



Cedars Park Primary School School Newsletter

Friday 10th October 2025

Notable Dates

Mon 13th—Fri 17th Oct - Book Fair in School

Tues 14th Oct - Parent Consultations 3.30—6pm

Thurs 16th Oct - Parent Consultations 3.30—6pm

Thurs 23rd Oct - Flu vaccination catch up

Fri 24th Oct - Last day of Half Term

27th - 31st Oct - Half Term

3rd - 6th Nov - Year 5 Bikeability

5th & 6th Nov - Skipping Workshops

10th - 13th Nov - Year 5 Bikeability

Thurs 13th Nov - Dove class Library Visit

Fri 14th Nov - Chaffinch class Library Visit

Wed 19th Nov - Individual and Sibling School Photos

Fri 21st Nov - Choir at Snape Maltings 'Friday Big Sing'

Wed 26th Nov - Year 1 trip to Bury St Edmunds

Lunch Menu w /c 13th October

Monday—
Pepperoni or Margherita Pizza

Tuesday
Creamy Tomato Pasta Bake

Wednesday
Roast Turkey or Veggie Sausage

Thursday
Mac & Cheese

Friday
Cod & French Fries or Vegan Sausage Roll

Jacket Potatoes available daily

Dear Parents and Carers,

The start of the term has been extremely busy and the Summer holidays seem like a distant memory. Here are some highlights from the first 5 weeks back at school.

Tour of Britain Excitement!

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils had an unforgettable experience watching the Stowmarket Stage of the Tour of Britain. The excitement of seeing professional cyclists racing through our town brought the streets to life and gave the children a real sense of the skill, speed, and determination involved in the race. It was a brilliant way to kick off the school year!



Year 6 Residential Adventure



Our Year 6 pupils had an amazing time at Bawdsey Manor for their residential trip. From outdoor challenges to team-building activities, the children demonstrated resilience, curiosity, and excellent teamwork throughout their stay.

Many returned with exciting memories, and a renewed confidence in their independence.



Macmillan Coffee Morning Success

Year 5 hosted a wonderful Macmillan coffee morning, raising an impressive **£619!** Macmillan Cancer Support



provides vital services, advice, and support to people affected by cancer and their families. The children's efforts, along with the generosity of parents and carers, will directly help families who need it most. Well done to everyone involved - your contributions make a real difference!



Stowmarket Foodbank Donations

A huge thank you to our school community for your incredible generosity in supporting the Stowmarket Foodbank—we donated 201 kilograms of produce! The donations will go directly to local families who are experiencing hardship, helping them access food and essential supplies. Your support shows the caring spirit of our school and the wider community, and it makes a real difference to people's lives.



Science in Action

Year 5 pupils have been having great fun in their science lessons, investigating **permeability** and exploring how different materials interact with water. The children's curiosity and hands-on approach to learning are inspiring, and it's fantastic to see them applying scientific thinking in practical ways.



House Captain Elections

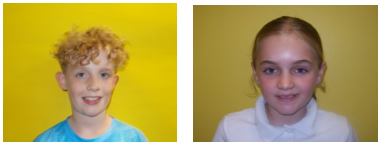
Congratulations to our newly elected school house captains! We are incredibly proud of all the pupils who put themselves forward. Our captains will take on important roles supporting their houses, encouraging participation in school activities, and setting a positive example for their peers throughout the year.

This years Captains are:

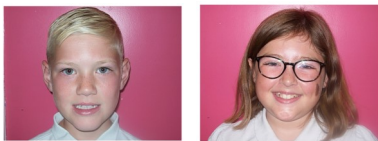
Pine: Loic and Abigail.



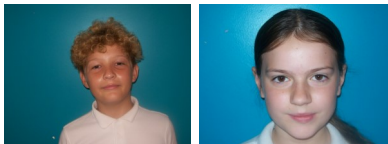
Oak: Ellis and Emily



Chestnut: Freddie and Kelsie



Elm: Kevin and Chloe



Building Imagination: Year 1 Create Their Own Box Houses!

Year 1 have been diving into *In Our House* by Michael Rosen — and what a creative journey it's been! Inspired by the story, the children designed and built their very own box houses, labelling each part carefully with nouns and adjectives. To spark even more imagination, the whole class came together to decorate a giant collaborative house, bursting with colour, creativity, and ideas. What a fantastic way to bring reading, writing, and design to life!



Welly Wednesday Wonders in the Wild!

Our EYFS children have been embracing the great outdoors during **Welly Wednesday**, exploring our woodland and pond area with endless curiosity and enthusiasm. From discovering mini-beasts to building with natural materials, the children have been learning through play, problem-solving, and teamwork. These sessions nurture a love for nature and help develop independence, creativity, and confidence — all while having lots of muddy fun!

As you can see, it has been a busy start to the year and we are only 6 weeks in! There is so much more to look forward to this term, Odd Socks Day, Bikeability for Year 5, Year 6 Christmas Market, EYFS Carol Concert, KS1 Christmas performance, Christmas Jumper Day and The PTA Tombola event, to name just a few. We look forward to sharing these with you in the coming weeks.

Mr Main
Head of School

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

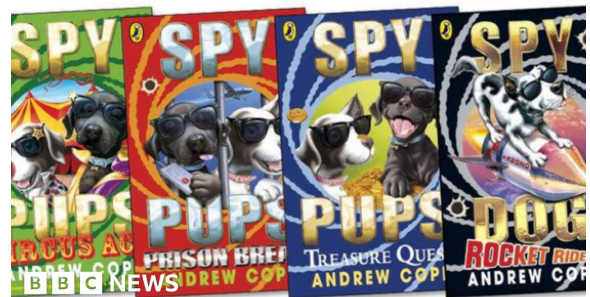
Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

We will continue to share updates from the publisher as more information becomes available.



Breakfast Club Drop-off

A polite reminder to parents and carers that children in EYFS to Year 4 should not be left unattended before breakfast club begins at 8:00am. In addition, parents and carers should bring them into reception and deliver them to a member of the breakfast club team—please do not let children walk across the school car park unattended.

Finally, parents and carers should not use the staff car park (unless you have a blue badge and need to use the accessible spaces) and instead should park in the Community Centre.

Thank you.



Parent Consultations and Book Fair



You will have noticed from the 'Notable Dates' section of the bulletin, that Parent Consultations are fast approaching. They will be held from 3:30pm—6:00pm on Tuesday 14th October and Thursday 16th October.

The appointment booking system is now open on Arbor for you to book your slot to meet your child's teacher(s).

As always, we will have the Book Fair in school during this week. On the Monday, Wednesday and Friday the book fair will be open from 3:15pm—3:45pm. On the Tuesday and Thursday, the book fair will be open from 3:30pm until 6pm when parent consultations finish.

Cedars Stars

Well done to this week's Cedars Stars!

Reception Sebastian G David S	Year 1 Lorenzo R Bella L	Year 2 Logan R Thea B
Year 3 Lexi C Nevaeh S	Year 4 Elena E Polly P	Year 5 Junior S Evie H
Year 6 Elijah P Isaac B		

Attendance

Good attendance to school supports pupils' attainment and well-being.

This year's attendance was as follows:

Reception: 97.82%

Year 1: 95.96%

Year 2: 98.64%

Year 3: 97.88%

Year 4: 93.67%

Year 5: 94.90%

Year 6: 97.14%

Well done to **Year 2** for having the highest attendance this year!

Parking

Please can we remind parents that the bay parking spaces outside Cedrus House are only for use by the care home's visitors and staff. Please also be mindful of parking on the road—be safe, be considerate.



The car park in the community centre can be used in the mornings so that we can continue a harmonious relationship with our local community and neighbours.

Illness



As we head towards more autumnal weather and colder temperatures, we know that our little ones are more susceptible to illness.

Please help us keep the school community safe and healthy by following the guidance that can be found on the NHS website [here](#).

Class Cookies

Well done to **Dove class in Year 2** for having the highest attendance this week.



CEDARS PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL



- Meet other parents
- Get your questions answered
- Discuss important information

Join Us for Our Next

PTA MEETING

Dates on our Facebook page

HAVE YOUR SAY!



Thanks for supporting your child's success



Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

18
CENSORED

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary, emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 16 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Nook, Pocket Gamer and V2net, he has reviewed more than 92 games and products over the past year.



FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

NOS
National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://hlpol.app/about/privacy.html>

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

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