



EDITH CAVELL LOWER SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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Newsletter – November 2016

A note from Miss Cooke

We have kept talking and telling you about when the building works start, well they are here with a bang! The children have been fascinated to see the lorries coming and going and it has been remarkable how quickly the school site has changed in just a week. I can only assume that the ongoing change will be just as rapid and we are all looking forward to the wonderful facilities that are being created.

I do want to thank parents for their patience and understanding as we have all adapted to the change in routine and routes that it has been necessary to adjust to. I am very proud of how the children have accepted the new systems and how sensible they have been. Should you have any questions about the changes that we have had to adopt, please do not hesitate to ask.

It seems on every newsletter that it is necessary for me to make some mention of parking around the school. I continue to be very concerned as do many of you judging by the number of you that have spoken to me while I have been observing at the different points that parents park when collecting their children.

I genuinely fear that there is an accident waiting to happen with the way that some parents, carers and taxi drivers are parking around the site. On Manton Lane, as I put in the October newsletter, there should be NO STOPPING, WAITING or TURNING on the zig zag yellow lines. This is clearly displayed on a sign on the school fence. Stopping, waiting or turning on the yellow lines is prohibited within the Highway Code.

I am also aware that local residents have made reports to the local authority and Police about parents observance of child safety in cars with regard child seats and seat belts as well as parking inconsiderately. I have contacted Bedford Borough Council and the Police to ask for additional patrols to be monitoring the situation on Manton Lane and the surrounding residential streets.

PLEASE, PLEASE PLEASE do not stop, wait or turn on the zig zag yellow lines or park on residential streets in areas that clearly say no parking. If you have to drive to collect your children, please arrive a little earlier, park further away and walk to collect, ensuring that you have the correct booster seats and seat belts to protect the safety of all the children in school.

Miss Cooke

Christmas Dinner – Friday 9th December

Our school Christmas Dinner is on Friday 9th December. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 this is still free of charge under the Universal Free School Meal Scheme, all they need to do is return the letter you have received indicating that they would like a school dinner on that day. If your child is in Year 3 or Year 4 and would like a School Christmas Dinner on that day please send in £2.15 in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and class and that it is for Christmas Dinner by Friday 25th November.



Governors

We currently have vacancies for Parent Governors and recently sent home information regarding this. If you are interested in this worthwhile role, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mr Justin Leahy (our Chair of Governors) via the school. If you would like to apply please return the Self Nomination Form and Declaration Form to the school office.

Christmas Jumper and Slippers Day – Friday 9th December

On Friday 9th December children can come to school on this day wearing a Christmas themed t-shirt or jumper and bring their slippers with them to wear inside school. They must still wear their normal school trousers, skirt or dress as it is not a mufti day, just Christmas Jumper Day.



Non Uniform Day Friday 25th November

On Friday 25th November the Friends of Edith Cavell have organised a Non-Uniform Day. On this day the children can come to school dressed in their own clothes and bring a donation of something to sell at the Christmas Fair. This can be good quality books, cuddly toys, sweets, chocolates, bottles, mince pies etc.

Website

I understand that some of you have been having problems accessing some information on our website. We have been advised to ask you to refresh the website every time you visit it and this will ensure you see the most up to date information. For those of you who have not yet visited our website, the address is <http://www.edithcavell.ik.org/>

Christmas Performances



At all Reception, KS1 and KS2 Christmas productions from 12th to 15th December, the Friends of Edith Cavell (FoEC) will be providing tea, coffee and mince pies and all parents and family members are cordially invited to enjoy refreshments at the end of the performance. (Children will **not** be able to join parents) While there will be no direct cost for these refreshments, there will be a collection box for any donations to FoEC and towards the costs. Any donations of mince pies would be gratefully received.

If you have younger children please could you bring them to the Dress Rehearsals rather than the performances and we would ask that you are prepared to take your child out of the hall if they are disturbing the performance.

Bike It

On Monday 21st November we welcome Yo Higton from Sustrans Bike It to introduce our Bike It activities for the coming year. We would like our school to be as active as possible and want to encourage the children and parents to bike, scoot or walk to school.



The following Monday 28th November there will be a healthy Bike It breakfast between 8.30 and 8.45am for all those who have biked, scooted or walked to school in the hall.

The school is also going to take part in a virtual race to Lapland called our Santa Challenge. More details will be sent out next week!

Just Turn Up Fridays at Bedford Athletics Stadium

Starting on Friday 4th November the Just Turn Up Team reinstated 'Family Fun Fridays' from 5.30pm to 6.30pm at the Bedford Athletic Stadium, offering multi-sport activities for all the family.

Tickets cost £2 per adult and £1 per child, or £5 for a family of four (two adults, two children).

For further enquiries, please call 01234 718825 or email sport@bedford.gov.uk.

P.E. Kits

For P.E. lessons, we request that your child has the appropriate kit in school each day. Every child should have a white t-shirt, black shorts and plimsolls or suitable footwear that **fits**. 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 day.



Open Afternoon Thursday 24th November

We will have an Open Afternoon for all our parents and carers on Thursday 24th November at 2pm. Please enter the school via the main entrance before going to your child's classroom where they will meet you and show you their work. You will also have the opportunity to look around the whole school throughout the afternoon. FoEC will have tea and coffee available in the main hall. You will be able to take your child home when you have finished but please ensure you inform their teacher and sign them out at the office.

FOEC

So far this year we have had two movie clubs and a Harvest disco, THANK YOU to all who came and all the amazing volunteers who helped make this happen. We look forward to next terms movie clubs and Valentine disco and some more surprises up our sleeve!

We are all really looking forward to the **Christmas Fair on Friday 2nd December from 3:30pm**. The stalls include face painting, glitter tattoos, bottle tombola, chocolate tombola, hook a duck, pick a gold carrot, whack a Christmas present, Christmas cut out photos, hot chocolate & mince pies, brick-a-brac, cakes, teddy tombola, make your own reindeer food and even you own reindeer poo(!), henna tattoos as well as Indian & Polish food stall and of course not forgetting the big guy himself who we have managed to book in.. Santa will be in the Grotto! We hope that you can all make it and please bring Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles and friends. If anyone would like to volunteer to do ANYTHING at all please contact Abi on [07740463638](tel:07740463638). We would also be hugely grateful for donations to the tombola prizes (a bottle of booze, some chocolate or a teddy), any mince pies or lucky dip prizes and anything that would make a raffle prize (we have some great prizes already but are always looking for more!)..

The main thing is just to come along and share a bit of good old fashioned Christmas spirit!

Lastly we have introduced a super easy way to raise more cash for our school.. It's called Easy Fundraising. Basically if you are doing any online shopping then do it via this link below. It won't affect your shopping or prices at all - but we get a percentage of every penny spent! Here's the link:

<http://www.easypfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofedithcavell>

And we're hoping as many of you as possible can shop this way especially in the run up to Christmas. Many thanks for your brilliant support and here's to new adventures!

Midday Supervisors

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

(Szkoła chętnie zatrudni osobę, która będzie dorywczo pomagać dzieciom w czasie obiadu podczas nieobecności któregoś z pracowników. Osoby zainteresowane prosimy o kontakt ze szkołą.)

Colder Weather Clothing



The wintertime is fast approaching and with the change in the weather it is vital that the children are dressed appropriately. Wherever possible the children will be going outside for playtime so it is important that they have the correct clothing to keep them warm. This will probably include wellington boots, hats, gloves and scarves. Please make sure that items are named so that they can be returned to the correct owner if they become separated from them.

We have some lovely warm hats available to buy from the office at a very reasonable price. They are in our school colour of Royal Blue with our logo embroidered on them and are either knitted or fleece. The knitted ones cost £3 and the fleece ones are £4.

May I take this opportunity to remind you that girls are not allowed to wear knee length boots in school. They can be very uncomfortable and make it very difficult for the girls to sit on the floor during assembly, carpet time etc. If they wear them to walk to school please ensure that you bring their school shoes with them to change in to.

Emerald Class PE Festival

Here are a few words from Emerald class about the Sports Festival they attended

Jesse	I liked the jumping because I could practise and get better.
Sophia	I liked controlling the ball in and out of the cones because it was fun
Paulina	I liked throwing the bean bags and hitting the targets
Nathan	I liked going up to get my certificate at the end

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 October have been



3-7 October	Aquamarine and sapphire class
10-14 October	Aquamarine class
17-21 October	Sapphire class

Diary Dates – Autumn 2016

Weds 23 rd November	Emerald class assembly
Thur 24 th	Open afternoon from 2pm
Fri 25 th	Non uniform day for Christmas Fair
Fri 2 nd December	Christmas Fair – No Premier Sport or GEMS After School Club
Mon 5 th	Theatre of Widdershins production to the whole school
Fri 9 th	Christmas Jumper and wear your slippers to school day Christmas dinner
Mon 12 th	Last Premier Sport 9.30am – KS1 dress rehearsal 12.30pm - Nursery performance 2.30pm - Reception dress rehearsal
Tue 13 th	9.30am - Reception performance 10.45am - KS2 dress rehearsal 2pm - KS1 performance
Wed 14 th	9.30am - KS1 performance 2pm - KS2 performance
Thur 15 th	9.30am - KS2 performance Children's parties
Fri 16 th	End of term

Spring 2017

Weds 4 th January	School re-opens but not for Nursery children
Mon 9 th	Part-time Nursery children return
Weds 18 th	Individual and family photographs
Mon 23 rd	FoEC Movie Club
Fri 3 rd February	NSPCC – Numbers Day
Thurs 9 th	FoEC Valentine Disco
Mon 13 th – Fri 17 th	School closed for Half Term holiday
Mon 20 th	School re-opens
Mon 13 th March	FoEc Movie Night
Fri 24 th	Comic Relief
Tues 4 th April	End of term

Summer 2017

Weds 19 th April	Children return to school
Mon 1 st May	School Closed Bank Holiday
Mon 15 th	Class photographs
Mon 29 th - Mon 5 th June	School closed for Half term holiday
Tue 6 th June	School re-opens
Wed 7 th	Y3 Adventure Day
Thurs 15 th – Fri 16 th	Y4 Camping Trip
Tue 20 th	Ruby and Garnet Class – Sing Up at Bedford Corn Exchange
Fri 7 th July	Race for Life
Fri 21 st	End of School Year

Stars of the Week
October 2016

Aquamarine Class

Shakirah Naeem
Micah Taylor
Selina Akhter

Sapphire Class

Avaneesh Shanmugam
Manikandan
Finn Bantock
Whole class

Ruby Class

Kaiden Neita-Trought
Charlie Bateman
Whole class

Garnet Class

Verity Macaulay
Katie Ludford
Nathanael Houghton

Jade Class

Maja Lisowska
Kalen White
Whole class

Emerald Class

Mahaj Hussain
Sankit Yedamakanti
Whole class

Amber Class

Topaz Class