

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very busy and exciting term at Cedars. The children have been working incredibly hard, as have the staff! I am very proud of everyone.

All of the Christmas performances have been very successful and I am sure have created lots of happy memories. The singing is a real strength of the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing work of our PTFA who have organised two main events this term, the school discos and the Christmas Fayre - both were very well attended and hopefully enjoyed by all! Thank you to everyone involved. If you are interested in being part of this, we are always grateful for any new members!

Santa visited the PTFA Festive Fayre



Reception

Reception have had a fantastic first term at school. We have explored Autumn this half term and read Leaf Man, making our own Leaf Man using different leaves, pine cones, sticks and

conkers. We have been busy learning about different festivals and celebrations such as firework night, Channukah, Diwali, St Andrew's Day and Christmas. We learnt about the different traditions that happen and asked lots of questions. This week we have tasted different Christmas foods from around the world - ask us which one was our favourite! We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in November - we raised a fantastic £210.34.

Nursery

Nursery have been very busy throughout the Autumn Term. The children have enjoyed creating, constructing, role playing, adventuring and lots more. The children have had lots of fun exploring our topic 'All About Me' and enjoying the lead up to the festive season. As part of our seasonal celebrations, the children learnt all about the meaning of Christmas and the Nativity Story. We learnt songs and the children had fun dressing up as different people (or animals!) from the Nativity Story. We went to the Activity Room to practice our nativity singing and acting and the children did this wonderfully! Our nativity performance was everything you would want a nursery

nativity to be! The staff, parents and children enjoyed it thoroughly - the children should be very proud of themselves!

Cedars' Christmas Decorations

The children have enjoyed decorating the school with their Christmas decorations. Each class made a Christmas Hoop telling the 'The Night Before Christmas' poem.



Years 3 and 4

This half term Year 3 and 4 have enjoyed learning about different artists and using their work as inspiration to develop their sketching and water colour skills. They created self-portraits and then

used abstract art to create a water colour piece. They have also enjoyed learning about the Shang Dynasty and their leader Fu Hao. They enjoyed looking at artefacts to decide what they could learn about the way people lived their lives and how modern day life has been influenced by the Shang people.

Zebra class have worked hard during their swimming lessons earning certificates to celebrate their progress, the staff have been extremely proud of the way the children have represented the school during their time at the swimming pool.

A reminder that Lions Class will start swimming lessons in the Spring Term. Please don't forget that the children should wear their PE kit and bring a swimming costume and towel in a suitable bag on the first day back after Christmas.

We hope you have a restful Christmas break and look forward to welcoming the children back to school in the new year!

Years 5 and 6

This half term has been another busy one for Upper Key Stage 2. The children have all worked extremely hard and impressed their teachers with their fabulous art, super science and progress with their writing to name just a few areas. This half term was rounded off with a trip to Lovat Hall for Year 6 children to participate in 'Christmas Cracked' which they thoroughly enjoyed. We would like to thank Geoff and the BridgeBuilder team for putting this together for us, the children reflected well on what Christmas means to Christians.

Our Year 5 children participated in a workshop this week led by the Hazard Alley Safety Centre team; the children gained lots of new knowledge and were able to articulate this well. After a long half term, the children are ready to enjoy their Christmas break so we would like to wish all of our families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all again in January.



Children in Need

On Friday 17th November, we supported Children in Need by wearing all things spotty! Thank you for your support, we raised £217.00.

Years 1 and 2

This half term KS1 have been out and about in Newport Pagnell looking at the buildings and what they are used for. We also had a wonderful visit to Kilning Me Softly, where the children had a great time choosing and painting their wintery or Christmasy characters.

We spent lots of time singing and rehearsing for our 'Big Little Nativity' and I think I speak for all of us when I say it was a HUGE success! The children thoroughly enjoyed performing to their grown-ups and the grown-ups thoroughly enjoyed doing all the actions (and dancing) at the back! We wish you a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Sport

Children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part in basketball and dodgeball this half term. All of the fixtures were fun festivals geared towards those who have only a little experience or who have never played before. All of the children were excellent examples of how to improve, have fun and work together - go Team Cedars! More competitive fixtures to follow after Christmas.



Music

The choir sang in the church of St Peter and St Paul for the Newport Pagnell lights switch on. The children sang beautifully to a very appreciative audience in the church - well done everyone!



Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Best wishes

Mrs Joanne Goldsmith

Cedars PTFA

It's been a busy term and the PTFA would like to thank everyone for supporting the Christmas Card Project, Festive Disco and the Christmas Fayre. These have raised over £900 for the school already this academic year!

All funds raised by the PTFA go straight back into the school to support the learning and wellbeing of the children. We have recently purchased the new reading shed that you may have spotted on the playground.

The PTFA is run by volunteers and we are always after more support. If you would like to get involved, please contact us for more information on:

CedarsPTFA@gmail.com

And finally ...we return to school on Tuesday 9th January 2024, but in the meantime I would like to wish everyone a