

Dear Parents

## Summer Fair



Profit from the Summer Fair was **£1366.03**. Thank you to everyone on the committee for their hard work and to you all for coming along. A good time was had by all.

During the summer holidays we will be renewing the line marking of the pitches and courts on the playground as well as having new markings that the children have requested, including: 'What's the time Mr Wolf', 'Calculating Caterpillars', '4 Way Hopscotch', 'Snakes and Ladders', 'Timestables Grid' and two 'Exercise Circuits'. Half of the amount for this is being funded by the Friends Association and we are very pleased to have our outside facilities greatly enhanced in this way. I would like to say a huge thank you to the Friends on behalf of everyone at the school for their work in raising the funds needed for this project.

## School Travel

Over the summer holidays we will be installing a new Cycle Shelter and Scooter Racks. They will be located behind the football pitch on the large playground.



## End of Year Reports

Reports will be going home to parents on **Monday 11th July** and not Friday 8th July. The reason for this change is because some of our children are not in school on Friday 8th and we would like everyone to have their reports on the same day. In addition, we expect to receive our externally marked Year 6 SAT results on 5th July and this will give the school the opportunity to process the results and print individual summaries which can then be included with the reports.

You will already be aware that from September 2015 there has been a national change to the way children in schools in years 1-6 are assessed and there are no longer levelled assessments. This change is reflected in the way that we are reporting children's progress and attainment at the end of this school year. Therefore there will not be levelled assessments. For all subjects there will be one of the following statements to reflect how well your child is doing in relation to their age-related expectations:

- Working towards age-related expectations
- Working at age-related expectations

- Working above age-related expectations

If you have any questions at all about your child's reports or their assessments please do not hesitate to see your child's teacher.

### **Staffing News**

We have new staff joining us in September as well as some staff who will be leaving at the end of this school year.

We are delighted that following interview Miss Mazzone has been appointed as the new Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) Leader. Well done to Miss Mazzone and we look forward to her taking up her new post of responsibility from September.

Mrs Mackie will therefore be relinquishing her Key Stage 1 Leader's position from September to take over the Inclusion Leader's role alongside being Deputy Head.

At the end of term we shall be saying a fond farewell to Miss Barrell who is relocating to Surrey in the summer holidays. Miss Barrell has been teaching in year 5 at Cedars Primary for two years and has been a very valued colleague. We will be very sorry to be saying farewell to Miss Barrell and would like to express our very great thanks for her contribution and work at the school.

Miss Fawcett has decided to return to Olney Middle School and is therefore leaving at the end of term. Miss Fawcett has been teaching at Cedars Primary for three years and contributed to the development of computing and use of ipad technology in the school. Miss Fawcett leaves with our very sincere thanks and good wishes for the future.

We have new colleagues joining the school in September and very much look forward to welcoming them into the Cedars Primary family.

- Miss Bethan Lewis will be joining the Key Stage 1 teaching team.
- Miss Gemma Taylor, having successfully trained at Cedars Primary to become a qualified teacher, will be joining the Key Stage 2 teaching team
- Mr Paul Mullett, who has been seconded for a year to Cedars Primary School from Two Mile Ash School, will be joining the Key Stage 2 Team
- Mr Samad Ahmed and Miss Emma Synnott will be joining Cedars Primary to train to become qualified Primary teachers

Mrs McGarragh will be returning from her maternity leave at some point during the next academic year and we look forward to welcoming her back to the school.



### **Designated Nursery**

It is with great sadness that I can now confirm that the funding Cedars Primary School receives from Milton Keynes Local Authority to run the Designated Nursery for 7 children with long term and complex needs for the north of City will be withdrawn from September 2016. From our existing school budget, Cedars Primary School is unable to maintain this specialist provision, resulting unfortunately in staff reductions at the end of this term.

Mrs Budd will be leaving her Specialist Nursery Teacher post and Mrs Martin, Miss McKay, Mrs Whelan-Green, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Gibson and Mrs Roberts will be leaving their Teaching Assistant posts. Over the past year Mrs Budd has been a fabulous specialist teacher of the designated nursery and the teaching assistants have been super in supporting the teaching and learning of many children over the years. As a school we are very sad to be saying goodbye and they leave with our sincere thanks for their contribution and work at the school. We wish them all the very best for the future.

### **Stantonbury Athletics**



Well done to all of the children who competed in the recent athletics event at Stantonbury. We were delighted that Sonny Roberts and Jasmin Lovesey qualified

for the long jump finals which took place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

### **All About The Summer Reading Challenge**

All over the UK, libraries are celebrating 100 years of the world's favourite storyteller, Roald Dahl. The Big Friendly Read, the Summer Reading Challenge 2016, is your child's chance to join in those celebrations. To get them started - and it's totally free - all your child has to do is sign up at the library. There, they will be given a collector folder to keep a record of their Summer Reading Challenge journey. Don't forget, The Big Friendly Read has a dedicated website for children taking part in the Challenge: [bigfriendlyread.org.uk](http://bigfriendlyread.org.uk)

### **Mrs Launn Sings for Schools**

You will have heard me singing in our Christmas Carol Service but you may not know that I sing in a choir that travels not only within this country but internationally.

On 21<sup>st</sup> July, my choir will be travelling to Nairobi where they will not only perform in concerts, but raise the profile of the work which The Salvation Army does with vulnerable children living in extreme poverty in conditions which we can barely imagine. I will be visiting Joytown School for Disabled Children, Thika School for the Blind, Kabete Children's Home and the Kibera Community Centre, based in

the biggest slum in Africa with a population of 1.6 million people. In Kenya, £15 will pay for a child's schooling for a year and £20 will feed and house a child for a term.

I will be taking a spare suitcase to Kenya. I would like fill it with basic school equipment, which we take for granted but which is in short supply in Kenya. Cedars' pupils and parents are very generous and I would be really grateful if you would donate something for the schools I will visit. Pencils, coloured pencils, crayons, erasers, sharpeners, rulers and notebooks would all be very welcome and I also hear that the children particularly love bubbles!

All donations, however small, would be welcome. I will leave my suitcase in the Activity Room this week for your gifts. Thank you all for your help.

### **Achievers of the Week**

Many congratulations to the following children for their special award of 'Achiever of the Week' :

*Kitty-Rose - speaking at show and tell.*

*Emma - super writing.*

*Chloe-Leigh - super singing.*

*Arthur - super writing.*

*Julia - positive attitude to all learning.*

*Laura - always being a good friend.*

*Caitlin - super singing.*

*Jude - all round enthusiasm in learning.*

*Eloise - super writing.*

*Felix - super writing.*

*Phoebe - writing a fantastic myth.*

*Jerry - great maths work.*

*Zoe - a good start at Cedars.*

*Lily, Dylan, Ellie, Honey, Emily, Aibhlinn & Isobel - for being great learners.*

And finally ... that's about all the news for now. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July from 3:30pm where there will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's new teacher and in the meantime, thank you all for your fabulous support and involvement with the school.

Yours sincerely

*Lisa Munday*