



EDITH CAVELL LOWER SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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Newsletter – April 2017

A message from Miss Cooke

Welcome back to the summer term. We have lots of exciting learning and activities planned for the term for each year group. To be fully involved the children need to attend school regularly. The whole school attendance for the year to date 95.23%. This is below the target for attendance set by the Education Welfare Service and should it fall below 95% would affect our future Ofsted grade. Please would all parents bear this in mind when considering not sending their child to school. There has been an increase in the number of holidays that families are taking within term time and this has also significantly affected whole school attendance.

During May the whole school will be involved in assessment activities that will enable staff to determine the amount of progress each child has made since September. Full attendance during this time will enable accurate assessments to be made and be much appreciated. Please be assured that any assessment activities that take place across the school are done so sensitively and positively with all the children. The progress that each child has made will be reported in their end of year report that will be issued in July.

We look forward to continuing to work with you all this term.

Miss Cooke

Polling Station



We have been notified that the school will be used as a polling station for General Elections on **Thursday 8th June 2017**. Therefore for the safety of the children the school will be **closed** on that day.

Long hair tied back

As a hygiene precaution and also to help to prevent the spread of headlice in school, may I request that all children with shoulder length hair or longer have it tied back for school. It can sometimes be quite upsetting for children when they cannot see their work or eat their dinner properly because their hair keeps falling in their eyes or caught in their mouth.

Building update -

The date of handover has been postponed and I hope to get the keys for the new building on Monday 8th May. Once this has happened, we hope to be able to use the classroom doors again. Thank you all for patience during this time, I know it has caused a lot of inconvenience for you but hopefully we are near the end now.



Value of the Half Term – first half of Summer Term - Trust

We have already considered what the definition of trust is and how we can demonstrate and earn trust. We will go on to think about different situations when we demonstrate trust in ourselves and others.

If you observe your child demonstrating the value of the half term at home, please let your child's class teacher know and they may be considered for recognition in Friday Celebration Assembly.



Grapes and no nuts in school



Following on from recent press coverage, may I request that if your child brings grapes to school for their snack or packed lunch, please slice the grapes in half lengthways and put them in a pot. Whole grapes can cause a serious choking hazard for young children.

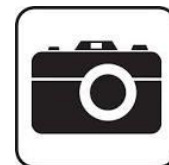
May I also remind you of our strict policy of no nuts in school as we have several children with serious nut allergies. Please do not send your child with snacks or sandwich fillings which contain nuts. Thank you.

P.E. Kits

Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school with them every day. Every child should have a white t-shirt, black shorts and plimsolls or suitable footwear that fits. It is not suitable for children to do PE in their school shoes so please ensure they have alternative appropriate footwear in their PE bag. No jewellery of any kind should be worn and we ask that all long hair is tied back. If your child has pierced ears, we would request that if they are unable to remove and replace earrings themselves, that parents remove the earrings at home prior to coming to school and replace them at the end of the school day.

Class Photographs

The photographer will be visiting the school on Monday 15th May to take class photographs. These will then be available to purchase. The school does receive commission on every photograph sold which we use to purchase resources to be used in school.



Hats



We do hope that very soon we will start to see the sun. When this happens children will enjoy being outside, but it is important that they have hats to protect them from the sun. We ask that the children have a named hat that they can wear during playtimes, lunchtimes and outside P.E. lessons. Additionally children would benefit from wearing sun tan lotion. This should be applied at home before they come to school each morning.

Naming jumpers

As the weather is getting warmer, children are taking their jumpers off outside and it is very difficult to return clothing to its rightful owner if it is not named. You may well have named your child's jumper when it was new, but if it has been through the washing machine a few times markings can have been washed away. Please check your child's clothing and label again if necessary.

Water bottles

It is vital that all children bring their water bottle in to school while we have this warm weather. They are available to buy from the office 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 night to wash and refill.



School Uniform



Over the last half term a number of children have been wearing trainers all day. We would like to remind you that trainers are not part of school uniform. Trainers and plimsolls are required for P.E. lessons and should be available to change into on P.E. days but should not be worn all day.

Before school Supervision

Can we please remind parents that they are responsible for the supervision of their own children in the playground before school. All parents should be vigilant to the activities of their child and monitoring and supervising them. School assumes responsibility for the children from when the child comes in to the school building.

We are aware that games are taking place on the playground before school, but parents retain responsibility for the behaviour and supervision of their own children during these games and until they come into school.

May I also remind you that children are not permitted to play on or use the equipment outside Topaz classroom.



Appointments during the school day

I am still very concerned and disappointed with the number of pupils who are being collected early or picked up then dropped off again during the school day to attend appointments for opticians, dentist etc. I cannot stress to you enough how disruptive this is to your child's learning and sometimes they even miss the special treats we arrange, for example visiting theatres, which is a real shame. Please can I urge you to arrange these appointments after school, at weekends or during the holidays.

Sponsored Silent Read

In February we held our Sponsored Silent Read and the children all came back with sponsorship pledges from family and friends to help raise funds for our new trim trail. We still seem to have a lot of that money outstanding so please don't forget to return your sponsor money, if you haven't already done so.



An update from FOEC

Exciting times! Our plans to revamp all the outside areas of the school is underway.. We have ordered the first Trim Trail and it will be installed in May half term and ready for the Summer Fair . This is just the beginning - there's a little ones trim trail, story chair, giant wall mural, outside classroom, gardens and playground painting to come.. And together we can make all this happen for everyone at Edith Cavell! With that in mind we have movie clubs, disco's, the Fathers Day shop and the Summer Fair to come this term. Plus we hope to be offering cream teas and homemade lemonade to all parents and carers at the end of term - let's hope for sunny weather! Details to follow..

If anyone would like to run a stall or has any stall ideas for the summer fair please contact me: abiduddleston@hotmail.com We really hope lots of you will get involved!

Many thanks FOEC

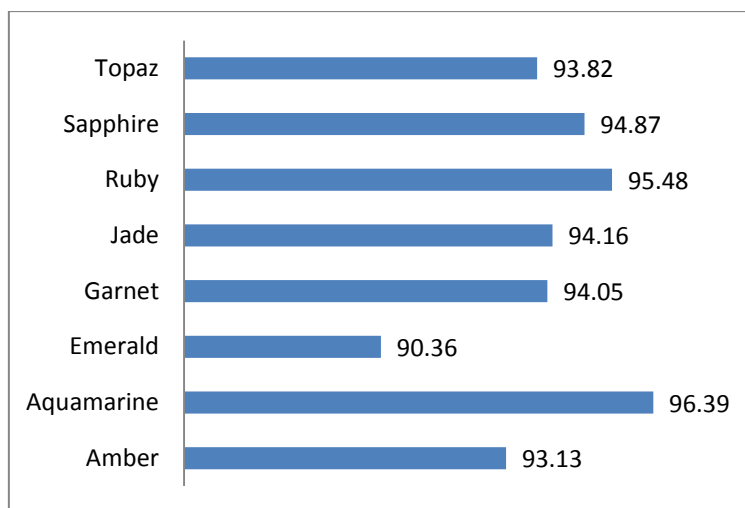
Attendance

Each week in school we award the 'Attendance Bear' to the class that has had the best attendance in the school. The children enjoy having Attendance Bear in their classroom for the week and eagerly await the results each week. Please help your child's class earn the privilege of looking after Attendance Bear for the week by ensuring that your child attends school every day. The winners of Attendance Bear in March have been



6-10 March	Sapphire class
13-17 March	Jade class
20-24 March	Sapphire class
27 -31 March	Topaz class

Attendance by class



Dates – Spring 2017

Dates – Summer 2017

Mon 1 st May	May Day – School closed
Fri 5 th	Zoo Lab – KS2
Mon 8 th	FoEC Movie night
Mon 15 th	Class Photos
Wed 17 th	Amber class assembly
Mon 22 nd	KS2 Healthy eating workshops in hall
Wed 24 th	Garnet class assembly
Thur 25 th	FoEC – Disco
Fri 26 th	Non uniform day for Keech
	Half term
Mon 5 th June	Training Day – School closed
Tue 6 th	1 st day back for children
Wed 7 th	Y3 adventure day
Thur 8 th	SCHOOL CLOSED – GENERAL ELECTION
Fri 9 th	Ruby class to BMS for technology day
	Sapphire sports festival – BMS
Thur 15 th	Y4 Camping
Fri 16 th	Y4 Camping
Mon 19 th	SEND Consultation evening
Tue 20 th	Sing up concert at Corn Exchange
Sat 24 th	FoEC Summer Fair
Wed 5 th July	Topaz class assembly
Thur 6 th	Biddenham Steam fair
Fri 7 th	Race for life
	Reports out to parents
Mon 10 th	Shuffle up afternoon
	FoEC movie club
Tue 11 th	KS2 Sports morning
	Nursery sports
	Consultation evening
Wed 12 th	KS1 Sports morning
Thur 13 th	Reception Sports Morning
Mon 17 th	Open Afternoon
Fri 21 st	End of school year
	FoEC summer party

Stars of the Week
March 2017

Aquamarine Class

Shannon Hay
Samantha Gous
Neo Bantock
William Barrett
Abundance Ukwak Aiso

Sapphire Class

Merab Shahid
Malaikah Ahmed
Elizabeth Lehain
Whole Class
Ishmael Ahmed

Ruby Class

Jenny Stacey-Norbury
Andrei Stoian
Kian Duffield
Sienna Thagie
Hafiza Rahman

Garnet Class

Emily Moore
Dominika Dul
Jesse Ahmed
Izzy Currie
Harvey Chiarh

Jade Class

Deshauna Johnson
Sabrina Akhter
Amelia Viglione-Bee
James Moore
Whole class

Emerald Class

Maja Neumann
Sharez Mohammed
Emily Zawadzka-Rai
Iliyan Sergiev
Petra Schaffer

Amber Class

Wojciech Drozd
Kajtek Gibas
Skye Duffield
Danial Naseer
Silvia Rizzo

Topaz Class

Cassius Cullum
Reesha Kaur
Sinisa Sedlar
Leah Clarke-Cree
Sammy Jassi