

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed some quality family time over the holidays.

In this month's newsletter you will find a staffing update, reminders of expectations, online safety information and dates for your diary.

### Staffing Update

I am pleased to tell you that Cedars Nursery School is thriving! This has led us to require an additional teaching assistant. Karen Martin is delighted to have joined our wonderful early years team.

### Attendance and Punctuality

To ensure that your child has the very best chance of being successful, good attendance and punctuality for your child is of paramount importance.

Cedars Primary and Nursery School hours are as follows:

- **Nursery 9.00-3.00pm**
- **School 8:55am-3:15pm**  
(doors open at 8:45am to ensure your child is in class ready for the register at 8:55am)

There are 190 school days in each school year. Expected attendance is 97%+ which equates to less than 10 days' absence in a school year. Our school target is 100% attendance.

The government threshold at which children are considered to be

'persistently absent' is 90%. This means that if a child has attended for 90% (or fewer) school sessions in a school year, they are considered as 'persistently absent' and may be referred to the local authority.

It is particularly important for parents to be aware of the impact of any days' absence from school on their child's overall percentage attendance:

Number of days absent	% of whole school year	Attendance %
5	2.6%	97.4%
7	3.7%	96.3%
10	5.3%	94.7%
15	7.9%	92.1%
17	8.9%	91.1%
19	10% (persistently absent)	90%

Please note that if your child is **late**, this also affects their attendance percentage.

### Water



We ask that parents supply a suitable **water bottle** for their child to have in school. It is vital that bottles are clearly named. For hygiene reasons, water bottles need to be taken home at the end of each day for washing.

## Reading



Reading is prioritised at Cedars. Our homework policy for children in Reception to Year 6 is that you read with your child, your child reads aloud to you at least 5 times a week.

### School Uniform

All children in Reception to Year 6 are expected to wear Cedars' uniform, and we very much value parents' support in maintaining high standards of school dress.

We also ask for your support in not sending children to school wearing trainers unless it is PE Day (black shoes are the uniform), makeup, nail varnish or jewellery (the only exception being for children with pierced ears who may wear one sleeper or stud in the lobe of each ear, but for reasons of safety, these must be removed or covered with a plaster for PE and Games lessons).

All items of standard school wear can be purchased from any shop of your own choice. Cedars' uniform is supplied by My Clothing (formerly Tesco) (online) and

Maisies (in store or online), and all items ordered attract a 5% donation for the school. Please see the My Clothing website: [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com) or the Maisies website: [www.maisiessuperstore.co.uk](http://www.maisiessuperstore.co.uk) or visit their store at: 60-64 Church Street, Wolverton, MK12 5JW.

Second hand uniform is available from The Wood Green Charity Shop on Newport Pagnell High Street.



### Online Safety



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.

### Spring Terms Dates

#### Spring 1

- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2.30pm - Dolphins Class Assembly
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2.30pm - Hedgehogs Class Assembly

- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00am - Nursery and Years 1 & 2 Celebration of Learning
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00am - Reception and Years 5 & 6 Celebration of Learning
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00am - Years 3 & 4 Celebration of Learning

### Spring 2

- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 9.00am - Year 4 residential visit to Whitemoor Lakes depart
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 3.15pm - Year 4 residential visit returns
- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 3.30pm - 6.00pm - Parents' Evening
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 4.30pm - 8.00pm - Parents' Evening
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March - World Book Day
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2.30pm - Giraffes Class Assembly
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2.30pm - Owls Class Assembly
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00am - Reception Celebration of Learning
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2.00pm - Years 3 & 4 Production
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00am - Nursery and Years 1 & 2 Celebration of Learning
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00am - Years 5 & 6 Celebration of Learning
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 6.00pm - Years 3 & 4 Production

### **School Term Dates 2023-2024**

	Open on the morning of:	Close at the end of the afternoon session on:
<b>Autumn Term 1 2023</b>	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2023

<b>Autumn Term 2 2023</b>	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023
<b>Spring Term 1 2024</b>	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
<b>Spring Term 2 2024</b>	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
<b>Summer Term 1 2024</b>	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
<b>Summer Term 2 2024</b>	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024

### **INSET DAYS**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024**

School will also be closed on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Spring Bank Holiday

Have a good weekend when we get there!

Best wishes

*Lisa Munday*