 and Year 6 children will not be allowed to leave early without the school receiving a completed form from parents. Forms have been emailed to parents.

Parents may collect their child/ren at the early finish time from their normal class. Any children not collected at the early finish time, will be cared for in their phase groups until the normal end of day.

GEMS – Afterschool Club

The after school club will be available <u>until 4.30pm on Friday 31st March 2023</u> and bookings should be made in the normal way via Parent Pay.

Parent Showcases – Week commencing Mon 27th March

We are going to be introducing a new event to invite parents into school to view their children's school books, see art work, presentations and have discussions with staff and children about the learning that the children have been engaged with this term. These Key Stage Showcases will take place in the hall from 2.30pm.



be on display in the hall and will show that to their parents along with explaining how the particular piece of learning fits into the programme of learning that they have been engaged in this term.

KS1 Parent Showcase – Monday 27th March from 2.30pm

UKS2 Parent Showcase – Tuesday 28th March from 2.30pm (*Change of day from previous newsletter*) LKS2 Parent Showcase – Wednesday 29th March from 2.30pm (*Change of day from previous newsletter*) Reception Parent Showcase – Thursday 30th March from 2.30pm

Children and siblings may go home with their parents after they have visited the Showcase

Breakfast and After School Clubs

Our Breakfast and After School Clubs are both very popular clubs with many children attending each day. Payment for any sessions required at Breakfast or After School Club **MUST** be booked and paid for prior to the session being taken. Sessions must be booked and paid for via Parent Pay. A guide on how to make a booking on Parent Pay can be found on our school website at

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/For-Parents-How-

to-make-meal-or-event-bookings.pdf

If you need to make an emergency booking for After School Club, during the school day, please phone the school office and make the payment for the session as soon as possible.

If you have any problems with using the Parent pay system, please contact the school office for support.

Bedfordshire University are offering Free English classes for the community

The University of Bedfordshire are offering language improvement classes that focus on everyday communication. There is no charge as these classes are taught by trainee teachers under supervision and run during term time each Tuesday from March to May (and again between October and Christmas).



They currently offer two levels: intermediate in the morning, and a lower level in the afternoon (Participants don't always know their level and so the University expects a bit of a range).

09-50am for the 10.00-12.00 class - intermediate

11.50am for the 12.00-14.00 class - elementary-ish

If any interested parents go to the University of Bedfordshire Gateway Building reception (main building); (Polihill Avenue) University staff will meet them there. People can dip in and out, although more progress is made with regular attendance.

For queries, please contact, <u>Claudia.saraceni@beds.ac.uk</u>

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk



Late collection

School ends at 3.30pm for children who must be collected from school and all parents and carers should be waiting for their child to be released to them from their class at this time. If parents are not waiting for their child at this time, it can cause children to become anxious and distressed.

We have seen an increase in parents repeatedly 'running late' and not arriving to collect their children until after 3.40pm.



We keep a record of children who are regularly late being collected and you will be reminded by the class teacher and Miss Cooke that you should collect at 3.30pm. If late collection continues, your child will be put into After School Club, after 3.40pm and you will be charged for the first hour of care. Staff well-being is affected and workload is significantly increased if they are regularly having to supervise children who are late being collected.

Monday 8th May – Additional Bank Holiday to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III



In the term dates included on the end of this newsletter, we list the additional Bank Holiday that has been granted to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles. School will be closed on this day. It will re-open on Tuesday 9th May 2023.

PE Kit and footwear



Across the school we have seen an increase in the number of children not having their PE kit in school on the correct days and also not having correctly fitting footwear.

It is important for Health and Safety that children are able to change their clothing into more lose fitting, less restrictive clothing to take part in PE lessons and even more important that they have correctly fitting shoes that

are appropriate for physical activity.

PE kits can remain in school for the half term to ensure that they are available on any day that the class engages in PE activities, or your if child is part of an after school PE based club.

PE lessons are a vital part of the school curriculum and help to build a healthy attitude to exercise as well as develop gross and fine motor skills for life. All children need to be able to take part fully and comfortably.

Parent advice and support for Online Safety

Each month we try and provide parents with access to articles and advice on how they can continue to support their children at home with being safe online.

This month we are providing a link to Digital Parenting Pro. This is a resources for



parents including information, YouTube videos, and an interactive resource providing information about parental controls and safety settings.

Everything is free and you can find further information **<u>HERE</u>**.

Video Games and Reading

As much as people talk about the negatives of gaming, games playing can be hugely beneficial in many ways such as promoting teamwork, problem-solving, critical thinking and so much more, including reading. This is particularly true for those children who are reluctant to read or who are struggling. Andy Robertson from Ask About Games has put together a great little selection of games which you can find <u>HERE</u>

Message from Friends of Edith Cavell – (FoEC)

Thank you for everyone who has supported our events over the Spring term.

We look forward to next term's events and the Summer Fair which will be held on Thursday 6th July! Like previous years, this will be an Inflatables wrist band event.

More details to follow.

Our school library is almost complete and we look forward to seeing the children and staff use this new resource once the final stage has been completed.

A big thank you to all the volunteers that have supported events during this half term.

If you would like to help please do get in touch with the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Abi

Message from the School Governors

The governors at Edith Cavell visit the school regularly to learn about its work and to get to know the staff and pupils. A group of governors who are part of the Curriculum committee have spent an afternoon in school every term. They have been meeting and discussing with different subject leads to gain an understanding of the scope of the curriculum and pupils' learning in school. These discussions and classroom visits enable governors to make informed contributions during the committee meetings that follow and ensure we continue to support Miss Cooke and the staff in the development of the school. It is always a privilege to visit Edith Cavell and governors greatly appreciate the time and commitment of staff and the warm welcome we receive. We look forward to opportunities to visit again in the terms ahead.

G Bishop Chair of Governors

Class emails

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 <u>office@ecls.org.uk</u>

Class	Email address
Pearl	pearl@ecls.org.uk
Opal	opal@ecls.org.uk
Quartz	<u>quartz@ecls.org.uk</u>
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





Important Dates - Spring Term 2023

Mon 27th March Tue 28 th Wed 29 th Thur 30 th Friday 31 st	KS1 Parent Showcase from 2.30pm UKS2 Parent Showcase from 2.30pm (<i>Change of day from previous newsletter</i>) LKS2 Parent Showcase from 2.30pm (<i>Change of day from previous newsletter</i>) Reception Parent Showcase from 2.30pm Last Day of Spring Term – early finish from 1.45pm
Summer Term 2023	
Tue 18 th April	1 st day back at school for children
Tue 25 th	Quartz Class – sports festival
Mon 1 st May	School closed – May Day
Mon 8 th May	School closed – Bank holiday for King's Coronation
Tue 9 th	Y6 SAT tests
Wed 10 th	Y6 SAT tests
Thur 11 th	Y6 SAT tests
Fri 12 th	Y6 SAT tests
Mon 15 th	Pearl Class – sports festival
Friday 26 th	School closes for half term
Mon 5 th June	1 st Day back at school for children
Wed 7 th	Y3 Adventure Day
Thur 8 th	Y5/6 sports festival – selected children
Fri 9 th	Jade Class – Sports festival
Wed 14 th	Y4 Camping Trip
Fri 16 th	Father's Day breakfast
Tue 20 th	Y5/6 sports festival – selected children
Thur 6 th July	Open Afternoon
	FoEC Summer Fair
Fri 7 th	Reports sent out to parents for Reception to Y5
Wed 12 th	Yes 6 reports sent to parents
Fri 21 st	End of School Year

<u> Academic Year 2022 – 2023</u>

Spring Term 2023

Training Day – Tuesday 3rd January 2023 Children return - **Wednesday 4th January 2023** Half Term: Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February 2023 Children return – **Monday 20th February 2023** Term Ends: Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term 2023

Training Day – Monday 17th April 2023 Children return – **Tuesday 18th April 2023** May Day – Monday 1st May 2023 **Additional Bank Holiday – Monday 8th May – Change from previously published dates** Half Term: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2023 Children return – **Monday 5th June 2023** Term Ends: Friday 21st July 2023 The school term dates for 2022 – 2023 and 2023 – 2024 are available on the school web site.

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk