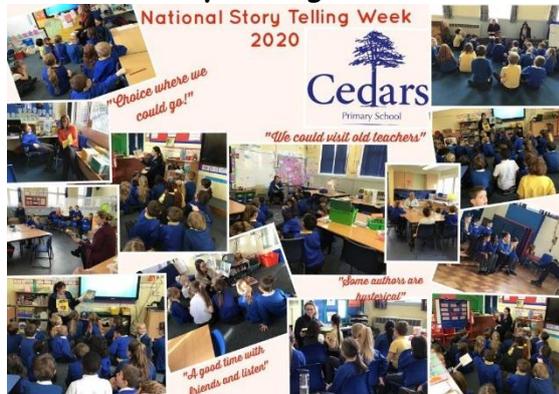


Dear Parents

Two words describe this half term:
BUSY and EXCITING!

We do hope you enjoy reading Newsletter 6; it's full of information about what we have been up to and what is planned ahead!

National Story Telling Week



On Monday 20th January we celebrated National Story Telling week. We started off by having a whole school assembly to think about and reflect on why stories are an important part of our lives. We looked at a range of story tellers and shared stories that we really enjoy. Following this, the children had a choice of a range of different stories to listen to across the whole school from Roald Dahls Revolting Recipes, to Georges Marvellous Medicine to Harry Potter. The children mixed up in year groups and classes and chose their favourite story or one that they had not heard before.

Some of the children said:

"It was really nice that we could go back and listen to our old teachers read" Colby-Louise.

"We had a choice of where we could go and what to listen to" Luca I.

"Some of the authors were hilarious!" Chris I.

Year 3/4 Whitemoor Lakes Residential Trip

On the 6th February 2020, some of the Year 3/4 children visited Whitemoor Lakes for a 2 day residential trip. We



travelled on a double-decker coach for about an hour and a half until we reached our destination.

Everyone was buzzing with excitement! On arrival, we had a tour of the site and our rooms and then got to have a run around in the glorious winter sunshine!

After a packed lunch, we split into six groups and took turns to try out two of the activities on offer. These included fencing, archery, high rope and zip wire/abseiling. The other 2 activities would be left for the following morning.

The zip wire was not for everyone, but those that did it found it a real adrenaline rush! Abseiling was scary at the start leaning backwards over the edge and a few screams could be heard, but ended with a great sense of achievement.

Some children took a little longer than others to get to sleep even after such a busy and active day. We all agreed that breakfast was definitely the most enjoyable meal of the whole trip because of the sausages!

We had a fantastic time with our friends, instructors and our teachers and would highly recommend it to others and love to go again!

Written by: Sylvie, Ava, Freya, Esme

Congratulations Mrs McGarragh!



Congratulations to Mrs McGarragh on becoming the new Deputy Head of Cedars Primary.

Staffing News

On Monday 24th February 2020 we will be welcoming back Mrs Swannell who will be returning from her yearlong maternity.

Mrs Burridge has been our wonderful School Secretary during Mrs Swannell's maternity leave. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Burridge for all of her hard work and commitment to Cedars Primary over the past 12 months and wish her all the best for the future. Mrs Burridge's last day will be Wednesday 26th February 2020.



World Book Day - 5th March 2020



We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day this year on Thursday 5th March 2020, as tradition we would like the children to dress up as their favourite book characters. We look forward to seeing their fantastic costumes! This year staff will be dressing up as a theme in year groups- we hope you can figure out their book or author!

To extend our World Book Day, the children will be taking part in drama workshops within their classes on the 9th & 10th March led by West End in schools. Reception and Year 1 and 2 children will be working on performances based on Stick Man by Julia Donaldson, Year 3 and 4 children will be focusing on Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl and Year 5 and 6 will enjoy laughing their way through a performance based on Billionaire Boy by David Williams.

Every child will receive a book token to enable them to purchase a World Book Day title, or put the token towards a book of their choice. Happy reading everyone!

Year 6 Champions

Thanks to our great Headmistress we had Pizza for providing good service as "Cedars Champions". We have helped out



in the Library, the Dining Hall, the Office, on the playground and assisting teachers with administrative jobs.

By Huey Cessford-Row

School Council (Charity Committee) - Sport Relief 13th March 2020

This year the School Council Charity Committee would like Cedars to support Sport Relief on Friday 13th March 2020 by getting our kit on and wearing sporty clothes



for a small donation. Sport Relief is a great charity that uses the power of sport to raise money for some of the world's biggest problems such as homelessness, violence, discrimination and mental health.

Safer Internet Day-11th February 2020

On Tuesday 11th February 2020, for Safer Internet Day, the children thoroughly enjoyed learning how to stay safe online, finding out how to create a

safe online identity and defining the freedom of expression when using the internet. The children shared valued discussion about how they use the internet safely and found solutions to inevitable issues they may face when going online. Below are some useful links for information regarding Safer Internet Day.

Useful links:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2020>.

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/safer-internet-day-2020-resources-for-educators>.

The Confidence Star



Earlier this week, Ife from Mind Workout came to speak to the children about the Confidence Stars we have in our classrooms. She taught the children that in order to achieve anything in life they need to have five powers:

- Say It (Verbalise)
- See it (Visualise)
- Feel it (Emotionalise)
- Believe it (Believe that it's possible)
- Achieve it (Take Action do something every day to make it happen)

The children enjoyed sharing their goals and took part enthusiastically in the workshop sessions.

If you would like to find out more information about Mind Workout, you can visit the following website <https://mindworkout.co.uk/>

Years 1 & 2

Key Stage 1 have had a wonderful half term exploring their Muck Mess and Mixtures Topic. We have been learning about healthy, balanced diets in Design and Technology and explored lots of different techniques to make patterns in Art. Science was a huge hit with loads of experiments- bubbles, oil, water and food colouring! We especially enjoyed our trip to the Kilning Me Softly pottery café and cannot wait to pick up our tiles once they've been glazed. We have been reading George's Marvellous Medicine and writing our own stories and creating our own marvellous medicines. Well done on a successful half term Key Stage 1.

Nursery

Nursery children have been wondering, 'Did dragons exist?' We have entered the fantastic world of stories and explored many situations where dragons came



along to either save the day or cause a fire! We enjoyed talking about emergency services and made way for them in our action song, 'Make way,

Make Way, Here comes the fire engine/police car/ambulance' and loved it when Phoebe's Mummy brought in the police van and we climbed into it! We are ending this exciting half term with a snuggle-up time with our parents as we share books and start borrowing from Nursery's 'library' during the 'Book Sharing Scheme.'

Reception

In Reception we have had lots of fun looking at different ways to travel. We went outside and counted cars in the car park and made a tally chart of our findings. We also read one of our core texts, Mr Gumpy's outing, and pretended to be the animals from the story before creating a class story map. To finish our topic, we had an exciting visit to Italy during our parent celebration! We departed on a plane in the activity room, had on board snacks, and landed in Italy ready for an Italian meal in the classroom! It was lots of fun and a memorable way of ending the topic.

PTFA Team Cedars Sponsored Run 2020

We now have our group of parents and teachers who will be running as Team



Cedars in the MK Festival of Running on the 15th March 2020. We have 4 people

running the 5k, 7 people running the 10k, and 7 people running the $\frac{1}{2}$ marathon! Thank you to all our running volunteers; Racheal, Lucy, Charlotte, Phillipa,

Natalie, Damian, Elly, Matt, Lee, Andrew, Claire, Ryan, Cris, Heather, Nina, Jamie, Rachel, Bas and Jon. Please support our team! You can sponsor them by following the link below. Many thanks.

https://www.gofundme.com/f/team-cedars-sponsored-run-2020?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1

Years 5 & 6

Years 5 & 6 had a fantastic time sharing their learning about their space topic with their parents. The children and parents enjoyed doing some Science experiments and making some Origami rockets.



Sport Clubs

Hockey club has been up and running this half term through the cold and rain. We have been practicing our basic skills and learning the rules of the game in preparation for the hockey league next half term. We look forward to celebrating our successes with you.

One of our 5/6 Dodgeball teams will be playing in a festival at Ousedale Olney on Thursday 13th February. Dodgeball is very popular at Cedars and there will be more fixtures over the Spring and Summer terms for children in other years to take part in.

Parents' Evening



We are looking forward to seeing you all very soon at the second Parents' Evening of the academic year on **Wednesday 4th March 2020** and **Thursday 5th March 2020**. Please make an appointment online or via the School Office if you have not done so already.

The front and rear gates to the playground will be open for access during these evenings. We will also set up a 'self-serve' refreshments base in the Activity Room (Blue Hall) for parents to help themselves to a cuppa in between appointments.

Nursery and Reception

If your child is in Nursery or Reception, your child's class teacher will provide you with an oral summary of the following:

- how well your child is achieving overall in the seven areas of the Early Years Curriculum - their strengths and next steps to date
- how you can help at home

You will also receive a paper copy of your child's Learning Journey to date.

Years 1-6

For parents of children in year 1-6 at Parents' Evening your child's class teacher will provide you with an oral summary of the following:

- how well your child is achieving in relation to the National

Curriculum - their strengths and next steps to date

- your child's personal and social and development
- how you can help at home

PTFA Valentines Disco



Thank you to the PTFA for organising a fun Valentines Disco. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



What's coming up on the PTFA calendar?

- **Wednesday 26th February 7.30pm**
PTFA catch-up meeting at the Rose and Crown on Silver Street. Do come along if you are interested in getting involved.

PTFA Bingo Night



Eyes Down Ready, Full House for a prize!

On **Friday 20th March from 6pm-8pm**, the PTFA will be holding a Family Bingo Evening in the School Hall. Details to follow after half term. We do hope you can join us.

SATs Parent Information Meeting



If you have a child in **Year 6**, we would like to invite you to a meeting on **Thursday 26th March at 6pm** to gain information on the statutory tests your child will be taking in May 2020 and how you can best support your child.

Achievers of the Week

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:

Certificate of Achievement and Recognition

Yashvina, Ronnie, James Mc, Max, Victor, Chester, Jay H, Megan, PJ, Alessandro, Aston, Cody K, Louie, Kirsten, Jack O'B, Harley L, Charlie E, Murphy, Harvey-John, Ella M, Albert, Lottie, Marcelo, Felix F, Archie, Oliver B, Eli CR, Summer T, Teddy, Cleonice, Grace, Sonny M, Alex M, Lois, Jacob L, Tomas, Letchan, Cody, The School Council, Oakley, James K, Poppy, Sidney, Ollie M, Freddie, Eddie, Harry T, Addison, Cody T, Lexi, Thea, Amaya, Chase, Sara, Ava W, Logan, Hedgehogs Class, Eliza, Warith, Clark, Louie, Caelan, Isabella, Florence, Ixie, Ruby, Lucie, Zachary M, Ellie H, Jayden, Klaudia, Archie W, Alana, Elizabeth, Chloe-

Leigh, Lila P, Macie, Lyla W, Krystal, Milly,
Tazmin, Ava.

The Cedars' Way Award

Leah, Alexandra, Malachy, Riley FH, Olivia
H, Oliver M, Quincy, Louis, Sydney, Willow
FH, Liliana, Harley, Marcelo, Lyla WT,
Edenaya, Laycie, Keevah, Cleo, Hattie, Rose,
Evelyn, Phoebe K, Bonnie, Phoebe W, Lucy
W, Chloe P, Lewis, Erin, Esme, Isla, Eliza,
Amelie D, Max, Ted, Henry, Felix R, Lyla W,
Chloe-Leigh, Liam, Krystal, Chloe M, Poppy R,
Nellie, Victoria, Andre.

And finally...

Thank for your continued support and
commitment to the school. Have an
enjoyable half term.

School re-opens on **Monday 24th**
February 2020.

Warm regards

Lisa Munday