



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

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Newsletter – July 2023

A note from Miss Cooke

The end of the school year is fast approaching! While I can assure you, school staff across the whole country are more than ready for the end of the school year, I know that many parents, and some children do not feel the same way. The holidays are a chance for children and staff to rest recuperate and prepare for the next school year. I have no doubt that the 2023 – 2024 school will be just as busy, exciting and fast moving as this year has been.

Over the past couple of weeks, there have been so many events where parents have been invited into school. The sports mornings, open afternoon, summer fair, Y6 leavers concert to name a few. Thank you to all parents who have supported these events and helped to make them such happy, positive and successful events. Seeing the whole school community come together is amazing. Thank you.

We are saying 'Goodbye' to all our Year 6 pupils who will be moving on to their secondary schools. We wish each and every one of the Year 6 children the best at their new schools and hope that they can remember all that they have learnt while at Edith Cavell, both academically and about doing the right thing in difficult situations. The progress, achievement and personal development of this group of children, is amazing and we have rightly celebrated it in various ways.

Over the summer holidays, class email accounts will not be monitored. When your child moves into their new class in September, you will be advised of the class email address for your child's new class teacher. All other communication should be sent to the school email address, (office@ecls.org.uk) that will be monitored weekly over the summer holidays.

Have a wonderful holiday and we will see the children back in school on Monday 4th September at 8.45am.

Miss Cooke

Little Treasures – Pre School

We are extending our Pre-school provision. From September 2023, when numbers allow, we will be offering a morning pre-school session as well as an afternoon session.

In the term after their third birthday, children can attend **either** a morning **or** afternoon session at Little Treasures Pre-school.

Morning session will be 8.40am – 11.40am. Afternoon session will be 12.30pm – 3.30pm. Please advertise and share information about Little Treasures Pre-school with your friends and family.



To register for a place at Little Treasures Pre-school, please contact the main school office on office@ecls.org.uk



Bedford Borough

Last Day of Term – Friday, 21st July 2023

We would like to give parents the opportunity to collect their children early on the afternoon of the last day of term, Friday, 21st July 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 click on this link to complete the attached form to indicate if you plan to collect your child/ren early or wish for them to remain at school until the normal end of school day. If we do not receive a completed form, we will assume that you wish your child to remain in school until the normal end of school day time.

<https://forms.gle/NGu1JisYDB22kfgr7>

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

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.

End of Day Collection/Dismissal Points - (For children staying until the normal end of day)

- **Reception and Nursery** should be collected from their **classrooms as normal**
- **KS1** should be collected from **Jade classroom**
- **LKS2** should be collected from **Garnet** classroom
- **UKS2** will be dismissed from **Quartz** classroom

GEMS – Afterschool Club

The after school club will be available **until 4.30pm on Friday 21st July 2023** and bookings should be made in the normal way via Parent Pay.

Lost Property

We have a great deal of lost property that has accumulated over the past couple of terms. These are mainly jumpers that do not have names in them.

On the last day of term, weather permitting, we will be putting out tables at the start and end of the day with the lost property displayed. Please have a look if your child has lost any items over the year.

Any items not claimed at the end of the day will be recycled and NOT available in September.



Staffing Update

In last month's newsletter we outlined the teachers who will be leaving the school at the end of term and the new teachers who will be joining the school in September.

A further update

Mrs Chainie Jackson, has made the decision that she will not be returning to Edith Cavell after her maternity leave, but will stay at home caring for her twins.

Mrs McCann, Miss Banks and Mrs Bevan, have all decided that they will be leaving the school at the end of term. In September we will welcome, Mrs Pearce and Miss Nice to the support staff team.

Mrs Bevan has worked at the school for nearly 17 years. In those years she has supported hundreds and hundreds of children and been a key to the life and progress of the school. We thank her, Mrs McCann and Miss Banks for their contributions to the school and wish them all well for the future.

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

Attendance

On newsletters each month, we include the attendance of each class. This is an attempt to highlight to parents the importance of regular attendance at school.

The government sets a minimum expectation of 94% attendance for each child. As a school our attendance level this year has only been 93.31%. This is well below the expected attendance level for a school.



This figure is affected by children being ill, but it is also significantly impacted by the number of families taking holidays in term time. This could be returning a couple of days late at the start of term or leaving early at the end of a term. All these days out of school affect your child's learning and our school attendance levels.

On your child's end of year report, your child's attendance was colour coded. If your child's attendance was coloured red or yellow, then there should be improvement in their attendance next academic year. If a child's attendance is only 90% for the year as a whole, that is equivalent to 4 whole weeks of lessons, 20 days missed learning. Any missed learning leaves gaps in understanding and can be difficult to catch up.

Please do not plan to take holiday in term time, ensure that medical appointments are made for the school holidays and that children arrive at school on time and ready to learn.

Increase in the charges for Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Due to the cost of living increases across all areas of society it is necessary to raise the charges for Breakfast and Afterschool club. From September the new prices will be.

The school Parent Pay account has been altered to reflect these new prices. Please ensure that when you add money to your parent pay account you allocate the funds to a payment item and book the specific days that you require places at Breakfast and Afterschool club. Parents are reminded that all places should be booked and paid for in advance. If a pre-booking is not received, sessions will be charged at the Ad hock rate.

	If pre booked	Ad hock attendance without pre booking
Breakfast club	£4.50	£4.70
ASC 1 st hour of care	£5.00	£5.20
ASC two hours of care	£8.50	£8.90

Summer Reading Challenge



Ready, Set, Read! is the theme for the Summer Reading Challenge at Bedford Borough Libraries this year. It runs from Saturday 15 July through to Saturday 9 September and promises to be an exciting and engaging programme for children aged four to eleven.

Children are invited to earn rewards for reading through the summer. There is also a fun activity pack to complete which includes scratch and sniff stickers!

Children will receive three bookmarks through the challenge. Each one allows them to tick six boxes for the books they've read. They will receive a reward for each completed bookmark. The rewards are; a special Ready, Steady Read! Certificate, a glow-in-the-dark bookmark, and finally the much-loved Summer Reading Challenge medal!

All library books count towards the challenge, so children can enjoy; picture books, storybooks, joke books, poetry books, and books full of facts. Audiobooks are included too, so children who prefer listening to library books won't miss out. Children can request books for free on the Bedford Borough Libraries website or app and by asking staff in the libraries.

There will also be free craft activities at all Bedford Borough Libraries this summer, such as making seaside flags and creating a rosette and trophy. Lego clubs, craft clubs, and story times will also run through the holidays.

Find all the events and activities planned at Bedford Borough Libraries by visiting www.bedford.gov.uk/libraries. Find the summer events and activities in the 'Children and teens' section.

Children can also join the Summer Reading Challenge on the Mobile Library. The Bedford Borough Mobile Library travels across Bedford Borough each week. Find the timetable and further details at www.bedford.gov.uk/libraries/your-library.

All children are welcome to join the Summer Reading Challenge, even if they are not yet library members. It is free for people of any age to join Bedford Borough Libraries. A parent or guardian will need to complete a form during staffed hours for children to join a library. It is also possible to join online at any time and then collect a library card during staffed hours. Parents and carers must remain with children under 14 in the libraries.

Learn all about the Summer Reading Challenge at Bedford Borough Libraries on the Virtual Library at www.bedford.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge2023. The Summer Reading Challenge is delivered by libraries and produced by The Reading Agency.

Ordering New Uniform for September

Orders that were placed after the 22nd June will not be passed to the clothing company until we return in September, after the summer break and therefore will not be delivered to school in time for the start of the new school year. Unfortunately, as this is a very busy period for the clothing company, we cannot guarantee when we will receive the uniform, once the order has been placed with them.



Going forward, we will only be ordering school branded uniform once each half term. We will publish a date each half term for school branded uniform orders to be placed by and any orders received after that date will not be ordered until the next half term. **The cut-off date for next half term will be Monday, 18th September 2023.**

We hope, in the Autumn term there will be the option for you to order directly from the manufacturer.

<https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/parent-pay/>

Please ensure that you put your child's name in any new school wear so it can be returned to them if it becomes lost.

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

If any family find that their children have grown out of parts of their school uniform, we would be very happy to receive donations if it still is in good condition and can't be passed on to younger siblings.

We often support families who join our school, with good quality second hand uniform and are always looking to replenish our stock. So as the end of the year is approaching, and you are considering kitting out your children for the new school year, please consider if you could donate any outgrown uniform that is still in good condition.

Please send any donations to the school office.



We currently have a supply of good quality second hand uniform in school and are happy to support any families who are pupil premium (Free School Meals). A date will be arranged to try on uniform. Please contact the office if you are interested.

On-Line Safety - For Parents - Game Finder



Finding games for children which are appropriate for their age, which work on the devices the children use and the children will actually enjoy playing can be a minefield, particularly when parents are being bombarded with the 'but everyone else is playing this game' guilt trip. Game Finder is a new (free) service available from Taming Gaming which walks parents through various aspects, such as how old is your child? What devices do they have? What types of games do they like to play? And then gives a list of recommendations of suitable games. I've used this a few times and it is brilliant, you can find Game Finder [HERE](#).

The Cyber Helpline - Parent and Student Guides

The Cyber Helpline are a charitable organisation in the UK who are focussed on helping and supporting victims of cyber-crime. There is a lot of useful information on their website, including a page full of guides and a wide range of topics from malware, cyber bullying and harassment, unauthorised access (e.g. if your gaming account has been hacked) and much more. All the guides are free!

<https://www.thecyberhelpline.com/guides>



Social Media Checklists

Southwest Grid for learning have produced a range of guides on using a number of popular social media apps. Please remember to check the age restrictions for any apps that children are accessing.

The minimum age to open an account on nearly every social media platform—TikTok, Instagram, Twitter, Pinterest, Kik, YouTube, Snapchat, Facebook, and more— is 13. WhatsApp has an age limit of 16!

<https://swgfl.org.uk/resources/checklists/>

Free Family Maths Toolkit resources available for primary schools

National Numeracy's [Family Maths Toolkit activities](#) are available free of charge to support schools and families in developing maths confidence amongst children.

The activity packs are available for all year groups from Reception to Year 6. The set includes short, fun activities for children and families to do together, exploring maths in creative ways and real-life contexts.

The activities support the maths curriculum and are a great way to engage parents in their children's maths learning, as they're designed for children to complete at home with their families.

Alongside the primary school year group packs, the full set also includes activities for EYFS to KS4 around building positive mindsets – and some top tips for parents and carers too.

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

To download the full set of resources and use them with your classes, sign up on National Numeracy's website: <https://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/free-family-maths-toolkit>
Parental engagement plays a large and positive role in children's learning, and many schools have successfully used these resources to engage parents and carers in supporting their children's maths learning. In a recent project, 100% of teachers said they would recommend the Family Maths activities to another school.

Message from Friends of Edith Cavell



A massive thank you to everyone who supported the summer fair this year!

I think it was the best ever one!

Thank you to all who donated to the mufti day and baked cakes, bought tokens and wristbands, ran stalls and helped set up and clear away!

A big thank you to Mr Parks and the year 6's who brilliantly helped set up the fair.

You all raised £1400! Which will go towards books for the library.

This academic year has been brilliant. The amount of children attending Lego club has been amazing. We have run discos, fairs, opened the library, run Mother's and Father's Day shops and a Science Saturday.

Thank you for the continued support to raise money to contribute to school life for all of our children.

If you would like to support in anyway please get in touch with the office. There are many ways to help and support FOEC.

Have a wonderful summer holiday and see you in September.

Message from the School Governors

At the end of the summer term, it is inevitable that we have to say goodbye to some of the school community who will be leaving and moving on to new ventures. On behalf of the governing body, I would like to wish Y6 children every success with the next stage of their learning journey. We hope that all children and staff who are leaving remember their time at the school fondly and continue to feel part of the Edith Cavell community.

Similarly, two of our school governors, Anne Heavey and Roz Wright, have stepped down this term after serving several years as co-opted governors. Anne and Roz did invaluable work on the governing body and were highly committed to providing the best possible education and school experience for the children. I would like to thank them both for sharing their expertise and for all their time, support and dedication to Edith Cavell school. We wish them all the very best for the future.

As ever, it has been an incredibly busy term for the children and staff in school. A huge thank you to all the staff for working so hard to ensure a safe and stimulating learning environment and for all the opportunities they provide for the children.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents, families and friends for their continued support of the school and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Wishing you a happy and restful summer break

Gillian Bishop

Chair of Governors

Stars of the Week
June/July 2023

Amber-W

Aaliyah
Muhammad
Kastle

Amber

Szymon
Fabiha
Archie

Pearl

Whole Class
Whole Class

Emerald

Anaya

Jade

Mateo
Alice

Opal

Filip
DeJonie
Felicity

Ruby

Esther
Rion

Garnet

Irine
Millie
Chester

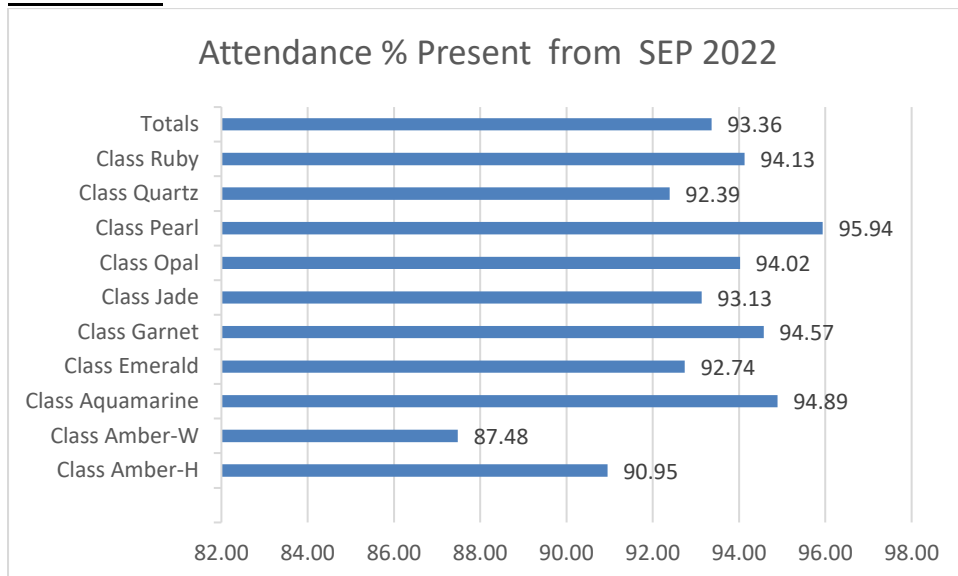
Quartz

Daren
Ismaeel

Aquamarine

Rafe
Damian
Clay

Attendance



Dates - Summer 2023

Friday 21st July Last day of term – End of the school year

Academic Year 2023 – 2024

Autumn Term 2023

Training Day – Friday 1st September 2023
Children return - Monday 4th September 2023
Half term – Monday 23rd October 2023
Training Day – Monday 30th October 2023
Children return – Tuesday 31st October 2023
Term ends – Tuesday 19th December 2023

New Reception Starters – Monday, 11th September 2023 at 11am

Existing Pre-School Children – Monday, 18th September 2023

New Pre-School Children – Tuesday, 19th September 2023

Spring Term 2024

Training Day - Wednesday 3rd January 2024
Children return – Thursday 4th January 2024
Half term – Monday 19th February 2024
Children return – Monday 26th February 2024
Term ends - Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer Term 2024

Training Day – Monday 15th April 2024
Children return – Tuesday 16th April 2024
May Day – Monday 6th May 2024
Half term – Monday 27th May 2024
Children return – Monday 3rd June 2024
Term ends – Friday 19th July 2024

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

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

Always wanted to play a musical instrument?

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MUSIC
- HUB -**

MUSIC FOR
BEDFORD BOROUGH

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Age 7-11



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Weds 2nd August 10-3pm

Sign up on our website for only £13.70

BedfordMusicHub.org.uk





We have been asked by FACES Bedford Charity to feature this article:

The Baby Bank Bedford

We give families in need essential items such as clothes, nappies, toys, prams, and baby equipment. All items are generously donated by the local community.

We gratefully receive donations by appointment only. If you have something to donate or are interested in volunteering, email jennie.bayliss@facesbedford.org

You can support our work by donating to our website [Baby Bank | FACES \(facesbedford.org\)](http://Baby Bank | FACES (facesbedford.org)) or our Amazon wish list Amazon.co.uk

All items and money donated will go to families in need.

Our Baby Bank in Bedford relies on people donating good quality unwanted items to give to the families who need them. Your donations will go towards helping the local families and give them a great start. This is a great opportunity to donate some money as a goodwill gesture to a local charity, with your help and our services we can make a difference. Here are a few things which could really make a difference to families in Bedford.

£5 could buy 44 nappies for a new-born baby.

£10 could buy a mattress for a cot.

£15 could buy a starter pack of wipes, nappies, food, and clothes for a family in need.

£20 could buy a stairgate to provide safety for the whole family.

£25 could buy a Moses basket helping a baby sleep safely.

£50 could buy a highchair for safe and comforting dining.

£75 could buy a cot for a baby.

We've helped over 1000 families dealing with domestic violence, migrant families, homeless women and children, families on debt management, unemployed and other substances abuse issues.

Thank you to all for your continuous and generous support.

The Baby Bank Team