

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the conclusion of the first half term of summer, I am delighted to share with you the highlights of our term.

Nursery

We have had another fun-filled half term in nursery. We have been enjoying learning all about traditional tales and nursery rhymes. We have been busy making castle collages, crowns and beanstalks, whilst having fun practicing good teamwork and communication skills!

As sports day is approaching, we have been making the most of the lovely weather and have been practicing our athletics on the big playground - which has been a lot of fun!

We have been learning all about the number '3' in our math's sessions and linking it to 'The Three Little Pigs', 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'Billy Goats Gruff'. It would not have been a nursery half term without a lot of singing - we always enjoy that!

Reception

Reception have had another great half term. In our Once Upon a Time topic, we have explored many different traditional tales. We talked about their similarities and differences and discussed which stories are our favourite. We dressed up as Kings and Queens and imagined what it would be like to make all the rules for a day!

In Drawing Club we have continued to use our fantastic handwriting and phonics skills to write simple sentences and captions. An exciting addition to our classroom has been our tadpoles. We are really interested in watching them grow and can't wait for them to grow their legs. We have explored lots of frog related activities including learning about the life cycle of a frog, completing life cycle jigsaws and using frog and tadpole stamps. Next half term, we will be learning about life on the beach and creatures that live in the ocean.



Years 1 and 2

KS1 have had a busy half term and finished it off with art printing and DT days!

Earlier this week the children etched a design into a polystyrene and using a brayer applied ink to create a pattern in relief. They then went on to design a minibeast in a similar way. The designs were fantastic!



Yesterday the whole school took part in a DT day where children were tasked with building a car that had working axles and wheels. They went to town decorating them and we're sure you'll agree, the end products are super.



Years 3 and 4

Year 3 and 4 have enjoyed making clay sculptures of reptile eyes this half term. We have looked at exploring tone when making sketches of eyes and revisited using water colour paints to create a theme for their sculpture. We explored modelling techniques to make a basic shape and then used water as a slip to attach detail to their model. We are excited to display these for people to look at and enjoy!



Years 5 and 6

We are so proud of our Year 6 children who have completed their SATs tests. All the children had a positive attitude and tried their very best. We can now look forward to a busy Summer 2 term where we will be rehearsing our production 'The Wizard of Oz', completing transition visits to secondary schools and finally we have the residential.

The Stingrays have been exploring Commando Joes (a programme that supports character building, resilience and problem solving). They have talked about leadership and managed to solve how they would use strips of guttering to transport water across a distance.

The children have enjoyed learning how to play rounders and they have produced some beautiful collage artwork. They have created cardboard houses that will be joined together to create a community sculpture which will then be displayed in the school. We have enjoyed reading their blood-thirsty instructions about how to raid an Anglo-Saxon settlement.

School Council

This half term the School's Council have been looking at the facilities and games which are used during lunchtimes. Students have been given the responsibility to give out and collect different equipment each day, for example: drawing, hoops, skipping ropes and bean bags. The children of Cedars have been excited by the new range of equipment and have begun to create their own games!

Newport Pagnell Library

We have made an exciting link with Newport Pagnell Library this term. Each class will have the opportunity to visit the library, learn about how it works and enjoy looking at some of the books.

So far the children in Years 2, 3 and 4 have visited and enjoyed playing a book bingo game and hearing stories. Over the final term, the rest of the school will have the chance to visit. Please check the library service website on how to become a member. It is free of charge and allows you to borrow books from any library in Milton Keynes.

Attendance

Good attendance leads to academic success. At Cedars, we would like every child to have an attendance of 97%. The school day starts at 8:45 am and it is important that the children arrive on time so that they can settle quickly and be ready to learn.

A quick reminder that all holidays during term time will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.



Sports Day

It is that time of the year and it's Sports Day on Wednesday 12th June! We would like to invite family and friends to join us on the school playground at 9:30am so that we can walk (process) down to the field together. As in previous years, when we get there, we would ask that supporters stand around the outside of the track area only. The event should be finished by approximately 11:30am. Fingers crossed for good weather, and we look forward to an exciting morning.

Book Fair



The Scholastic Book Fair is coming back to Cedars in Summer 2! It will run after school in the activity room from Monday 17th June to Thursday 20th June. Look out for the posters around school with all the information.

By now all children from Reception to Year 6 should have bought home a Book Fair Bingo card to enter our Book Fair competition. We look forward to see all of the amazing books you read and who the 5 winners will be when the competition closes on Friday 14th June.

And finally...

As we look forward to the second half of the Summer Term, we are excited about the new projects and activities planned. We aim to continue providing a stimulating and nurturing environment for all our students.

We hope you have a wonderful break and look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for the exciting final academic half term on Tuesday 4th June 2024.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'J. Goldsmith'.

Mrs J Goldsmith
Headteacher