

Dear Parents/Carers,

I do hope you enjoy reading this month's newsletter which is full of information about what we've been up to and what's planned ahead!

## Safer Internet Day



On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, Cedars' took part in observing Safer Internet Day for 2023. The theme for this event was 'Want to talk about it?' and was all about making space for conversations about online life. On Tuesday, children across the school participated in discussions about how the internet is used; the potential challenges we may face when using the internet; and importantly, how we can stay safe while using the internet. All children then participated in a class workshop about this, which included making suggestions about how to behave in different online scenarios. Throughout the day, we spent time revisiting and revising our SMART rules, which tell us how to stay safe online and what to do if something upsets up whilst using the internet. The children all engaged well with the discussions and workshop and it was a successful event.



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.

## Nursery

This half term, we have welcomed both new children and adults into the nursery. The children have been learning to share resources, negotiate problems and make new friends. We have been talking about the 'Cedars Way' and thinking about how we look after property and use gentle hands and kind words.

As part of our learning about the world we have been exploring how the school environment has changed since the Autumn and what Winter looks like. The frosty mornings and the small amount of snow have enabled the children to explore the changing state of water, how it melts when the sun shines and how our gloves, hats and scarves keep us warm.



We have had lots of fun learning the story of *Were Going on a Bear Hunt* and it was wonderful to see so many of you joining in with our oral story telling at the celebration assembly.

The children have enjoyed creating their own artwork, learning to use tools such as scissors and to begin to draw with purpose. We have also been exploring what happens when we mix primary colours.

Each morning our older children have been visiting the Activity Room to do 'Sticky Kids' - a mixture of singing and movement, to build up their strength, coordination and listening skills.

As part of our spiritual and cultural learning we have learned about the Chinese New Year and acted out the story of the Chinese Zodiac to understand how the 12 animals competed to have a year named after them.

The nursery staff wish you all a happy holiday and look forward to sharing more learning next half term.

## Reception

This half term, Reception have been busy learning about hot and cold places. We started by looking at *Wonderful Winter* and explored the changing seasons. We've also learnt about the Arctic, the animals that live there and how these animals are adapted to live in the cold. We then explored hot climates and learnt about animals in the Serengeti, comparing them to animals from the Arctic. We have read lots of books and enjoyed retelling the story of *Handa's Surprise*. We have enjoyed lots of different foods this half term too, especially preparing and cooking our own warming, winter vegetable soup. It was very tasty!



## Book Return Amnesty



Over the half term holidays, please check at home for any school reading books. There will be a box at the playground gate, next to Mr Truelove labelled 'Returned Books'. It is important that books are returned to school in order to provide a wide variety of reading books for pupils to share at home. Book drop off will be anonymous and we will be grateful for every book that is returned.

## **Parents' Evening - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023**



We are looking forward to seeing you all very soon at the second Parents' Evening. 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/Carers to help themselves to a cuppa in between appointments.

If you have not done so already, please book an appointment.

## **PTFA Meeting- 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 6pm at Cedars**

From the money raised via the PTFA, this half term we have been able to purchase 25 new laptops for the children. On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February we will be holding a PTFA meeting to plan further fund-raising activities. If you can give

anytime to help we would appreciate it. We hope to see you at the meeting - coffee and cake will be provided!

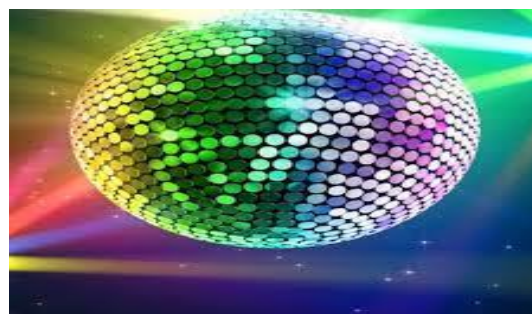
## **Years 1 and 2**

This half term, Year 1 and 2 have been brilliant at writing instructions - they do like a bossy verb! We have also enjoyed learning about the weather in different seasons. Luckily, the actual weather, from just before Christmas and over this term, gave us lots of examples of how changeable it can be! The highlight of the half term was when Mr Truelove came to talk about how the weather impacts us here at Cedars and what he needs to do to keep everyone safe outside in all seasons. We had lots of questions and things to share about how he helps us on the playground in different weather, including using a double shovel, hose pipe and occasionally a super soaker!!



## **Spring PTFA School Discos - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

**SAVE THE DATE!**





### **Years 3 and 4**

Year 3 and 4 have enjoyed their topic 'Flow' this half term. They have been out and about in the local area for their Geography learning, following maps to the river, and creating their own sketch maps of where two rivers meet. The children have also enjoyed looking at different bridge structures around the world in Design and Technology, and using their findings to plan and make their own bridge. The finished models had a pulley system to open and close the bridges that could be operated using a motor.

Another favourite moment from this half term was the Mad Hatter's Tea Party dance. The children watched clips from Alice in Wonderland to inspire their dances and used a prop of a hat. Their final dances were fantastic!

Thank you for your continued support this half term, and the competitive attitude towards our strongest bridge challenge to end the term.

### **Years 5 and 6**

This has been another busy but successful half term in Upper Key Stage 2. The children have worked extremely hard and were very excited to welcome so many parents to our celebration of learning to mark the end of our current topic. They have thoroughly enjoyed learning all about the Ancient Egyptians and using sources to find out about how they lived. In art, the children have blown us all away with their amazing paintings in the style of Tang Yau Hoong, demonstrating their new knowledge of positive and negative space. This week, also observed Safer Internet Day and all children in Year 5 and 6 articulated well, the importance of showing positive and

respectful behaviour online. Dolphins' Class wowed us all with their wonderful performance during their class assembly and demonstrated superbly, all of their new learning. As this half term closes, the Upper Key Stage 2 team would like to wish you all a lovely half term and enjoy a restful break.

### **NSPCC Rocks!**

We had great fun last Friday having a times table competition to support the NSPCC. All children had lots of fun working on their number facts.

The winners were: Joseph, Jack, Eliza, Sara, Suri, Rose, Zac, Chase, Krystal, Georgia, Ewan, Amelie, Oliver, Bellamy, Pavel, Charlie, Teddy, Albert, Henry, Casey, Phoebe, Matilda and Reuben.

### **Tuck Shop**

The School Council are looking at opening up The Tuck Shop next half-term to have a healthy treat on a Friday breaktime. More details to follow!

### **Parking**

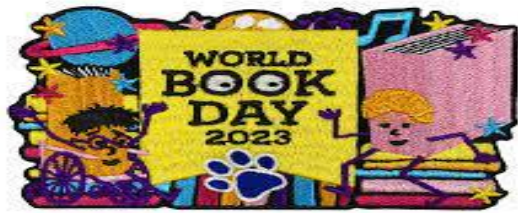
We have an increasing number of cars being parking dangerously near the school entry and exit points. Please can we politely everyone to think before their park - we don't want an accident!



### **World Book Day - 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March we will be celebrating World Book Day 2023. Children are invited to come to Cedars

dressed as one of their favourite book characters.



### Volunteers - Painting



Cedars requires quite a bit of painting and Mr Truelove would be very grateful for some help.

Alternatively, if anyone works for or knows of companies that do community outreach schemes and would like to help us, we would be EXTREMELY grateful.

If you are able to help in anyway please contact the Office.

### 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 so far this term:

### Certificate of Achievement and Recognition

Casey, Beth, Elijah, Gracie, Tilly, Oscar, Avery, Matilda, Oliver, Xander, Zachary, Freyja, Amelie, Joseph, Bastian, Clark, Phoebe, Cayden, Teddy, Willow, Maryam, Anna, Felix, Harvey, Rosalie, Charlie, Riley, Ozir, Ibrahim, Pixie, Sonny, Chase, Sekinah, Siyar, Noah, Ruby, Krystal, Ely, Laycie, Tomas, Evie, Lila, Sid, Rafael, Pixie, Honey, Ava, Arty, Roman, Phoebe, Zach, Phoebe, Issy, Anna and Darcey.

### The Cedars' Way Award

Callum, Issac, Macie, Warith, Zachary, Zachary, Evie, Archie, Ellie-Mae, Clark, Ellie, Nellie, Seb, Olivia, Grace, Willow, Cassidy, Elijah, Xander, Ensar, Esme, Gracie, Harry, Felix, Lucas, Eli, Willow, Quincy, Edie, Teddy, Tomas, Rafael, Lila, Zac, Chase, Jacob, Alfie, Lois, Iris, Sam, Chase, Edenaya, Andre, Ruby, Pixie, Sophie, Sid, Chase, Sekinah, Sonny, Harry, Emillia, Arya, Jack, Lucas, Tilly, Rowan, Jacob and Evie.

Have an enjoyable half term! We look forward to seeing you all again on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023.**

Best wishes

*Lisa Munday*