



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

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

Newsletter – March 2024

A message from Miss Cooke

As we approach the end of a very short half term, where, despite being short in time, has been as packed as usual with events and learning. It was wonderful to see so many mums, grandmothers – and a few dads at the recent Mother's Day Breakfast. It is so lovely to see such a large proportion of the school community coming together to celebrate all the amazing, influential women who are part of the school.

Thank you to all the parents that have attended the recent phase showcases. The children always enjoy these events and proudly sharing with their parents their learning, exercise books and projects from this term. Many parents have commented how wonderful it is to see the children so proud of their exercise books and how they can clearly see the progress that their children are making for themselves.

Thank you to all parents who have responded to the brief survey that we circulated around parent consultations. The feedback around booking appointments for consultations, these newsletters and how often we communicate with you has been interesting and we will take on board that email is the preferred method of communication with parents.

At the end of the first half of the spring term, we celebrated children's mental health week, with Shine bright, Wear bright. As a school we raised £206, which will be forwarded to the children's mental health charity – Chums.

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 16th April 2024**.

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.

Miss Cooke

Price Increase of school branded merchandise

We have been informed by our uniform suppliers, Price and Buckland, that as of 1st April 2024, there will be a price increase on school branded merchandise.

Any orders received before 31st March 2024 will continue to be charged at the current price (these could be delivered to school after the Easter holidays). So if you are thinking that your child needs a new sweatshirt, cardigan or book bag, we encourage you to place and pay for your order before the planned price increases.



Parking on Knellor Close

I have again had contact from concerned residents about the actions of parents when coming to school, in their cars, to drop off their children. Residents report that parents are not parking considerably, are just pulling up in the middle of the road, are using and blocking resident's driveways.



When I am able to stand up on Knellor Close, or the borough parking attendants are in attendance, parents seem to remember that they should park considerably, but as soon as either I or parking attendants are not present, parents revert back to parking without consideration or according to the highway code.

This is an ongoing issue, and I can only urge all parents who park on Knellor Close to examine their own conscience about the actions they take and the example that they are setting their children.

Early finish on Thursday, 28th March 2024

We would like to give parents the opportunity to collect their children early on the afternoon of the last day of term, Thursday, 28th March 2024. 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.

<https://forms.gle/adqaHDYY1Rv8PenX9>

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 **until 4.30pm on Thursday, 28th March 2024** and bookings should be made in the normal way via Parent Pay.

Parent Showcases – March 2024

Our popular Parent Showcases, will take place again this term. The showcase is an opportunity for parents to come 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.

The children will choose their favourite or piece of work that they are proudest of to be on display in the hall and will show that to their parents along with explaining how the particular piece of learning fits in to the programme of learning that they have been engaged in this term. (slightly different for Reception)

KS1 Parent Showcase – **Tuesday 19th March from 2.30pm**

Reception Showcase – **Thursday 21st March from 2.30pm**

LKS2 Parent Showcase – **Monday 25th March from 2.30pm**

UKS2 Parent Showcase – **Wednesday 27th 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.

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 loose 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.

Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes(BLMK) Integrated Care Board



The Healthier Together website is a digital resource which has been co-produced by the ICS Children and Young People's (CYP) team with the support of young people, parent carer forums, system partners and clinicians across BLMK to support our CYP population and their parents and carers. It aims to empower

parents and carers with the right tools to manage their children and young people's physical health and emotional well-being. In addition, it also has lots of information for young people themselves to access.

The section for [Parents/Carers](#) covers key areas such as 'Should my child go to school/nursery today', information on a range of common illnesses and childhood vaccinations, in addition to a large section on SEND.

Another section entitled [Health for Young People](#) speaks directly to young people and provides information on mental health, sexual health and LGBTQ+ issues. This gives extensive guidance, including 'What to do in a Crisis', 'Where to Get Help' and 'Self-help Ideas.' There is also a lifestyle section which focuses on topics such as healthy eating and exercise, much of which has been co-produced with young people.

Thanks to a functionality called Recite Me, the site is also accessible to people who may be disabled, visually impaired, speak English as a second language or are elderly. The web content can be translated into over **100 different languages**.

We invite you to look around the website yourself and please share as widely as you can with young people, parents, carers and healthcare professionals across

BLMK: <https://www.blmkhealthiertogether.nhs.uk>

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

Children's Centre Summer Timetable

A reminder that the Children's Centres are still open over the Easter holidays, except for the Bank Holidays, so families can look at our Spring Timetable to see what is running. Much of the sessions we run in term-time are still on. It is just some of our bookable sessions and our term-time only groups that won't be on.

You can check our padlet page for the Spring Term Timetable. The Summer Term Timetable is also now on the padlet page, so please do let families know so they can see what sessions we are running after the Easter holidays. The padlet page can be found at <https://padlet.com/katysexton/Bookmarks>

Governors

During the spring term the governing body has welcomed two new governors. Suad is joining as a local authority governor and Sharon as a parent governor. We are delighted that Suad and Sharon are now part of the team and look forward to working with them both in the future.

This term we have said goodbye to David, who has decided to step down from his role as parent governor. We are very grateful to David for his work and commitment over the last four years and wish him all the very best for the future.

A big thank you from governors to parents who have completed surveys this school year. We really value your views. Your feedback helps the school to self-evaluate and identify needs to provide the best possible education for the children. Thank you for your continued support and the time you give to parent surveys.

G Bishop - Chair of Governors

Message from Friends of Edith Cavell –(FoEC)

A massive thank you to everyone who was involved in the school disco last Thursday. Thank you to the volunteers who helped run it, the children who danced the night away and those who ran around the dance floor and for the grown ups who stayed while their children danced and those who dropped off and picked up! The disco was a huge success and we look forward to running the next one.

We have again had 64 children through Lego Club this term, thank you for signing your children up and to the volunteers who help run this brilliant club!

Lastly, we have been selected for Tesco Stronger Starts. This means that from April 1st Tesco customers will be able to vote for three charities and ours is one! This means we will at least get £500 but could get £1500 . If you can support this project by shopping in Tesco and casting your blue token, vote for us! The application made reads as follows:

Friends of Edith Cavell
Books for the Book Nook
Bedford

Providing new and inspiring books for our children to enrich learning, support their mental health and send imaginations soaring!

Have a lovely break and look forward to seeing you next term.

FOEC

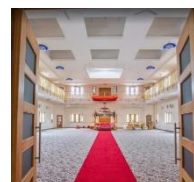
Report from LKS2 Faith Tour

On Wednesday 28th February 2024, children in LKS2 participated in a Faith Tour around three places of worship in Queen's Park Bedford. These were the Guru Nanak Gurdwara, All Saints Church, and the Jameh Masjid Gulshan-e-Baghdad Mosque.

In the church, the pupils learned about important religious artefacts, and searched for items that were important to Christians. We learned about festivals such as Easter and Christmas, and even got to see the different robes which would be worn at different times of the year.

In the mosque, we were taken through the 5 Pillars of Islam, and we learned how Muslims live their lives. We were all fascinated by the digital display showing the different prayer times, and were interested in the intricate ceiling mouldings in the main prayer room.

In the gurdwara, we were given information about the Five Ks for Sikhs, and were taken on a tour to see a huge prayer hall which was decorated with flowers. The pupils were very well-behaved and respectful throughout the visit, and they enjoyed finding out about the similarities and differences between these religions.



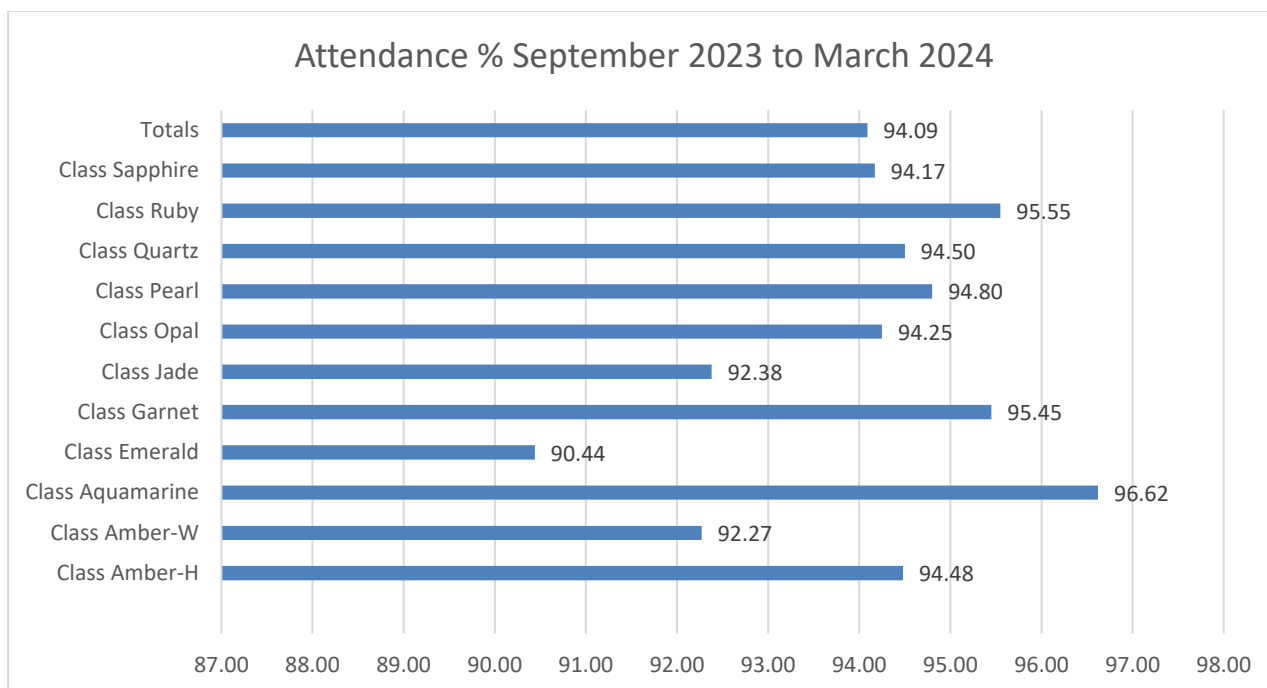
Class emails

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 office@ecls.org.uk

| Class | Email address |
|------------------|--|
| Pearl | pearl@ecls.org.uk |
| Opal | opal@ecls.org.uk |
| Quartz | quartz@ecls.org.uk |
| 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 2024

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Mon 25 th | 2.30pm – LKS2 – Parent Showcase |
| Wed 27 th | 2.30pm – UKS2 – Parent Showcase |
| Thur 28 th | End of term – early finish |

Summer 2024

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mon 15 th April | Training Day |
| Tue 16 th | First day back for children |
| Thur 18 th | Existing Pre school children return |
| Fri 19 th | School will celebrate World Maths Day |
| Mon 22 nd | New Pre school children will start |
| Mon 6 th May | May Day – No school |
| Mon 13 th | Year 6 SAT's week |
| Wed 22 nd | LKS2 visit to Holdenby House |
| Fri 24 th | Last Day before Half term |
| Mon 3 rd June | 1 st Day back for children |
| Wed 5 th | Year 3 Adventure Day |
| Mon 10 th | Y1 Phonics Test week |
| Wed 12 th | Year 4 Camping |
| Thur 13 th | Year 6 camping |
| | Year 4 come home |
| Fri 14 th | Father's Day breakfast |
| | Year 6 come home |
| Tue 18 th | SEND Parent consultations |
| Wed 19 th | Class photos |
| Tue 2 nd July | Y6 Transfer day |
| Thur 4 th | School Summer Fayre |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Fri 5 th | Reports out to parents (Not Y6) |
| Tue 9 th | Y6 SAT's results returned UKS2 Sports morning |
| Wed 10 th | Parent consultations, if required (Not Y6) KS1 Sports morning Biddenham Stem Fair Y6 reports out |
| Thur 11 th | Y6 leavers concert LKS2 Sports morning |
| Fri 12 th | Y6 Parent consultations, if required |
| Mon 15 th | Reception sports morning |
| Fri 19 th | KS2 rounders competition End of school year Early finish |

Academic Year 2023 – 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

Academic Year 2024 – 2025

Autumn Term 2024

Training Day – Monday 2nd September 2024
 Children return – Tuesday 3rd September 2024
 Half term – Monday 28th October 2024
 Children return – Monday 4th November 2024
 Term ends – Tuesday 20th December 2024

Spring Term 2025

Training Day – Monday 6th January 2025
 Children return – Tuesday 7th January 2025
 Half term – Monday 17th February 2025
 Children return – Monday 24th February 2025
 Term ends - Thursday 4th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Training Day – Tuesday 22nd April 2025
 Children return – Wednesday 23rd April 2025
 May Day – Monday 5th May 2025
 Half term – Monday 26th May 2025
 Children return – Monday 2nd June 2025
 Term ends – Friday 18th July 2025

Stars of the Week
Feb./March 2024

Amber-H
Reyhan
Aleksandra
Benyamin
Caleb

Amber-W
Lekyerah
Magella
Ritvik
Sarah

Pearl
Whole Class
Zoya
Whole Class

Emerald
Leela
Deoleen
Akorede
Whole Class

Jade
Olivia
Whole Class
Year 1

Opal
Sophia
Jayden
Emaan
Elijah

Ruby
Hashim
Kade
Meggie
Skye

Garnet
Margo
Whole Class
Sebi
Rafe

Quartz
Abigail
Whole Class
Abigail
Sufiyan

Aquamarine
LuciaCarmela
Mu'tasim
Eljoina

Sapphire
Charlie
Whole Class
Ameya
Ryker