

Dear Parents/Carers



Welcome back to another year at Cedars Primary School and Nursery and a special warm welcome to all of our new children and families!

At the start of term there are a number of reminders about procedures and everyday routines plus a few news items.

## **Names of Classes and Teachers**

### **Nursery**

#### **Penguins Class**

Elee Perkins (Teacher)

### **Reception**

#### **Ladybirds Class**

Mrs James (Early Years Leader)

#### **Butterflies Class**

Mrs Jones and Miss Armit

### **Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)**

#### **Badgers Class**

Miss Hudson (Key Stage 1 Leader)

#### **Hedgehogs Class**

Mrs Morrell

#### **Owls Class**

Miss Pollendine

### **Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)**

#### **Zebras Class**

Miss Hunt (Lower Key Stage 2 Leader)

#### **Giraffes Class**

Mrs Lockley

#### **Lions Class**

Miss Saddler

### **Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6)**

#### **Stingrays Class**

Mrs Briers (Upper Key Stage 2 Leader)

#### **Dophins Class**

Miss Stankowski

#### **Sharks Class**

Miss Parker-Routh

### **Deputy Head**

Mrs McGarragh

### **SENCO**

Miss Alger

## **Staffing News**



We are delighted to tell you that Mrs James will be having a baby in January 2021. An advert will be placed shortly for her maternity cover.

### Annual Calendar

Our Annual Calendar 2020-2021 can be found on the school website under 'News and Events'. As I am sure you can appreciate, at present this could be subject to change at any time and that the Spring and Summer Term are in draft form only.

For those parents who have signed up to Parentmail a copy is attached with your mail. For those parents who have not signed up to Parentmail, a paper copy of the calendar should be attached to the newsletter. Please speak with the School Office if you would like to sign up to Parent mail it is far more efficient than putting paper copies of communication in children's book bags.

### Home and School Communication

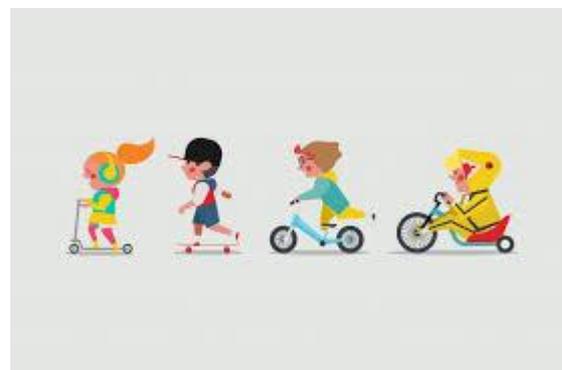


We know that good communication between home and school is a vital part of our partnership. If you need to get a short message to school you can either write a note or speak with the Class Teachers at the beginning or end of the day. For extended messages may we request you telephone, write us an email and/or set up a virtual meeting with the Class Teacher or other members of Staff as required.

**A record of your child's reading is important** and communication with school regarding this is important too. Your child will have brought home a Reading Record. Please see the Homework Policy for Home Reading Expectations.

We have also attached a **Home School Agreement and E-Safety Agreement** for your information.

### Cycling and Scootering to School



If your child would like to cycle or scooter to school this academic year, we would request that your child wears a suitable helmet, have a roadworthy bike/scooter and have had basic instruction in cycle/road safety. Children in Reception to Year 4 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

### Fruit, Healthy Snacks and Water



We are very pleased that children in Nursery, Reception and Years 1 and 2 are provided with a healthy fruit or vegetable snack during the school day. In keeping with being a Healthy School all children in KS2 (Years 3-6 are also

welcome to bring their own healthy snack to have during morning play - **this should be fruit, vegetables or dried fruit (snack bars or any other sort of biscuit/crisp snacks are not permitted)**. I would also like to remind parents that **children should not bring nuts or nut containing products into school as we have some children that have severe nut allergies.**

We also ask that parents supply a suitable **water bottle** for their child to have in school. During the day water bottles are stored in a tray in the classroom and it is therefore vital that bottles are clearly named. For hygiene reasons water bottles will need to be taken home at the end of each day for washing.

### **Medical**

If your child needs to use an inhaler in school, **please ensure you send the inhaler into school**, clearly labelled with your child's name. You will need to sign and return a medical form as soon as possible please. This form can be found on the school website under Information - Find out more - Parent Forms.

If there have been any changes to your child's medical condition, please let your child's class teacher know.

### **School Hot Lunches**

Hot Lunches will be provided from next week. Children in Reception and Years 1 & 2 receive their meals free of charge (paid for by the government). The cost for children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) is £2.35 per day. Some children in Key Stage 2 will be entitled to a hot meal also paid for by the government. If you

think your child is entitled to a free meal, please speak with the School Office team or follow the link on our website under 'Information', 'Food and Drink at School'.

Hot lunches must be ordered via the Parentpay website by midnight on Tuesday for the following week. Use the link: [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)

### **Online Safety**



We have recently reviewed and updated our Parent Online Safety Information website page. school year it might be a Our website features an Online Safety section with links to helpful websites that can help you ensure that you and your children are keeping safe on-line.

Go to our website and on the home page click 'Information' and then click 'Online Safety' to get up-to-date.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

I would like to remind everyone of the school's attendance policy and have attached a copy of this for your reference. Please note that Headteachers are no longer able to authorise holiday leave. There are, however, some exceptional circumstances where leave may be granted.

I would like to thank you in advance for your understanding and support in

ensuring good attendance and punctuality for your child.

### Helping and Supporting Your Child at Home - Homework



All homework tasks and activities this year will be designed to catch-up and consolidate your child's knowledge and skills in English and maths.

### Reception

- Reading with your child, your child reading aloud to you at least 4 times a week
- Spring and Summer Terms: Practising reading 'Key Words' Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s

### Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)

- Reading with your child, your child reading aloud to you at least 5 times a week
- Maths work every fortnight (up to 20 minutes)
- Learning the 2s, 5s and 10s multiplication tables (Year 1)
- Learning the 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s multiplication tables facts (Year 2)
- Spellings (weekly)
- Other subjects work throughout the year

### Key Stage 2

#### Years 3 and 4

- Reading with your child, your child reading aloud to you at least 5 times a week
- Maths work every fortnight (up to 30 minutes)
- Learning the 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s, 4s and 8s multiplication tables facts (Year 3)
- Learning the rest of the multiplication tables facts to 12x12 (Year 4)
- Spellings (weekly)
- Other subjects work throughout the year

#### Years 5 and 6

- Reading aloud to you at least once a week, reading at least 4 times a week independently
- Maths work every week (up to 30-.45 minutes)
- Continual practice of recalling all of the multiplication tables facts to 12x12 (Years 5 and 6)
- Topic based projects throughout the year
- Spellings (weekly)
- Additional work will be set throughout the year to support the children with punctuation and grammar
- Other subjects work throughout the year

**Homework will be given out on a Thursday and expected to be completed for the following Tuesday.**

## Homework will be set from week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

The Homework Policy can be found on our website (under 'Information', 'Policies and Procedures').

### **Number Bonds and Multiplication Tables**

Children can learn and practice their Number Bonds using NUMBOTS and Times tables using TT ROCKSTARS - the links can be found on the classes page of our website. Children have been given their own log-in details. If your child is unsure please send an email to [passwords@cedarsprimary.org.uk](mailto:passwords@cedarsprimary.org.uk) including your child's name and class.

### **Mobile Telephones**



I would like to remind everyone about the school policy on the use of mobile phones. **Children should not bring mobile phones or any other portable electrical devices into school.** If children in Year 5 or Year 6 are coming to school independently of a parent and for safety reasons parents wish their child to have a mobile phone for the journey, **they must be handed to their class teacher at the start of the school day.** Should you wish to have us look after a phone for your child, please complete a request form. This form can be found on the school website under

Information - Find out more - Parent Forms.

Any phones found in school which are not registered with us will be taken into safe keeping and will only be returned to an adult.

Children are not permitted to use mobile phones on the school premises - this includes making/receiving calls or messages and using devices for recording (audio or images). The school will regard any transgression regarding the use of mobile phones, as a serious breach of our Attitudes and Behaviour Policy.

### **Harvest Collection and Assemblies**



This year we will be holding separate year group (Reception, Years 1 and 2, Years 3 and 4 and Years 5 and 6) Harvest Assemblies at school. Once again we would like to support the Food Bank in Milton Keynes. We know that the donations are always much appreciated (and even more so this year we are told) and go directly to local families in need. Therefore please can any donations be in packets, tins or bottles as the food bank cannot deal with fresh produce. **Donations may be sent into school any time from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October.**

### **Parent Teacher Friends Association**

Staff and Governors would like to say a very **BIG** thank you to Vicky Stock who

is standing down as Treasurer. Vicky has given hours of her time (over many years) to support PTFA activity and has been brilliant!

The PTFA are currently in the process of organising their first socially distanced meeting and will be sharing the date very soon. They would love to have new members join this year!

### Tea Towels

The PTFA are organising a year group tea towel. Over the coming weeks in school, your child will be drawing their self-portrait to be included on the design. Tea towels will be available to purchase in time for Christmas, as gifts for family. More news to follow once they are ready!

### Extra-Curricular School Clubs



As you can see from the Annual Calendar, clubs start during the week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Miss Pollendine will be sending out the Autumn Term programme next week. Please remember to return your child's choice to the School Office by Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

### Term Dates 2020-2021

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

### COVID-19

The symptoms of Covid-19 are as follows:

#### Symptoms of Covid-19

- A new continuous cough and/or
- High temperature and/or
- A loss of or change in taste or smell

If you suspect that your child has the symptoms of Covid-19, please:

- do not send them to school
- inform us
- book your child a test
- inform us of your child's result

## Parent Mail



Please can I remind you that we do not usually send home paper copies of whole school communication. This is to try and reduce copying costs and administration and in many cases we often find that newsletters and letters stay crumpled in the bottom of children's bags. We publish newsletters and letters on our school website and our **preferred method of post is email** - this means that whole school communication can be emailed directly to parents on the day of publication and saves the age-old problem of the lost communication in the bottom of a bag! Newsletters will usually be published on a Friday at the end of each month.

If you are happy to receive communication by email, and have not signed up already, please sign up to Parent Mail. For more details, please speak to the School Office.

And finally please remember to read the following:

- **Attendance Policy**
- **Homework Policy**
- **Home School Agreement**
- **E-Safety Agreement**

Thank you all for a super start to the new school year. Have a good weekend.

Kind regards

*Lisa Munday*