

Dear Parents

It's been a really busy short half term. As usual we have some news items and updates for everyone.

Primary Schools' Quality Music Mark



We are delighted to tell you that Cedars Primary School has been awarded the **MK Primary Schools' Quality Music Mark**.

This award recognises the school's commitment to continually providing excellent musical experiences for our children. I would like to thank Mrs Launn, Miss Pollendine and Miss Mazzone for all of their hard work.

SATS and other Assessment Reminders

Over the course of April, May and June children will be completing a number of assessments in reading, writing and maths. **Good attendance is therefore even more important** during this period as for a number of tests/assessments there are nationally set dates when all children must take the tests. The SATs tests for children in Year 6 take place during the week of **9th May** and tests can only take place on the designated days. Children in Year 2 will be undertaking a variety of tests and other assessments which will take place over the course of May and June. The final teacher assessments are completed by the end of June. Children in other year groups (FS2/Y1/Y3/Y4/Y5) will be assessed using a variety of tests and on-going teacher assessments. The phonics tests for children in Year 1 take place during the week of **13th June**. Outcomes from

the teacher assessments and tests will be communicated to parents at the end of the school year as part of your child's end of year report. However, the teacher assessment/test results will look very different this year as there is no longer a national system of levelled assessments.

Book Fair

A huge thanks to you all for your support of the Book Fair and a massive thank you to Mrs Koszykowska and Miss Hunt for organising this event. Not only has this generated a great deal of interest in books and reading, this also generates income by way of books for the school.



This year we have made **£308.57** in commission so a massive 'Thank you everyone for your support and happy reading!'

Autism Awareness Week

Autism is a hidden disability that affects thousands of young people within the UK. As a School we decided to be part of Autism Awareness Week to raise awareness and also to fundraise for The National Autistic Society. Alongside lessons and assemblies, to raise awareness of the struggles faced by people with autism, we also hosted Cedars Got Talent, a onesie/PJ day, a raffle and cake sale. Cedars Got Talent celebrated the diversity and talents we have within the School, such as a pianist, comedians, singers and even a magician. We managed to raise a whopping £773.00. Big thanks to the pupils who

organised the cake sale, the School Council, parents who baked fabulous bakes, Grace Murphy for organising and all the businesses that donated a prize. Cedars Primary School stood up for autism!

Staffing News

As some of you already know, it is with great sadness that Mrs Roncone has resigned from her position as Inclusion Leader for personal reasons with effect from the end of this term.

For the Summer Term Mrs Budd (Specialist Nursery Teacher) will be taking on the post of Interim Inclusion Leader and will therefore be responsible for overseeing the provision for children with special needs. If during the summer term you have any concerns about your child or their progress, please discuss as usual in the first instance with your child's class teacher and then contact Mrs Budd via the school office should you need additional advice or support.

Sainsbury's Vouchers

Please remember to keep sending these in to school as they can be exchanged for much needed equipment. Thank you for those vouchers we have already received.

Lost Property

We have a huge amount of unclaimed lost property! If your child has lost any items please have a look in the wooden chest just outside the welfare room. At the end of the first week back after Easter, we will need to dispose of any unclaimed lost property as we do not



have space to store this. So that we can more easily return lost items to the rightful owner, please could all parents please make sure clothing is clearly labelled.

Water Bottles

Please remember that your child needs to bring a water bottle to school - please make sure this is clearly labelled. In addition, for health and hygiene reasons bottles should be emptied and taken home for washing every day.



Sports Update

The girls began their football league journey this half term with matches against Caroline Haslett and Wavendon Gate. The team were highly motivated and Miss Pollendine was over the moon at the how well the girls held their positions and played as a team. This first outing saw a win and a loss and the girls, captained by Cadee, are hoping to improve these stats further in their second round this week - check the website for a match report.

For information about upcoming fixtures please check the website.

World Book Day

Thursday, March 3rd was World Book Day and saw the whole of Cedars School in costume. We dressed as our favourite book characters, so it was an opportunity to see Harry Potter meet with the Cat in the Hat, or Gangsta Granny have a chat with Hermione Grainger!

It was a super turn-out and everyone enjoyed talking about their favourite books and receiving a World Book Day voucher to spend.

Year 5 and 6 "Big Finish"

This term, Years 5 and 6 have been totally immersed in technology! As their "Big Finish" for their Tomorrow's World topic, they have decided to write blogs to go on the school website. They are currently putting the finishing touches to these and hope they will be seen on the school website early next term. Watch this space!

Foundation

In Foundation 1, we have been learning about 'Are Eggs Alive?' We started by looking after an egg for a week. We gave it a name, made a nest for it and nurtured it through the week. We then found out that lots of different creatures come out of eggs. We have been learning about frogs, chicks, ducklings, goslings, cygnets, snails, snakes, tortoises, turtles, spiders and dragonflies, amongst many other things. We have done this through songs, stories, movement work, maths, observations, studying similarities and differences and much more besides. We have been learning about Easter and celebrated the end of our topic and heralding new life by making Easter hats when our parents came in early with us on Thursday 24th March and designed a hat with all the different elements of our topic on it. Happy Easter!

In Foundation 2 this term we have been learning through our topic 'What is a reflection?' We have been investigating mirrors, reflections in a variety of surfaces and we spent a long time looking

at symmetry. We investigated symmetrical patterns in butterflies and found out that our faces are almost symmetrical. We looked very carefully in the mirror and looked at our faces and painted our portraits. We invited parents in to look at our portrait gallery. Enjoy the holiday!

E-Safety

First of all, a big thank you to the adults who came into school on the 2nd March for our e-safety workshop - the children were excited to share their learning with you. We hope that you took something valuable away from the session and saw how knowledgeable our children are when it comes to staying safe online. Remember to 'Zip it, Block it, Flag it'!

Just go to the 'E-Safety' tab (at the top left of the Home Page) on the school website to access some of the items mentioned in the workshops. If you scroll down and look on the right hand side, there are links under the headings 'Online Safety Websites' and 'Useful Information for Parents/Guardians'.

The information there includes: a family agreement, tips for 'locking down' Apple and Microsoft run equipment and age limitations for different social media sites.

Once again, thank you for coming in - in the world our children find themselves growing up in, it is vital that they, and you, know how to keep them safe online. If you do have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Fawcett and she will help in any way she can.

PTFA

Thank you to the PTFA for organising the Easter Egg Competition. The winners were:

Isaac, Zoe, Poppy, Delilah, Isla, Sonny, Riley, Laura, Emma, Gabriella, Finn, Scarlett, Louie, Ollie, Sally, Jay and Ben.

Achievers of the Week

Well done to the following children for being 'Achievers of the Week':

Ethan- using finger spaces.

Chester - a fantastic performance in 'Cedars' Got Talent'.

Sienna - improvements in writing.

Kisha - making fabulous choices.

Lewis - improvements in writing.

Macy - a brilliant independent piece of work.

Alfie - improvements in writing.

Scarlett - being confident on the trip.

Kirsten - super independent writing.

Jack - fantastic reading and going up a level.

Jasper - being a helpful and caring member of the class.

Joshua - working very hard on learning a poem and performing it in front of the school.

Bayley - topic work.

Luca - positive attitude and a great dilemma story.

Keira - fantastic handwriting.

Keira - great maths.

Charlie - positive attitude.

Jessica - 100% effort, working hard.

Haresh - positive attitude and contributions.

Hannah - a great diary entry.

Miss Barrell's Maths group - working hard on fractions.

Dylan - writing an excellent thriller opening.

Nathan - enthusiasm for learning.

Judah - positive addition to the class.

Imogen - comprehension.

Jake - comprehension.

Maddison - being considerate and helpful.

Jasmin - great writing.

Ben - designing and making a rocket.

Isla - writing a formal letter.

Finlay - improved behaviour and no lost Golden Time.

And finally ... thank you for your continued support and commitment to the school - it is very much appreciated. I wish you all a wonderful Easter and ... fingers crossed for some warm spring sunshine!

We look forward to welcoming you back on **Monday 11th April.**



Yours sincerely

Lisa Munday