



Cedars Park Primary School School Bulletin

Friday 6th June 2025

Notable Dates

Wed 11th June—Kestrel Library Session 2.30pm

Thurs 12th June—Curlwey Library Session 2.30pm

Wed 18th June - Nuthatch Library session 2.30pm

Thurs 19th June - Cormorant Library session 2.30pm

Fri 20th June - Sports Day

Tues 24th June - Year 6 Crucial Crew at The Mix

Wed 25th June - Year 4 WCET Music Festival at The Apex

Thurs 26th June - Year 5 Sharing Assembly

Fri 27th June - Y2 Colchester Zoo

Thurs 3rd July - Class Photos

Fri 4th July - Reserve Sports Day

Wed 9th July 6pm - Year 6 School Production 6—7.30pm

Thurs 10th July - Year 6 School Production 9.30—11am

Wed 16th July - Year 6 Leavers Party 4—7pm

Thurs 17th July - Reception Graduation Assembly 2.30pm

Fri 18th July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2.30pm

Fri 18th July - End of Term

Lunch Menu w/c 9th

Monday
Pepperoni Pizza or Margherita Pizza

Tuesday
Mac & Chees or Mexican Quesadilla

Wednesday
Roast Chicken or Roast Quorn Fillet

Thursday
BBQ Chicken Melt or Southern Fried Veggie Burger

Friday
Fish Fingers or Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry

Jacket Potatoes available daily

Inclusion Clinic—Thursday 12h June 9am—10am

Next week, Mrs Scarlett and Mrs Boyd will be holding their first Inclusion Clinic. This is an opportunity for parents and carers to come into school and speak to the Inclusion Team about any concerns; ask any questions; or just have a chat!

We will be able to help you with signposting to different agencies, guidance around behaviour and attendance concerns or discuss referrals and other support we can offer within school.

This event will take place in the school hall and some light refreshments will be available. Please sign in at reception upon arrival.

We look forward to welcoming you next week.



Parent Governor Vacancies



There is still an open vacancy for a Parent Governor on the school's Local Advisory Board. Communication and details about the role were sent out again earlier this week.

No special qualifications for this role are required, just a

keen interest in the work of the school and the overall academies within the Trust. A nomination form was sent with the earlier communication and the deadline for these to be returned is Monday 9th June.

Class Cookies

Well done to **Robin Class in Year 1** for having the highest attendance this week.



No Nuts

We are a nut free school.



Cedars Stars

★ Well done to this week's Cedars Stars! ★

Reception Arlo C Hudson W	Year 1 Mollie B Imogen A	Year 2 Georgina G Aria F
Year 3 Elena E Sophie F	Year 4 All Year 4 for their hard work during their MTC timetables check	Year 5 Chloe S Fred R
★ Year 6 ★ Maxine J Harvey L		

Attendance

This week's attendance was as follows:

Reception: 96.83%

Year 1: 99.37%

Year 2: 95.38%

Year 3: 95.5%

Year 4: 96.12%

Year 5: 95.94%

Year 6: 95.74%

Well done to Year 1 for having the highest attendance!



End of Year School Reports

We are excited to announce that end of year school reports, in July, will be sent out electronically. This will bring us in line with the other primary schools in the Trust but will also be much better for the environment too.

The reports will be sent to you securely via email. To ensure that you receive them successfully, please check that your email address is accurate and up to date on Arbor.

More details about the electronic reports will be sent out next half term.



Reports

Sports Day—Friday 20th June

Sports day is fast approaching! We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers into school on Friday 20th June. You will have already received the Sports Day Programme with timings etc but, as always, KS2 will be held in the morning from 9am and EYFS/KS1 in the afternoon from 1pm.

Feel free to bring your camping chairs and picnic blankets!



Cedars LOVE reading!

Before Easter you should have received a letter regarding our shared library sessions. As a reminder, parents/carers are welcome to come into school at 2:30pm:

- Y4 - Kestrel class on Wednesday 11th June
- Y5 - Nuthatch class on Wednesday 18th June
- Y5 - Cormorant class Thursday 19th June
- Y6 - Curlew class on Thursday 12th June



Safety in the Sun!

Now that we are in the Summer term and will hopefully be blessed with more glorious sunshine, to help us keep the children safe in the sun, please ensure that the children come to school with a hat, sun cream and a water bottle.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

DAYS

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2023>

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