

Dear Parents and Carers

We have just a few updates and reminders for everyone this month.

New National Restrictions from 5th November 2020

As you are aware on Saturday 31st October 2020 the Prime Minister announced New National Restrictions which come into force today until Wednesday 2nd December 2020, to control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

In line with government guidance, Cedars Primary School will remain open during this period. Education is therefore one of the exceptions that children and parents and carers can leave their home for.

Please can I politely remind you to ensure that you observe social distancing when on school site.

We ask that you:

- ✚ only have one adult take and pick up your child
- ✚ enter and exit the school grounds as directed for your child
- ✚ arrive only at the school grounds for your child's specified drop-off and pick-up times
- ✚ keep your child with you on the playground
- ✚ observe 2 metre social distancing when releasing your child to a member of staff and receiving your child from a member of staff
- ✚ wait in the 'waiting area' (football pitch on the large playground) between drop-off and pick-up times of siblings
- ✚ leave the school site immediately following drop-off and pick-up
- ✚ contact the school via email or phone for all enquiries (at this time no parents will be permitted in the school building unless it is an emergency)

Thank you.

Staffing Update

Mrs Jackie Gardener (Extended School Day Assistant) will be retiring this month to Devon. We would like to thank her for her care and the arts and crafts activities she has enjoyed leading with the children. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

We have successfully appointed Miss Charlie Fisher and Mrs Millie Opoku-Mensah to join the Cedars' Extended School Team.

Mr Peter Rowe, an experienced teacher, has also joined the Cedars' Staff Team this half term. He will be supporting the teachers across the school to catch the children up in Reading, Writing and Maths following school closure.

Keeping Warm

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As the weather turns colder and we are required by the DfE to continue keep the windows and doors in the classrooms open, you may wish to provide your child with additional layers of clothing under their school uniform to keep them warm. It is essential your child brings their coat to school too please.

Move More Sit Less

In assembly this week, children have been thinking about how much they move. They have been reminded that they should be doing at least 60 minutes of activity every day and they have been

challenged to make sure that they use play and lunchtimes, as well as after school, to keep themselves active and healthy.

How much should we do?



...at least 60 minutes everyday!

Moderate activity - makes your heart beat faster and your breathing become quicker

Vigorous activity - makes you 'huff and puff'



Move More, Sit Less



Children in Need



As you may already know, Monday 9th November is the start of this year's

BBC Children in Need Appeal Week. Cedars is excited to be joining with many others around the UK to participate in the fundraising programme. We know things have been tough recently, so this year we are making children's mental wellbeing our number one priority. Children in Need have created the Five to Thrive, which is a unique programme of wellbeing activities for our Appeal Week. **On Friday 13th November we will be raising money for Children in Need and are inviting all children to come to school dressed in something that makes them happy and make a donation of £1 to Children in Need. This can be anything from fancy dress to a wearing a bright coloured t-shirt, as long as it puts a smile on their faces!**

As we are now a cashless school your donations can be made by following the link below to the Just Giving fundraising page:

<https://justgiving.com/fundraising/cedars-primary-school1>

Let's make a big difference to the lives of children across the UK. Thank you in advance for your support.

New Cedars' Vegetable Patch

You may have noticed over the half term holidays we have created a new raised bed. This is Cedars' Vegetable Patch.



Miss Morrell is looking forward to starting Gardening Club in the new year so we can get growing!



Remote Education - Purple Mash

As you are aware from 22nd October 2020 schools have a legal duty to provide children who are self-isolating access to the learning they would have received at school (Remote Education).

Today Mrs McGarragh wrote to you explaining that during this week your child will receive a username and login (this is the same as their Numbots or Times Tables Rockstars details) and be shown how to log in to Purple Mash and access some activities. They will then be set a piece of homework for them to complete online.

Details about how to access and use Purple Mash, will be sent out in a future Parent Mail next week. If you would like to know more about Purple Mash, you can watch a short video by clicking on this link: <https://2simple.com/purple-mash/>

We look forward to sharing Purple Mash with the children and encouraging them to use it to continue their learning at home.

Punctuality and Supervision



A polite reminder that your child should begin their school day at the staggered start time they have been allocated.

If children arrive after their staggered time, they should report directly to the school office.

By the same token we appreciate children being collected from school at their end of school day time promptly. We unfortunately seem to have a small number of children who are regularly very late being collected from school.

Whilst we appreciate that on occasions there are extenuating circumstances, this should be an exception not a daily occurrence.

Birthdays



As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, we realise that many of our children are missing out on celebrating their birthday with family and friends as they usually would. Our children's well-being is very important to us and we would like to give them the opportunity to celebrate their birthday in school with their friends. We are therefore going to hold a small birthday celebration



within each class bubble on the last Friday of each month. You do not need to provide anything. We will provide fun games and party atmosphere. All children should come to school wearing their school uniform. Birthday children may wish to wear a badge if they wish.

On Friday 27th November, we will celebrate children's birthdays in September and October 2020.

On Friday 18th December, we will celebrate children's birthdays in November and December.

And **finally** ... keep smiling 😊 and keep safe over the next four weeks. Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

Lisa Munday