



October Newsletter 2018

CEDARS ACADEMY

What you do today, can improve all your tomorrows...

Dear Families...

Autumn has well and truly arrived and the first half term has flown by. All your children have settled well after the summer break and are working really hard.



Shanghai Exchange

Miss Glendinning has been selected to take part in a prestigious teacher exchange, focusing on mathematics with a partner school in Shanghai. She is among 70 expert maths teachers from schools across England taking part in an exchange as part of the Maths Hubs programme.

The purpose of the visit is to further develop the understanding and implementation of mastery approaches to teaching maths at Cedars and in local partner schools Miss Glendinning will be working with during this academic year.

This is one part of the teaching for Mastery Programme, run by the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM) in conjunction with the Maths Hubs programme, and funded by the DfE.

The group of teachers, all of whom have completed training as Mastery Specialists in a programme run by the NCETM and Maths Hubs, will be visiting Shanghai in late November.

Cedars Academy has also been selected to host the return visit in January 2019. This is an amazing opportunity for us to continue to develop our teaching for mastery approach. Two mastery specialist teachers from Shanghai will work over a two-week period with two of our classes. They will be working alongside Miss Glendinning and the class teachers to model a number of 'showcase' lessons that teachers from across the midlands are invited to observe and discuss.

We will let parents know which classes will be working with the teachers from Shanghai nearer the time.



Purpose Responsibility Innovation Determination Equality

PRIDE Champions

To promote our school values of Purpose, Responsibility, Innovation, Determination and Equality we now have twelve Y6 children who are our PRIDE Champions. They will act as positive role models and will take on various responsibilities around the school promoting high expectations and upholding our values. They will be easily identified by their special lanyards and ID badges.

Harvest Assembly

The harvest assembly was a real success this year and it was great to see so many parents attend. Thank you to Ms Harris for organising it and for your generous contributions. The food was donated to Birmingham City Mission and will help support their work with the homeless, elderly and others in need. Thank you.

Open Evening and Parents' Evening

Our first Open Evening of the year will be on **Tuesday 6th November**. Your child will be able to share their books and what they've been learning in the first half term. This year classrooms will continue to be open from 3.20pm to 5.30pm.

Parents' Evening follows on **Wednesday 7th November** and will run from 4.00pm to 7.00pm. Children **are not** expected to attend, but a creche will be available in the school hall for parents who find it difficult to get childcare.

Attendance Matters

Attendance continues to be an issue for us and unfortunately we have another non-attendance penalty notice of £120 each for two of our families for taking leave in term time. **Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are truly exceptional circumstances.**

School Dates

School closes for half term this **Friday 26th October**. Children return on **Monday 5th November**. School finished for Christmas on **Friday 21st December**. **Monday 7th January** is a teacher training day and children return to school on **Tuesday 8th January**.



VE Day Celebrations

Y6 celebrate VE Day as part of their WWII topic - A Child's War



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Our Macmillan Coffee Morning raised £62. Thank you to those of you who found the time to attend.



Mummified Tomato

Y5 mummify tomatoes in their Egyptian topic - Pharaohs.



Anyone for golf?

Mr Garcia and the team continue to provide some great activities for children over lunchtime. Golf... Crazy!



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