

Dear Parents

Welcome back to Cedars Primary and welcome to our new families of Nursery children starting with us this term.

As always, we have a number of news items and updates.

### Pantomime - Aladdin



On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020, the theatre company West End in Schools brilliantly performed the pantomime, Aladdin, to the whole school. The



feedback from the children was very positive - they loved it! Thank you to the PTFA for funding this exciting event for all of the children to enjoy.



### The Confidence Star



Have you noticed the new shiny stars in our classrooms? At the end of last term we invited Ife Thomas from Mindworkout to deliver an informative assembly to the whole school on confidence and self-esteem. Ife focused on how we see ourselves and the words and phrases children can use daily to promote positive wellbeing. As a whole school approach we are encouraging the children to use the stars daily, looking at themselves and repeating the words on the star. I am somebody! I am good enough! I can do anything! I like myself!

We have invited Ife back this term to facilitate workshops for the children. At an age-appropriate level, Ife will work with the children on communicating thoughts and feelings to each other, setting goals, dreaming big and managing emotions.

### Road Safety

Please can I remind Parents during school pick-up and drop-off times to take extra care parking on the roads surrounding the school building.



### **Bruno the Therapy dog**

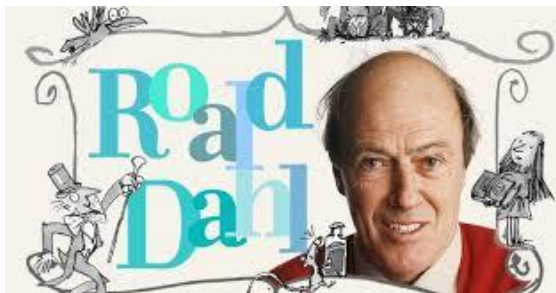
The staff are particularly excited to be gaining a new addition to our school, especially as he's one of the four legged



variety! From next week Bruno the Labradoodle will be making weekly visits to Cedars

along with his owner, Julie. Bruno and Julie are part of The Pets as Therapy Read2dogs team. As in the team name, Bruno will spend time with the children sharing stories, news and successes.

### **Reading**



*"Books shouldn't be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage." Roald Dahl*

This term we would like to offer the chance for one pupil in each class to win a book voucher. Each time the children read at home and have it recorded in their reading record, by an adult or themselves, they will receive a raffle ticket. At the end of the Spring Term we will count out the tickets to see who our lucky winners are. Good luck and remember you can choose to read anything from story books to magazines and even newspapers.

### **Tuck Shop (open every Friday)**

The School Council Tuck Shop is open every Friday at first break time and sells healthy snack items. Each item costs 50p. Supported by Mrs Lockley and Miss Pollendine, the Tuck Shop provides a high-quality enterprise initiative, enabling the School Council members to run their own business within the school. We aim to empower the children to organise, run and manage their own small business. From ordering, to selling, to balancing the books, the children are the driving force behind this initiative. We hope your children continue to find the product range tasty!

### **School Attendance and Medical Appointments**

Please can I remind everyone that I am not permitted to grant leave of absence for holidays or birthday celebrations. It is an expectation that special family events are organised in school holiday times or at the weekends.

The expected level of attendance is 100% and children whose attendance is below 90% are considered to be persistently absent. Attendance of less than 90% means that children have, on average, missed the equivalent of half a day at school every week of the school year. Regular attendance (including being on time) at school is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life. There is a very strong link between school attendance and achievement. We welcome your continued support in ensuring that your children attend school and they are on time.

In addition, whilst we appreciate that some appointments are out of your

control, please could we request that medical and dental appointments are made out of school time wherever possible.

### **Achievers**

In every Friday Celebration Assembly we celebrate children's achievements both at school and from home. Each week the Class Teacher chooses children for a special award: 'Certificate of Achievement and Recognition' and 'The Cedars' Way Award'. Many congratulations to the following children for their special awards so far this half term:

#### Certificate of Achievement and Recognition

Zavier, Whole of Sharks Class, Megan, Poppy R, Lila P, Ruby P, Lucie, Imogen, Jay W, Adam, Olivia, Cody T, Letchan, William, Eliza, Warith, Thea, Logan, Jack, Harley, Liliana and Charlie.

#### The Cedars' Way Award

Kirsten, Chloe-Leigh, Felix, Ronnie, Libby, Edenaya, Emily, Jacob, Esme C, Chloe P, Oliver M and Quincy.



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### **School Opening and Closing Dates**

#### September 2020-July 2021

| Terms                     | Open on morning of      | Close on afternoon of    |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Autumn Term 1 2020</b> | Monday 7 September 2020 | Thursday 22 October 2020 |
| <b>Autumn Term 2 2020</b> | Monday 2 November 2020  | Friday 18 December 2020  |
| <b>Spring Term 1 2021</b> | Tuesday 5 January 2021  | Friday 12 February 2021  |
| <b>Spring Term 2 2021</b> | Monday 22 February 2021 | Friday 26 March 2021     |
| <b>Summer Term 1 2021</b> | Monday 12 April 2021    | Friday 28 May 2021       |
| <b>Summer Term 2 2021</b> | Tuesday 8 June 2021     | Thursday 22 July 2021    |

#### **School Training Days:**

- *Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020*
- *Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020*
- *Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020*
- *Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021*
- *Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021*

## School Holiday Dates

### September 2020-July 2021

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Autumn half term break 2020</b> | Friday 23 October 2020 –<br>Friday 30 October 2020 |
| <b>Christmas break 2020</b>        | Monday 21 December 2020 -<br>Monday 4 January 2021 |
| <b>Spring half term break 2021</b> | Monday 15 February –<br>Friday 19 February 2021    |
| <b>Easter break 2021</b>           | Monday 29 March 2021 –<br>Friday 9 April 2021      |
| <b>Summer half term break 2021</b> | Monday 31 May 2021 –<br>Monday 7 June 2021         |
| <b>Summer break commences</b>      | Friday 23 July 2021                                |

And finally we would like to wish every member of our school community a happy and healthy 2020.

Warm regards

*Lisa Munday*