



EDITH CAVELL LOWER SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

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Newsletter – March 2017

A message from Miss Cooke

Since the February newsletter we have had many exciting things happening at school including the sponsored silent read, world book day, a sports festival and tennis coaching. A highlight has to have been the visit last week from the Watoto children's choir from Uganda. The children were a true inspiration, in the face of loss and grief they have been given the opportunity to inspire and motivate through their singing and performance.

As we approach the end of the spring term, we are 2/3 of the way through the school year and looking forward there are many exciting events still to look forward to. Not least the completion of the new classroom block. This has been delayed due to issues around meeting planning conditions and connecting services, but it is hoped to be completed in the near future. Following responses from children, parents and staff we have decided on the names of the three new classes. Following the precious stones and colour theme we have decided upon Pearl, Opal and Quartz as the names of the new Upper KS2 classes.

I would very much like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their ongoing patience and understanding while the building work has been taking place. I would hope that if not straight after we return from the Easter holidays, then soon after, the builders will leave the school site and we will be able to access all the classrooms via their external doors again. I will of course keep you updated.

KS2 Trip to St Albans – Friday 31st March

The money for this trip is due by Friday 24th March. Please ensure you have returned your child's permission slip and payment by this date if you have not already done so. Thank you.

Red Nose Day

This year Comic Relief day is Friday 24th March. To celebrate this day we will be holding a non-uniform day and encouraging the children to dress in red clothing. We would ask for a donation of minimum £1 on this non uniform day from every child taking part.

School also has available for purchase a box of red noses. These will be on sale at reception at £1 each.



24 March

Grapes and 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 you child with snacks or sandwich fillings which contain nuts. Thank you.



Y2 SAT information evening for Year 2 parents

On Tuesday 21st March we are holding informal SATs information sessions for parents of children in Year 2. The session will last approximately one hour and will take place at 9.10am and 5.30pm. You will be able to view some of the published materials from last year and we will explain what this year's SATs entail and answer any questions you may have. Please note these sessions are for adults only. Please let Miss Baldwin or the school office know, if you have not yet returned your slip but would like to attend.

Open Afternoon

We will be holding an Open Afternoon on Monday 3rd April from 2pm. At this event you are invited to come into school, where your child/ren will be able to show you around, show you the new classrooms and share their school work and learning with you.

We ask that all children return to their classrooms at 3.15pm so that they can the regular procedures for dismissal can be followed. Children will be dismissed at the normal time from their usual doors.

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.

Easter Egg Raffle



FOEC will be holding an Easter Egg raffle in school on the last day of term, Tuesday 4th April. Any donations of Easter Eggs for this will be very greatly received.

Value for the half term - Hope

Our value for this half term is Hope. In assembly we have thought about the different meanings of the word hope and the different ways we use the word in our conversations and writing. We have also thought about the different things that we hope for and if we can actually influence some of the things that we hope for. To have hope is to, stay positive, to see the best in people and situations, to do your best, to do something different, to dream.



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.



Sainsbury's Vouchers



Sainsbury's have again launched their annual vouchers for school promotion. We have in the past benefited greatly from this scheme and been able to add to the resources we have in school. We will be collecting vouchers again this year, so please ask family and friends and ask them to save their vouchers. The collection box is in the entrance hall ready for any vouchers that you have already collected.

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 in school. 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 to a reduction in the cost of school visits.



This possible extra funding is becoming extremely important to the school in this time of decreasing school budgets.

Speech and language Cafe

The school's first ever Speech and Language Café will be on Thursday 30th March from 2:30-3:30pm in the school hall.

Please come along and enjoy some light refreshments whilst having the opportunity to speak to Marisa McKinlay, Speech and Language Therapist from Magic Words about your child's targets and how to support their development further at home.

An update from FOEC

We are really looking forward to the next events that we have coming up this half term.

Firstly the Mother's Day shop which will be in the school hall on Wednesday 22nd & Thursday 23rd March after school. To keep the gifts a secret from the Mum's all we can tell you is that there will be two options available. One costing £1 & the second costing £2... They are both gorgeous!

The next event is the hotly anticipated Clubbercise night which will be held on Monday 3rd April. We are going to be selling tickets in the playground a week before the event. They cost £5 for one child AND one adult and includes a glowstick and smoothie drink each too! Additional children will cost £1.50 (including a glowstick and drink also). We really hope that this is a fun night for all involved and not too sweaty!!

Finally we will be doing an Easter Egg raffle at the end of term. Any donations of Easter Eggs would be very gratefully received - let's just hope you don't win your own one back!

Just a heads up that the summer fair is going to be on Saturday 24th June. We really hope this a chance to bring all the family along for a great time! Hope to see you all there and thanks for your continued support.

A report from Garnet about their recent sports festival

Last week Garnet class went to Goldington Academy to take part in an Athletics Festival. We competed in 3 different sports - Football, Indoor Athletics and Scoreball.

We were lucky enough to experience the Astro Turf at Goldington and the weather was generous to us.

All of Garnet class enjoyed taking part and we were really proud of Dawid who was awarded the 'Passion' Sport Value, Kyra-Leigh who was awarded 'Teamwork' Sport Value and the value of 'Self-belief' was awarded to Nathanael.

A great afternoon and thankyou to the Sports Leaders who helped us!

Joe Bowering

A report about the Watoto choir

We saw the Watoto choir it was so amazing, the music was lively and we all had big smiles on our faces and so did the Watoto children. They were all brilliant singers and dancers. We all enjoyed seeing the Watoto choir so thank you for getting them to come.

Chloe Bowering

The Big Pedal

As part of The Big Pedal 2017 we are encouraging the children to bike or scoot to school on Wednesday 29th March. We will be taking part in this 1-day challenge and George from 'Sustrans Bike It' will come to our assembly to award a prize to anyone who has taken part. After the assembly there will be a chance for the children with bikes to 'Bling up' their bike by adding a bell, stickers and reflective strips to it – a great way to make your bike safer!

Please support your child in this healthy activity!

Thanks,

Mrs Stanton



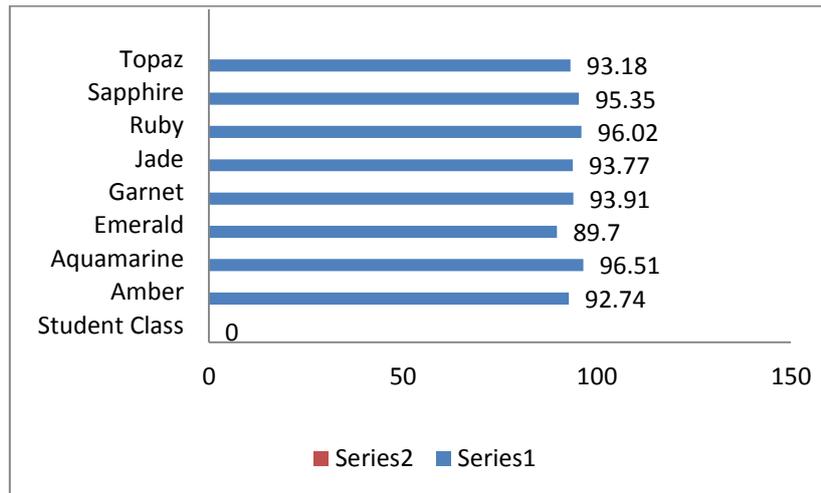
Attendance

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 February have been



6-10 February	Garnet class
20-25 February	Ruby class
27 Feb-3 rd Mar	Aquamarine class

Whole school attendance data to date



Dates – Spring 2017

Wed 22 nd Mar	Sapphire class assembly
Fri 24 th	Comic Relief – Wear something red Tennis Coach in KS2
Tue 28 th	Jade Sports Festival – information to be sent home separately
Thur 30 th	Whole school walk to St Martins Church
Fri 31 st	KS2 visit to St Albans
Mon 3 rd April	Open Afternoon from 2pm FOEC – Clubbercise
Tue 4 th	End of Term
Weds 19 th	Summer Term begins
Mon 1 st May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Mon 8 th	FOEC Movie Club
Mon 15 th	Class photographs
Thur 25 th	FOEC Disco
Fri 26 th	School breaks up for half term holiday
Mon 5 th June	Training Day – School closed
Tue 6 th	School reopens
Wed 7 th	Year 3 Adventure day at Shuttleworth
Thur 15 th	Year 4 Camping at Shuttleworth
Fri 16 th	Year 4 Camping return
Sat 24 th	FOEC Summer Fair
Fri 7 th July	Race For Life
Mon 10 th	FOEC Movie Club
Fri 21 st	End of year FOEC Summer Party

Stars of the Week
February 2017

Aquamarine Class

Harry Roffe
Chloe Bowering
Elsa Leahy

Sapphire Class

Amy Boman-Rastenis
Bradley Whittaker
Holly-Jo Clarke-Cree

Ruby Class

Whole class
Julia Bernas
Zayaan Ali

Garnet Class

Dominika Dul
Bella Caimino
Ismail Hussain

Jade Class

Imogen Wharton
Whole class
Violet De Luca

Emerald Class

Khairi Hamrouni
Lena Sidor
Terry Harty

Amber Class

Jasmine Langley
Sebastian Sibley
Anna Dimitrova

Topaz Class

Jeff Adane-Boateng
Miki Buniowski
Danae Wright