



EDITH CAVELL LOWER SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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Newsletter – October 2016

A note from Miss Cooke

As we come to the end of a very busy first half term of the new academic school year all the children and staff have been learning, working and developing enthusiastically. It is always commented upon, by visitors to the school, what a fantastically positive attitude they can feel as they come in to the school and how polite, welcoming and well behaved the children are. It always makes me very proud to hear such compliments and I regularly pass on this praise to the children, but it is important I share those positive comments with all stakeholders as everyone connected with the school is part of making it what it is.

Unfortunately it has been necessary for me to speak to an increasing number of parents who have been parking on the yellow zig zag lines on Manton Lane outside school. These zig zag lines are painted outside EVERY school in the country and rule 238 of the Highway Code states 'You **MUST NOT** wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on school entrance markings' I would be very grateful if all parents and carers would observe this particular part of the highway code at all times for the safety of all the children and other road users.

Miss Cooke

Harvest

Our Harvest Assembly is on Wednesday 19th October, and once again we will be giving the food to The Prebend Day Centre and The Bedford Food Bank..

The people who work there are always very grateful for tinned and packet food especially tinned vegetables, tinned fruit and items which just require hot water eg. Pot Noodles, soups

They are also very grateful for toiletries.

Please could you start sending in your donations as soon as possible so we can display them in the hall.

Please could you delay sending any fresh produce until Tuesday.

Wear it Pink

On Friday 21st October we will be supporting the Wear it Pink campaign. We ask that all the children wear some form of pink for the day and make a minimum £1 contribution that will go to the charity. This day is **NOT** a general non uniform day, but an opportunity to show support for this charity by wearing at least one item of pink clothing.



Macmillan Cake and Coffee afternoon

We would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who supported this event either by baking or coming into school and enjoying a drink and cake before collecting your children. We raised £200 for this very worthwhile cause which is fantastic so well done everyone who joined in.



Poppy Appeal

As in previous years we are supporting the British Legion Poppy Appeal. Poppies will be on sale in the office when we return from the half term holiday.



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

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 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.

Even if your child has packed lunch and never has school dinners, you could still apply for FSM and allow the school to access the additional funding.

Even if your child is in Reception or KS1 (and they receive a Universal Infant Free School Meal UIFSM), please still complete the eligibility form if you feel your circumstances have changed and you may now qualify for FSM.

Children in Need



BBC Children in Need will take place on Friday 18th November. The theme for this year is 'Spotacular' so we will be supporting the charity by asking the children to wear something spotty for the day and make a minimum donation of £1 to the charity. In past years the whole school has had great fun on this day with the costumes that the children have worn. We hope that this will be the case again this year.

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.)

Road safety and children's seat belts

It has come to my attention that a number of parents are parking on the grass verges opposite the school on Manton Lane at the start and end of the day and on the yellow zig zag lines outside the school gate. These are **NOT** designated parking areas and parents who park here are risking the possibility of a parking fine from the mobile parking vans. It also concerns me that parents are attempting to cross Manton Lane, a very busy road, between parked cars with their children in order to get back to their cars. Please refrain from parking on the grass verges and yellow zig zag lines.



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.

Building work for our new Year 5 and 6 classrooms

As some of you may already be aware, the building works for our new extension for our new year 5 and 6 classrooms, are due to begin in November 2016 and be completed by April 2017. During this time there will be some necessary adaptations to coming in to school at the start of the day and leaving school at the end of the day. We will inform you of these once we return from half term and the plans for building contractors to access the site are finalised

NSPCC Underwear Rule

In our PSHE lessons this term, we will be discussing the NSPCC's Underwear Rule. This is designed to teach pupils how to stay safe from sexual abuse without giving explicit information or telling scary stories or even using the term "sexual abuse". In the lesson, children will learn about the 'PANTS' acrostic, which stands for

- Privates are Private
- Always remember your body belongs to you
- No means no
- Talk about secrets that upset you
- Speak up, someone can help

The lesson will be delivered in a way that's fully age appropriate.

More information about the Underwear Rule, including a short film and a parent guide can be found at nspcc.org.uk/underwearrule.



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 September have been



5-9 September	Ruby class
12-16 September	Aquamarine class
19-23 September	Ruby and Topaz class
26-30 September	Topaz Class

KS2 Faith Tour – Wednesday 12th October – Review by Aquamarine Class

The Faith Tour was amazingly interesting. We were engaged and enthusiastic, firstly we went to the Gudwara, secondly the Mosque, lastly the Church. This was a wonderful privilege.

KS2 visit to the archaeological dig on Manton Lane – Review by Garnet Class

On Thursday 6th October Garnet class went on adventure back in time. They saw a collapsed Roman wall. A man called Mr Cockings showed us the remains of an old Roman house. He showed us a natural warming room where children used to have to clean up. We were told that under our school could be the most rich Roman villa in Bedford! Then we left feeling proud.



Diary Dates – Autumn 2016

Fri 14 th October	Harvest Disco - FOEC
Tue 18 th	2pm – Reception parent consultations
Wed 19 th	10.25am Harvest Festival
Fri 21 st	Wear it Pink Day – Wear Pink
	Half Term
Mon 31 st	Training Day – School Closed
Tue 1 st November	First day back for children
Mon 7 th	FOEC Movie Club
Mon 14 th	Anti-bullying week
Thur 17 th	3pm – SEND parents consultations
Fri 18 th	Children in Need – Spotacular
Weds 23 rd	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
Fri 9 th	Christmas Jumper and wear your slippers to school day
	Christmas dinner
	Last Premier Sport
Mon 12 th	9.30 – KS1 dress rehearsal
	12.30 - Nursery performance
	2.30pm - Reception dress rehearsal
Tue 13 th	9.30 - Reception performance
	10.45 - KS2 dress rehearsal
	2pm - KS1 performance
Wed 14 th	9.30 - KS1 performance
	2pm - KS2 performance
Thur 15 th	9.30 - KS2 performance
	Children's parties
Fri 16 th	End of term

Stars of the Week
September 2016

Aquamarine Class

Whole Class
Owen Almond
James Dalchow

Sapphire Class

Whole Class
Julia Gibas
Deepika Shari

Ruby Class

Whole Class
Agata Neumann
Hope Akinpelu

Garnet Class

Jimmy Johnson
Whole Class

Jade Class

Whole Class
Aden Winning
Oskar Szymanski

Emerald Class

Whole Class
Jesse Johnson
Claudia Bleda

Amber Class

Topaz Class