



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

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

Newsletter – October 2025

A message from Miss Cooke

As we are reaching the end of the longest half term of the year, there have been many positive things to celebrate in the first 8 weeks of the school year.

Firstly, attendance across the school in this first half of the Autumn term, has been better than it has in previous years. There have been 5 occasions when a class has had 100% attendance for the week. This is a fantastic achievement. Thank you to all families for their effort in this. Let's please keep this going. If children are not in school, they are not learning! To help parents make the decision about sending their child to school when they may be a little under the weather, please see the NHS guidance [Is my child well enough for school?](#)

NHS [guidance](#) to know when a child is too ill for school.

Secondly, the increase in the number of children that we have attending Little Treasures is fantastic. The children are starting their learning journey at Edith Cavell. They have settled so well and are already making so much progress.

We are also so happy with the support and engagement of families with our recent Wear it Yellow and Show Racism the Red Card non-uniform days. The whole school support of these two important initiatives is wonderful to see.

We have important events coming up next half term. Parent Consultations on Monday 10th, Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th November. It is **VITAL** that all parents make an appointment to see their child's class teacher to discuss progress and the positive starts that your child has made to the new academic year. Please see later in this newsletter for further details.

Details of the NHS Flu Immunisation Programme will be shared after half term and we would encourage all parents to take up the opportunity to have their children immunised against Flu. If children are protected against the virus, they are unlikely to be a carrier to your household and wider family.

Please can I remind all parents about the need to park on the roads surrounding the school considerately and observing the Highway Code. I should not have to be stood on Knellor Close for parents to observe parking regulations.

A quick reminder that children should attend school on **Monday, 3rd November. This is the first day back at school after the half term.**

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



Bedford Modern Swimming Pool area and Ground Staff Area

We have been contacted by Bedford Modern School to ask that we reiterate to families attending Edith Cavell that they DO NOT cut across the Bedford Modern Site when walking to and from school. It has been reported that there have been a few 'near misses' with children almost been involved in accidents with BMS vehicles when taking a short cut across the BMS site.

Also in this way, parents please ensure that your children stay close to you when walking to and from school. They should not be running, scooting or wandering away from you. Again we have had reports from other parents and residents that there have been 'near misses' with children almost being involved in accidents when they are not paying attention to moving vehicles on drive ways of houses. We have also had children being brought back to school by other parents because they cannot find their parents because they have wandered away from them.



Coats



As the weather will start to become colder and wetter, all children should be bringing a coat to school **EVERY DAY**.

We will always try to take the children outside at break and lunchtimes, including when it is raining slightly. If your child does not have a coat, they will get wet and have to sit in wet sweatshirts for the rest of the school day which is not good for them.

Homework – Special Reward Time

Close links between home and school matter to us, as we know that parents have a vital role to play in their child's education.



Supporting with homework is a key way in which parents can

support their child's learning journey. As part of the Home School Agreement, parents are asked to *'Support my child with homework, home learning and assist them to 'hand in' on time.'*

By working together to support children to take increasing responsibility for their learning as they grow older, good habits will become established and these routines will be the foundations for future learning at Secondary school.

Each week children from Year 1 up to Year 6, will be set homework. There will be a date by which homework must be returned. If children have not returned homework by this date, it is highly likely that unless there are special circumstances, your child will miss their special reward time on a Friday, to complete the learning activities that have not been completed at home.

Parent Pay

The school's online payment portal, Parent Pay, is a quick and easy way to pay for most costs, charges or donations to the school. From charity donations to paying for a trip, school dinners or Breakfast and After School Club. Please remember to allocate your payment to the correct payment item you are paying for.



Breakfast Club and After School Club can be booked and paid for via the website up to 11.59pm the night before a session.

We hope that this will reduce the number of ad hoc sessions that children are accessing.

While Breakfast Club and After School Club are always there if needed as an emergency option to parents, it is important that children are pre booked into sessions so that we can ensure that we have the correct staffing ratios and food available to be able to safely accommodate any emergency bookings that come in during the day.

Packed Lunches

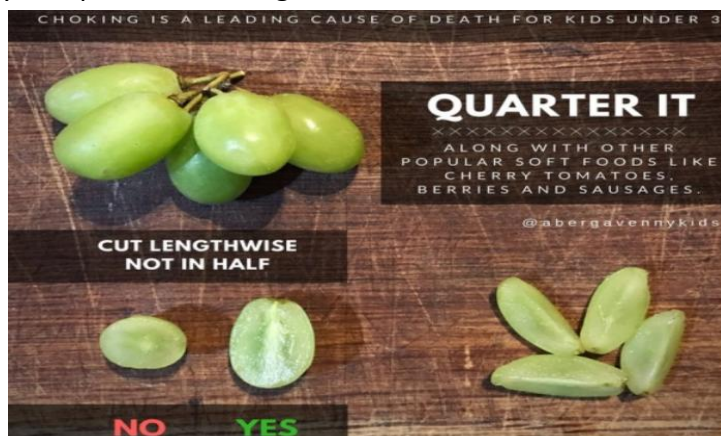
EDITH CAVELL IS A NUT FREE ZONE

Children bringing packed lunches, **MUST NOT** bring any kind of nut product, which includes peanut butter and chocolate spread, as part of their packed lunch. We have a number of children in school who have allergies to nuts and especially peanuts.



Packed lunches should also be a healthy meal and so should not have packets of sweets or large chocolate bars or large amounts of chocolate. Midday supervisors regularly check lunch boxes, and so will speak to your child about the content of their lunch box if it is considered to contain a high amount of unsuitable or unhealthy items.

In contrast, grapes are a very healthy option to have as part of a packed lunch, but we ask that any children in Reception or KS1 who have grapes as part of their packed lunch or playtime snack, that the grapes are cut length ways. This is to try and prevent choking.



Parent Consultations

Class	How to book appointment	Date	Time	Date	Time
Little Treasures Mrs Pallister	Book with teacher	Mon 10 th November	2pm – 6pm	Tue 11 th November	3.50pm – 6pm
Amber Mrs Wibberley	Book with teacher	Mon 10 th November	2pm – 6pm	Wed 12 th November	3.50pm – 6pm
Topaz Miss Tolley	Book with teacher	Mon 10 th November	2pm – 6pm	Wed 12 th November	3.50pm – 6pm
Emerald Miss Nyamande	Book with teacher	Mon 10 th November	2pm – 6pm	Tue 11 th November	3.50pm – 6pm
Jade Miss Martin	Book with teacher	Mon 10 th November	2pm – 6pm	Wed 12 th November	3.50pm – 5pm
Aquamarines Mrs Fowler	Book via SchoolCloud	Mon 10 th November	2pm – 6pm	Tue 11 th November	3.50pm – 6pm
Garnet Miss Bondon	Book via SchoolCloud	Tue 11 th November	2pm – 6pm	Mon 10 th November	3.50pm – 6pm
Ruby Miss Dakin	Book via SchoolCloud	Tue 11 th November	2pm – 6pm	Wed 12 th November	3.50pm – 6pm
Sapphire Mr Mortimer	Book via SchoolCloud	Tue 11 th November	2pm – 6pm	Wed 12 th November	3.50pm – 6pm
Opal, Mrs Anderson	Book via SchoolCloud	Tue 11 th November	2pm – 6pm	Wed 12 th November	3.50pm – 6pm

Quartz Mrs O'Dell	Book via SchoolCloud	Tue 11 th November	2pm – 6pm	Wed 12 th November	3.50pm – 6pm
Pearl Mr Parks	Book via SchoolCloud	Tue 11 th November	2pm – 6pm	Wed 12 th November	3.50pm – 6pm

Message from the Police



Bedfordshire Police want to ensure that Halloween is a happy and safe time for everyone, whether young or old and as always we are asking for your support in assisting with this.

If possible, parents and guardians should go out trick or treating with their children, sticking to well-lit areas and only knocking on the doors of people they know. Some people may have 'No trick or treat' posters up at their

doors, we ask that these are respected.

Bedfordshire Police is also reminding children and parents to be mindful that some of the more vulnerable or elderly members of the community may feel intimidated by people calling at their doors and appeals to all residents to look out for their neighbours who may feel frightened during this time.

Extra patrols will be on hand over the Halloween and Bonfire Night period to ensure that the evenings can be enjoyed safely.

Have fun and stay safe this Halloween

Our tips –

- As Halloween approaches Bedfordshire Police is reminding parents and guardians to keep their children safe.
- If possible, parents and guardians should go out trick or treating with their children, sticking to well-lit areas and only knocking on the doors of people they know. Some people may have 'No trick or treat' posters up at their doors and we ask that these are respected.
- Bedfordshire Police is also reminding children and parents to be mindful that some of the more vulnerable or elderly members of the community may feel intimidated by people calling at their doors and appeals to all residents to look out for their neighbours who may feel frightened during this time.
- Extra patrols will be on hand over the Halloween and Bonfire Night period to ensure that the evenings can be enjoyed safely. If you do have any concerns during Halloween, it's important that you call 101 in order to keep 999 free for genuine emergencies - 31 October is one of the police's busiest nights of the year!

For more advice about Halloween please visit www.bedfordshire.police.uk

Parent Showcases – November 2025

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)



Reception Showcase – Monday 17th November from 2.30pm

www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk

KS1 Parent Showcase – Wednesday 18th November from 2.30pm

UKS2 Parent Showcase – Thursday 24st November from 2.30pm

LKS2 Parent Showcase – Tuesday 25th November from 2.30pm

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

Christmas Performances

We are very much looking forward to welcoming parents into school to watch our Christmas performances this year.

We have planned to present two Christmas performances this year. KS1 children will present a concert of Christmas songs and Year 3, 4 and 5 will perform their own concert of Christmas songs.

The planned dates are



Reception	Years 1 and 2	Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
Thursday 11th December at 2pm	Wednesday 10th December – 2pm	Tuesday, 16 th December – 2pm
Friday 12th December 9.30am	Thursday 11 th December – 9.30am	Wednesday 17 th December – 9.30am

Nursery children will perform their nativity to their parents at 11am for morning session parents and 12.30pm for afternoon session parents on Thursday 11th December.

Reception – September 2026

For parents looking to apply for a place for their child for entry in to Reception in September 2025, we are offering a number of opportunities to visit and tour the school.

Tuesday, 4 th November – 2.00pm	Thursday, 13 th November – 2.00pm	Tuesday, 18 th November – 9.30am
Friday, 21 st November – 2.00pm	Wednesday, 26 th November – 9.30am	Thursday, 27 th November – 2.00pm
Wednesday, 3 rd Decmber – 9.30am	Friday, 5 th December – 2.00pm	Tuesday, 9 th December – 9.30am
Tuesday, 16 th December – 9.30am	Wednesday, 7 th January – 2.00pm	Friday, 9 th January – 10.00am
Monday, 12 th January – 2.00pm		

Please contact the school office to book on to one of these tours of the school – 01234-345636

Is My Child Too Ill for School?

At this time of year, it can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep you child off school.

The NHS has produced the following advice to help you decide when it is best to keep them at home or send them into school:



<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



Traditionally held outside with festive music and games, hot chocolate and hot dogs and other hot drinks available)

Father Christmas will also be there and is completely free!

The day can't run without volunteers so please if you can support this event by getting in touch with the office. Nearer the time we will send out a form too.

A huge thank you to all the children, parents, grandparents and carers who braved the weather to come to the disco last night.

It was so brilliant to see so many people enjoying themselves!

We raised an amazing amount of money which will pay for The Theatre of Widdershams to visit the school in December ! This is a wonderful company who bring the magic of theatre to Edith Cavell and the children always love their shows!

A big shout out to our amazing volunteers too! Thank you for selling sweets, DJ'ing, making more sweet bags, making necklaces & keyrings, manning the toilets and mopping the floor after everyone has gone!

Thanks so much for the ongoing support.

Many thanks FoEC

Keeping Children Safe On Line

For Parents - A Guide to navigating Social Media Safely

This is a fantastic guide from the Center for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH), it goes into lots of detail and I'm sure parents will find it interesting and useful. The guide goes into areas such as:

- How social media platforms and algorithms operate.
- The various types of harms that children may experience.
- Practical advice and guidance.
- Supporting resources.

You can download the guide [HERE](#).

Bedfordshire Police have asked us to share the following information to help protect students personal belongings and improve the chances of recovering lost or stolen items:

Register Your Child's Mobile Phone – Immobilise

This free service helps police identify and return lost or stolen phones and other valuables. By registering your child's device, you're helping protect their property and increasing the chances of recovery if it goes missing. The website also offers helpful advice on keeping devices safe and secure.

It only takes a few minutes to register, and it's completely free—please take a moment to do this and help keep your child's phone safe.



www.immobilise.com/help/registermobilephone

Lost Property – Report My Loss

This free service allows you to register lost items, which can then be accessed by police and other agencies to help recover them. You'll also receive a reference number that can be used for insurance claims or replacement processes.

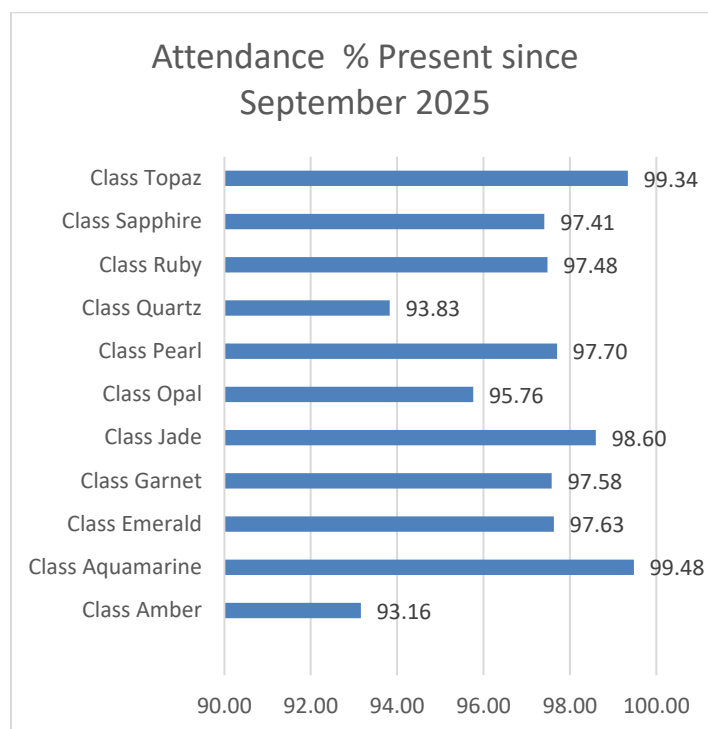
www.reportmyloss.com/uk.

For Parents - App Safety Settings

With the Online Safety Act now in force it's no surprise to see a lot of focus and scrutiny on tech companies, their features and safety settings being so prominent in the media, particularly safety settings failures. However, that shouldn't detract from the fact that safety settings are important; they're not perfect and never will be, but they are there for a reason. So this feels like a good time to either send a reminder out to parents or to take a look at the links on your school website to some of the more popular social apps which I've shared below, all from the Internet Matters website:

- Discord app settings - [HERE](#).
- TikTok parental controls - [HERE](#).
- Snapchat parental controls - [HERE](#).
- Instagram parental controls - [HERE](#).
- Pinterest privacy and safety settings - [HERE](#).
- FaceTime privacy and safety settings - [HERE](#).
- WhatsApp privacy guide - [HERE](#).

Attendance



Stars of the Week October 2025

Amber

Pearl

Whole Class
Anaya

Topaz

Emerald

Mac
Azeenah
Ella
Jonas

Jade

Halley
Reyhan
Mutsawashe
Mufarowashe

Opal

Freddie T.
Elsie
Jess H.

Ruby

Lilly C.
Layla
Maverick
Ona

Garnet

Julia
Szymon
Whole Class

Aquamarine

Bilal
Dexter
Muntaha
Om

Quartz

Kyra
Nimrat
Yaqub
Caleb

Sapphire

Anitah
Whole Class
Kira
Ema

Dates - Autumn 2025

Thur 23 rd	FoEC Disco
Fri 24 th	Half Term
Mon 3 rd Nov	1 st Day back for children
Wed 5 th	After school Gym Club 5pm – Y6 SAT's parents Evening
Mon 10 th	Anti-bullying week – Power for good EYFS and KS1 Parent Consultations 2pm – 6pm
Tue 11 th	Flu Vaccinations - 8.30am - Noon KS2 parent consultations – 2pm – 6pm
Wed 12 th	Parent consultations 3.50 – 6pm (NO LKS2 Gym or ASC Gym club)
Fri 14 th	Children in Need
Mon 17 th	2. 30pm – EYFS Parent Showcase
Tue 18 th	2.30pm – KS1 Parent Showcase
Wed 19 th	After School Gym club FoEC – Lego club
Fri 21 st	Non-uniform Day – Christmas Fair
Mon 24 th	2.30pm - UKS2 Parent Showcase
Tue 25 th	2.30pm – LKS2 Parent Showcase
Wed 26 th	KS1 – Parent Lunch
Wed 3 rd Dec	Last Curriculum Gymnastics FoEC – Lego club
Thur 4 th	Flu vaccine Mop up – 10.30 – noon
Sat 6 th	Christmas Fair
Mon 8 th	Theatre of Widdershins
Tue 9 th	2pm – KS1 Dress Rehearsal
Wed 10 th	9.30am – Reception Dress Rehearsal 2pm – KS1 performance to parents FoEC – Lego club Last After School Club Gymnastics
Thur 11 th	9.30am – KS1 performance to parents 2pm – Reception Performance to parents
Fri 12 th	9.30am – Reception performance to parents 2.30pm – celebration assembly
Mon 15 th	2pm - KS2 dress rehearsal
Tue 16 th	2pm – KS2 performance to parents
Wed 17 th	9.30am – KS2 performance to parents Christmas dinner
Thur 18 th	Christmas parties
Fri 19 th	Early finish at 1.45pm End of Term

Academic Year 2025 -2026

Autumn Term 2025

Training days – Monday and Tuesday 1st and 2nd September 2025

Children return – Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Half term – Monday 27th October 2025

Children return – Monday 3rd November 2025

Term ends – Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2026

Training day – Monday 5th January 2026

Children return – Tuesday 6th January 2026

Half term – Monday 16th February 2026

Children return – Monday 23rd February 2026

Term ends – Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term 2026

Training Day – Monday 13th April 2026

Children return – Tuesday 14th April 2026

May Day – Monday 4th May 2026

Half term – Monday 25th May 2026

Children return – Monday 1st June 2026

Term Ends – Friday 17th July 2026