



EDITH CAVELL LOWER SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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Newsletter – May 2017

A message from Miss Cooke

As an extremely busy half term draws to a close, I start to look at everything that has been packed in to next half term and realise that Edith Cavell is always busy and active with such varied learning opportunities for all the children in school.

It is great to have almost full use of the school site back after the builders moved out. Further developments of the outside area are planned for the next few months, including the installation of a new Trim Trail System over the half term holiday. This new system has been paid for from the money raised from the sponsored bounce in 2016 and the sponsored read in 2017 along with a huge donation from the Friends of Edith Cavell. Thank you for your support of the annual sponsored events and events organised by FoEC.

We are planning a grand official opening of the new classroom block on the morning of Friday 30th June and have invited the Mayor, Chief Education Officer and representatives from the builders. A few surprises and treats for the children are being planned as well! More details will follow after half term.

Finally, can I again make a real plea about attendance. The overall total for the year is dipping down very close to 95%, it is currently 95.22%. This is the level below which Ofsted could judge the school negatively. There has been an increase in parents requesting holidays in term time, and although I do not give permission for the children to be taken out of school, when parents still choose to take a holiday, the education of their child is affected. Gaps in knowledge and understanding of curriculum content can occur due to the lessons missed.

Please remember **SCHOOL CLOSED MONDAY 5TH AND THURSDAY 8TH JUNE 2017**

Miss Cooke

Parental responsibility to read and complete homework with children

I would just like to remind all parents that it is your responsibility to read with your child at home and to help them with their homework. It is also an integral part of our Home School Agreement which you are all asked to sign at the beginning of each academic year. We can only lay the foundations for your child's learning here in school, we need your help to build on their skills at home.

Greeting your child from school

I am very saddened when I see children being collected from school while their parent is still on their mobile phone. Children look forward to seeing their parents at the end of the day and are excited to tell them all the wonderful things they have learnt or games they have played with their friends. Please leave your phone in your bag or pocket and take the time to talk to your child. Greet them with a smile and a

it'll make their day.

chat,



New school jumpers

From September we will be known as Edith Cavell Primary School. Our logo will remain the same, just the wording will alter from Lower to Primary. This new logo will be displayed on any school jumpers ordered after September but please be assured the children can still wear their jumpers with the current logo, I do not expect you all to go and buy new uniform. They will be gradually being replaced each time we order new stock.

Our new school app

Please download our new school app!

If you have a smartphone you can download OurSchoolsApp for FREE. It is a personalised app for our school and will allow us to keep you all updated with school information, news, calendar events and contact information. It provides you access to school information at the touch of a button.

Please click one of the links below, depending on what type of phone you have, to download the app.

For Android devices: <http://bit.ly/1Q9dgcb> For Apple devices: <https://goo.gl/1FQgny>

Instructions for download:

- Using your device (iPad, iPhone, smart pad, tablet or android phone), visit the relevant marketplace for your product (Apple Store or Google Play).
- Search for 'OurSchoolsApp' and download the app.
- Once downloaded, use the search bar within the app and enter the postcode or the name of the school. Hit the search button.
- Once you see the school name displayed, just touch the screen on the school name.
- Confirm your choice by pressing 'OK'.
- You will now be presented with the correct app for your chosen school which contains news, information, calendar events, contacts and any other relevant details.

Update from FOEC

We are all so excited about the Super Hero Summer Fair this year. It is being held on Saturday 24th June at 11.30 - 2.30 and we hope you can all come along!

We have giant inflatables, a bouncy castle, a fire engine, an owl and other animals to meet and hold, a Pimms stall, lots of games, a kids baking competition, chocolate, bottle and jam jar tombola's, an ice cream bike, cake stall, international food stalls, BBQ, face painting, glitter tattoos, timed Trim Trail, music and more

Nearly all the stalls will take tokens instead of cash this year - making it easier for you to budget and more fun for the kids to use. Tokens will be sold on the day all round the fair BUT every child in school will also receive one free token each to spend on the day!

We really hope your children can bake something for the competition and nearer the time we will be asking for donations of cakes, Children's books and Children's DVD's, bottles for Miss Cooke's bottle tombola, Filled Jam Jars (filled with anything like marbles, bath salts, candles, sweets or jam) and chocolate for the chocolate tombola...

But till then we really hope you can all come, bring the family, a picnic and join us for a truly super hero day!

Eligibility to Free School Meals.

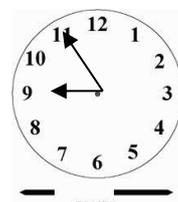
If you feel that your circumstances have changed and as a result your child may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) we would **STRONGLY** request that you complete the eligibility form in school. Even if you are only eligible for a short time, but register, the school receives vital extra funding 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.

Punctuality

Lateness is becoming a very worrying trend and we ask that you make concerted efforts to ensure that your child is in school and ready for registration at 8.55am. Being late regularly has a negative impact on your child's learning. We keep careful records of children that are late and the reasons for lateness. These are passed on to the Education Welfare Officer in cases where there is persistent lateness.



Midday Supervisors

We will have vacancies for Midday Supervisors here in school from September 2017. Please contact the school office if you would like further information.

Sainsbury's Vouchers



We are still collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers so if you have been given any vouchers when you shopped and they are hiding at the bottom of your bag, in your pocket or on the floor of the car please look them out and send them into school. The collection box is in the entrance hall ready to receive vouchers.

Non Uniform Day for Keech Cottage

On Friday 25th May we will be holding a non-uniform day for all children in aid of Keech Hospice in Luton. Children can come to school dressed in non-uniform and donate £1 to this very worthwhile cause.



Water bottles

As part of our healthy eating programme children are encouraged to bring their water bottles. It has been scientifically proved that keeping hydrated and maintaining blood sugars assists children to concentrate for longer periods of time. 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.



The number of children without water bottles in school every day has been steadily rising and this means that those children are not able to keep as readily hydrated, which hinders their learning.

PLEASE PLEASE make sure that your child as a water bottle in school every day. This again is something that parents commit to ensuring when they sign the home school agreement each September.

Money sent in to school

Can I ask all parents that any money brought in to school for trips, dinners, disco etc is sent in a sealed envelope clearly marked with your child's name, class and what the money is for. It has been brought to my attention that a lot of children are just bringing money in loose in their hand to the office. This money often then gets lost or put in the wrong collection. We always have a stock of old envelopes in the entrance for you to use if you do not have any at home.

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.

Class Photographs

The photographer visited the school on Monday 15th May to take class photographs. Please do not forget to return your order by Friday 26th May. The school does receive commission on every photograph sold which we use to purchase resources to be used in school.



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



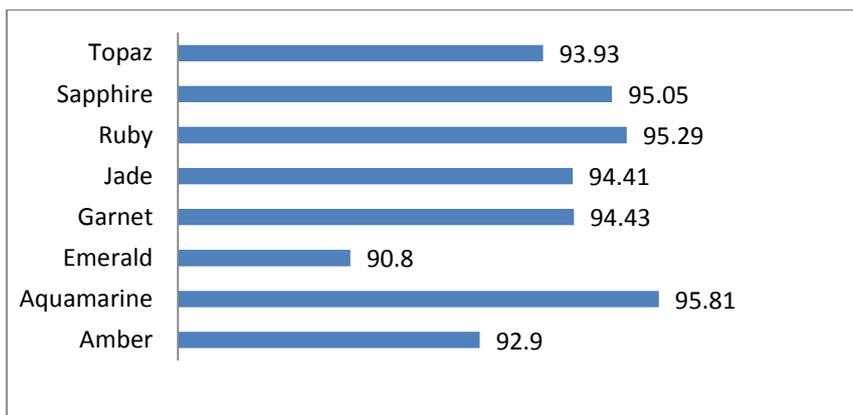
17-21 April

Amber Class

24-28 April

Jade class

Attendance by class



Dates – Summer 2017

Thur 25 th	FoEC – Disco
Fri 26 th	Non uniform day for Keech Aquamarine rearranged sports festival
	Half term
Mon 5 th June	Training Day – School closed
Tue 6 th	1 st day back for children Aquamarine class violin play day
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
Tue 13 th	FoEC Father's Day shop
Wed 14 th	FoEC Father's Day shop
Thur 15 th	Y4 Camping
Fri 16 th	Non uniform day – Donations for Summer fair Y4 Camping
Mon 19 th	SEND Consultation evening
Tue 20 th	Sing up concert at Corn Exchange
Wed 21 st	Amber Class assembly
Sat 24 th	FoEC Summer Fair
Tue 27 th	NSPCC in Assembly – Speak out, Stay safe Y4 to Bedford School
Thur 29 th	Y3 to Bedford School
Fri 30 th	Official opening of new classroom block
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

New Academic Year Term Dates - 2017 – 2018

Mon 4th September – Fri 20th October – 1st half of the autumn term

Mon 23rd October – Mon 30th October – Half term holiday

Tue 31st October – Tue 19th December – 2nd half of autumn term

Wed 20th December – Tue 2nd January 2018 – Christmas holidays

Wed 3rd January 2018 – Fri 9th February 2018 – 1st half of spring term

Mon 12th February 2018 – Fri 16th February 2018 – half term holiday

Mon 19th February 2018 – Thur 29th March 2018 – 2nd half of spring term

Fri 30th March 2018 – Mon 16th April 2018 – Easter holiday

Tue 17th April 2018 – Fri 25th May 2018 – 1st half of summer term

Mon 28th May 2018 – Mon 4th June 2018 – half term holiday

Tue 5th June 2018 – Fri 20th July 2018 – 2nd half of summer term

Monday 23rd July 2018 – Mon 3rd September 2018 – Summer holiday

Term dates for 2018 – 2019 can be viewed at:-

http://www.bedford.gov.uk/education_and_learning/schools_and_colleges/school_term_and_holiday_dates.aspx

Stars of the Week
April 2017

Aquamarine Class

Hannah Bashford
Serenity Dacres

Sapphire Class

Tyler Carter-Halling
Asi Khan

Ruby Class

Eryk Wrzesien
Ruby Harty

Garnet Class

Vaiva Narbutaite
Sohaib Ali

Jade Class

Amelia Viglione-Bee
Arafat Hussain

Emerald Class

Matthew Morris
Terry Harty

Amber Class

Whole class
Tina Viglione-Bee

Topaz Class

Whole class
Amy Morris