



# EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing*

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

Headteacher: Miss Heather Cooke

Tel: 01234 345636 E-mail [office@ecls.org.uk](mailto:office@ecls.org.uk)

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

## ***Newsletter – September 2022***

### **A message from Miss Cooke**

Welcome back to the 2022 – 2023 academic year. I hope that everyone had a great summer holiday and enjoyed the good weather that we were blessed with this year.

I know from personal experience that getting back into that school routine, while strangely comforting can be a challenge at the start of September. It was wonderful to see happy smiles and positive comments on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September as I wandered through the playground before school. The punctuality of most children in the first few days has been fantastic and I really thank parents and families for making that effort to have children in school on time and with all the equipment that they need. I appeal to all families to keep up this great start all year and ensure that the children are all in school before 8.55am. Children who are here at 8.45am benefit from an additional 10 minutes of learning time every day. This adds up to 50 minutes a week, and nearly 6 hours over a half term, so please try to have the children coming into school at 8.45am each day. We don't want to waste any learning time.

We have welcomed some new members of staff to the school this term.

Mrs Gaynor O'Dell is the class teacher in Aquamarine Class.

Miss Ellesse Bondon is the class teacher in Emerald Class.

Mrs Karen Griffin has joined the staff team in the Office, Mrs Lucia Viglione and Ms Alison Spoor have resumed their roles as Teaching Assistants across the school.

Mrs Dani Bowering and Mrs Sarah Jarman have joined our Midday Supervisor Team.

We welcome all these staff to the Edith Cavell staff team and look forward to working with them going forward.

You may have noticed that our Parking buddies are positioned at each of the entrances to the school. These buddies are encouraging you to think about how you are travelling to school each day and the impact that your decisions have on the environment. Please consider, where possible walking to school and if you have to drive, consider parking further away from the school and then walking into school – Park and Stride.

Just a reminder that no child should be seen with a mobile phone on school grounds. If phones are seen by staff, they will be confiscated and parents will need to come and collect them from Miss Cooke. We would also strongly request that when parents collect their children from school that they are able to direct their full attention to greeting their child after a day at school rather than engaged on their mobile phones.



Each month when I send out Newsletters I will continue to try and include advice and information to parents about Online or e-safety. As all aspects of our lives becomes increasingly digitalised, keeping children safe online is imperative. We place a very high emphasis on this in school. In all year groups, Reception to Year 6, we directly teach about being safe online and discuss scenarios constantly to raise awareness about keeping safe when using the internet. Online safety also extends to the use of mobile phones, gaming, the use of social media and email and these are all topics that are covered in our teaching. The online world is very fast

[www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk](http://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk)

moving and to support parents, children, and schools, Internet Matters have created dedicated hubs on their website for early years, primary and secondary aged children. These hubs are full of information and resources, including common issues, top apps, and platforms, resources, and advice. The hubs are updated regularly. Direct links to these hubs are:

Early Years - <https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/pre-school/>

Primary - <https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/primary/>

Secondary - <https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/secondary/>

At the end of this newsletter, I have included two guides from The National Online Safety website. I will be sharing these publications regularly with parents.

If parents have any issues or questions that arise, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school, preferably via email or phone and staff will do all that they can to assist you.

I look forward to continuing to work with every child and every family over the coming year and further developing the family of Edith Cavell.

*Miss Cooke*

### **Home School Agreement**

Each year we ask parents and children to review and sign the Home School Agreement. This agreement is a way of outlining the partnership between home and school to support the children to maximise the learning opportunities that they are given both in school and at home. The key for all the children to be successful, flourish and develop in all areas of their life is a positive, mutually beneficial partnership between the school and home, where we are working together to support the children. If all parties work together to fulfil these commitments, the children will all benefit.

The Home School Agreement will be sent out to families in a following email.

We ask that all parents review this agreement and share it with their children.

PLEASE, PLEASE READ THE HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT CAREFULLY and note the support that as a school we are committing to providing, but also the actions that parents and children are committing to.

### **Supervision on the playground at the start and end of the day**

Parents are reminded that children in Year 4 and below, **must** be supervised by an adult until their start of school time in the morning and **must** be collected by an adult at the end of the day.

We ask that children do not access the field at the start of the day as the grass is often wet with dew and this will cause the child to have wet feet at the start of the day and also bring that wetness into the school flooring.

Children in Year 5 and 6 may walk to and from school independently, with their parents' permission. They are dismissed at the end of the day and there is no requirement for parents to collect them.



### **Permission to collect**

If you as a parent do not collect your child every day, please supply the school, in writing, a list of people who may collect your child on occasions. This may be grandparents, aunts, and uncles, or just friends of the family, but in order to keep your child safe, we must know who has your permission to collect your children. Anyone collecting children from school should be over the age of 16. If you know in the morning that someone other than a parent will be collecting your child that evening, please inform the class staff – via email if possible to the class email addresses listed below. If there is a change of collection arrangements over the day, please phone the school office to inform us and we will pass that information on to the class staff and your child.

### **Accelerated Reader**

We have launched our new reading scheme Accelerated Reader as we have returned for the new school year. Please look out for further information via an explanation letter about how the system works and how parents can support at home that will be sent separately to parents.

### **Parent Pay Shop**

Parents are reminded that school uniform can be ordered online on the school website in the Parent Pay shop.

On the Parent Pay Shop, you can order and pay for items of uniform from the school office. Once you have ordered and paid for your items, these can then be collected from the school office or we can have these dropped off at your child's class. You do not need a Parent Pay Account to be able to use this feature.

You can access the Parent Pay shop at

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=1083>



### **Second hand Uniform**

We have a sizable stock of second hand uniform in an array of sizes that is available to parents to purchase at £1 an item or free of charge to those entitled to means tested Free School Meals (not Universal Infant Free School Meals). If your child would benefit from additional pieces of uniform, please contact Mrs Cavill, Learning Mentor, via the school office.

As a school community, we can all support each other. If your youngest child has grown out of any part of their school uniform (including black school shoes) and it is still in good condition with plenty of life still in it, we would be very happy to accept clean donations. This is especially true of some larger sizes to fit children in UKS2.

### **Eligibility to Free School Meals.**



If you feel that your circumstances have changed and as a result, your child may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) we would **STRONGLY** request that you complete the eligibility form on the borough website. Even if you are only eligible for a short time, but register, the school receives vital extra funding for a number of years. We would also be

able to offer you a reduction in the cost of school visits, instrument tuition, second hand uniform free of charge and funding to cover the cost of providing lunches during main school holidays (summer, Christmas, and Easter).

This possible extra funding is becoming extremely important to the school in this time of decreasing school budgets. Even if your child has packed lunch and never has school dinners, you could still apply for FSM and become able to access the additional benefits as well as allowing the school to access the additional funding. Even if your child is in Reception or KS1 and they receive a Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM), please still complete the eligibility form if you feel your circumstances have changed and you may now qualify for FSM.

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).

### **Packed Lunches**

If your child brings a packed lunch into school, please ensure it is healthy (no chocolate spread sandwiches or packets of sweets 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.



## School milk



All children under the age of 5 are entitled to free school milk. If your child would like to continue having milk after their fifth birthday it can be ordered through "Coolmilk" either via our school website or at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)

## Water bottles

As part of our healthy eating programme children are encouraged to bring their water bottles. It has been scientifically proven that keeping hydrated and maintaining blood sugars assists children to concentrate for longer periods of time. They are available to buy water bottles from the office or Parent Pay Shop for £1 if you do not have one. Please also ensure it is named. Children should bring them into school every morning with water only in them and take them home at the end of the school day to wash and refill.



The number of children without water bottles in school every day has been steadily rising and this means that those children are not able to keep as readily hydrated, which hinders their learning.

**PLEASE PLEASE make sure that your child has a water bottle in school every day.**

## Healthy Snacks

We would like to remind parents that children may bring a small **healthy** snack into 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.**

## Harvest

Each year we hold a Harvest Festival assembly and we ask parents for donations that we then share between The Bedford Food Bank and SMART Prebend Street Centre. In the current cost of living crisis, we are well aware that families are using food banks more than ever before. We would like to support, where people are able to do so.

So **on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September**, we will place tables out on the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds. Any parents who feel that they would be able to donate a tin or packet of food such as breakfast cereals, pasta sauces, tinned veg, tomatoes, tinned meat, rice and sponge pudding, UHT milk, UHT fruit juice and tinned fruit, that can then be passed on to the two charities will be able to place items on these tables at the beginning or end of the school day.

As an alternative, The Bedford Food Bank has also suggested that parents may be able to make a 50p or £1 donation. On the school Parent Pay site, parents would have the option to make this donation.



## NSPCC Underwear Rule

In our PSHE lessons this term, we will be discussing the NSPCC's Underwear Rule. This is designed to teach pupils how to stay safe from sexual abuse without giving explicit information or telling scary stories or even using the term "sexual abuse". In the lesson, children will learn about the 'PANTS' acrostic, which stands for

- Privates are Private
- Always remember your body belongs to you
- No means no
- Talk about secrets that upset you
- Speak up, someone can help

The lesson will be delivered in a way that's fully age-appropriate.



More information about the Underwear Rule, including a short film and a parent guide can be found at [www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule)

### Working dogs

As part of our emotional and well-being strategy, we have arranged for a weekly visit from a working dog to work, initially, with a group of children in Lower Key Stage 2.

This intervention group will use the dog as a focus for thinking about emotional literacy, resilience and responsibility. The sessions will take place within the school day and on the school site.

If your child has a recognised allergy to dogs, please inform the school so that we can put in arrangements to ensure that there is no contact between your child and when the dog comes into school.

These sessions have been fully risk assessed and the children will be advised about protocols for if they see the dog around the school and their behaviour towards it.

### #Hello Yellow – 7<sup>th</sup> October



On **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October** we will again be supporting the Young Minds Hello Yellow campaign. We ask that all the children wear some form of Yellow for the day and make a minimum £1 contribution that will go to the charity. This day is **NOT** a general non-uniform day, but an opportunity to show support for

this charity by wearing at least one item of yellow clothing.

Parents can make this donation on the school Parent Pay site.

### Message from FoEC

FOEC IS BACK!!!

We are looking forward to running Lego Club this term. Years 1 & 2 up first starting on Wednesday 21st September for four weeks.

We are planning a donut sale, disco, Science Saturday and a Christmas Fair!

As you may have noticed with the amazing Summer Fair money raised we were able to buy a log cabin which will be our new school library!

LOOK WHAT YOU DID!!!!!! You bought a library!

More on the next lot of fund raising we need to do to finish it coming soon.....

Looking forward to this term's activities and as always if you can volunteer please get in touch!

### Class emails

Class email addresses for your child's new 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](mailto:office@ecls.org.uk)

Class	Email address	Class	Email address
Opal	<a href="mailto:opal@ecls.org.uk">opal@ecls.org.uk</a>	Ruby	<a href="mailto:ruby@ecls.org.uk">ruby@ecls.org.uk</a>
Quartz	<a href="mailto:quartz@ecls.org.uk">quartz@ecls.org.uk</a>	Emerald	<a href="mailto:emerald@ecls.org.uk">emerald@ecls.org.uk</a>
Pearl	<a href="mailto:pearl@ecls.org.uk">pearl@ecls.org.uk</a>	Jade	<a href="mailto:jade@ecls.org.uk">jade@ecls.org.uk</a>
Aquamarines	<a href="mailto:aqua@ecls.org.uk">aqua@ecls.org.uk</a>	Amber	<a href="mailto:amber@ecls.org.uk">amber@ecls.org.uk</a>
Garnet	<a href="mailto:garnet@ecls.org.uk">garnet@ecls.org.uk</a>	Little Treasures	<a href="mailto:treasures@ecls.org.uk">treasures@ecls.org.uk</a>

# Online Safety Update

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## SPOT THE ONLINE SAFETY TIPS FOR GOING

# BACK TO SCHOOL



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

[@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

[/NationalOnlineSafety](https://facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety)

[@nationalonlinesafety](https://instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

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# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# ROBLOX

PEGI RATING  
7+

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scam links or general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

### PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

### ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODER is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODERs. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

### IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

### DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

### PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

### MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

### DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

## Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

Sources: <https://www.theverge.com/2020/7/21/2133343/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-playing-virtual-parise-for-tronite>  
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

## Dates - Autumn 2022

Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Reception start part time 11am – 2pm
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Gym with Hannah from Falcons Reception 10.30am – 2.30pm
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>	Reception 10am – 3pm
Thur 15 <sup>th</sup>	Reception – 9.30 – 3.30pm
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Reception full time – 8.45 – 3.30pm
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery starts back
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	3.30pm – FoEC Lego club for 4 weeks
Thur 22 <sup>nd</sup>	3.30pm – FoEC Doughnut sale
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest assembly
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Black History Month
Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Opal class – Sports Festival at Biddenham
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup>	Hello Yellow non uniform day
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Parents’ eve – Face to face
Tue 11 <sup>th</sup>	LKS2 Parents’ eve – Face to face
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	UKS2 Parents’ eve – Face to face
Thur 20 <sup>th</sup>	Ruby class – Sports festival – Scott FoEC - Disco
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Wear it Pink non uniform day Half Term
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup>	Training Day for staff – <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Tue 1 <sup>st</sup> November	1 <sup>st</sup> Day back for children –
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>	Bikability – Y3 and 4
Tue 8 <sup>th</sup>	Aqua Sports Festival – St Thomas Moore
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning for Reception September 2023 FoEC Science morning
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>	SEN Parents consultations
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup>	FoEC – Lego Club for 4 weeks
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need
Tue 29 <sup>th</sup>	Last KS1 Gym with Hannah
Thur 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Y3/4 sports festival – John Bunyan
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Y5/6 sports festival – John Bunyan
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas dinner
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>	End of term – Early finish



## **Academic Year 2022 – 2023**

### **Autumn Term 2022**

Training Days – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Children return - **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Half term: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Training Day – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Children return – **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022**

Term Ends: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### **Spring Term 2023**

Training Day – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

Children return - **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

Half Term: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Children return – **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Term Ends: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

### **Summer Term 2023**

Training Day – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Children return – **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

May Day – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023

Half Term: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

Children return – **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

Term Ends: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

The school term dates for 2022 – 2023 and 2023 – 2024 are available on the school web site.