

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that the new year has started off on a positive note for you and your families. It gives megreat pleasure to report that our children have settled back into the school routine quickly after the break.

In the spirit of new beginnings, Cedars recently welcomed some eggs into their classroom. Over the course of the first week, these eggs hatched into fluffy chicks, providing our pupils with a unique opportunity to learn about the life cycle of chickens. The excitement and joy on their faces was priceless.

Another highlight of the term so far was our China Day, which turned out to be a huge success for the entire school. The day was filled with various activities and a dance workshop that allowed our pupils to immerse themselves in Chinese culture. From calligraphy and traditional dance performances to sampling delicious Chinese cuisine, our children had a truly enriching experience. I would like to express my thanks to the staff who worked tirelessly to organise this memorable event.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind all parents to continue checking ClassDojo for school and class notices. This platform has proven to be an effective means of communication and ensures that you are kept up to date with important information regarding your child's education. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself.

Looking ahead, please note that school finishes on the 9th of February for the half term break. Pupils will then return to school on Wednesday, the 21st of February. I hope that this break will provide our students with the opportunity to relax and recharge, ready to tackle the challenges of the second half of the term. In conclusion, I would like to extend my gratitude to all parents and carers for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Your dedication to your child's education is truly invaluable, and we are grateful for your partnership. Warmest regards,

Toni McCarroll Head Teacher

#### **Reminders & Notices**

At Langley our Team of Designated Safeguarding Leads are: Toni McCarroll Becky Ford Claire Hynes Aime Oliver

Our Safeguarding Governor is: Sue Bailey

#### <u>Measles Update</u>

**Stephanie Parkes** 

There is an increasing number of people with measles in Birmingham. Most of these are young children who have not had their MMR (measles) vaccine.

The MMR vaccine is safe for every faith. There is a type of MMR vaccine that does not contain pork gelatine, so it can be used for people who do not touch any pork products. This vaccine is available at every GP practice, and it is free.



Our next coffee morning /workshop will take place on 14.03.24 with SaLT Louise. Theme the benefits of using symbols and photos to support communication.

Teacher Training Days Monday 19th February Tuesday 20th February

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# Firs Class

What a great start to the new term we have had! We are really enjoying our Space topic; we have done lots of amazing sensory and food exploration, we have left footprints on the moon, made rockets, mixed fizzy moon dust and tried astronaut pudding! It has been so much fun. We have continued to work on our pre-reading and reading skills, exploring lots of books and working on our listening skills. In maths, we have had lots of fun exploring shapes and continuing our work on numbers. We can't wait for more exciting adventures after the half term break!



#### Oaks Class

The Oaks children certainly deserve lots of praise for being superstars. They have all made great progress in their personal and social development, and we are starting to see some friendships forming.

This term we have been busy learning all about 'Toys' and how they work. We have explored how different toys operate by pressing buttons, lifting flaps, pressing a remote control, or spinning etc. The children have also explored magnets and used the magnetic construction to build and balance as well as, explored what objects in the classroom are attracted to magnets.

We have continued with our sensory mark-making and in number we have been learning about money in our toy shop. The adults have been extremely proud of all the children in our Physical Development sessions. We completed our work on the apparatus and were blown away by how much the children have continued to challenge themselves, by climbing higher or balancing on different platforms.

We cant wait to see what next term brings for our little Oaks!







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# **Beeches Class**

We have had a fantastic start to the new year in Beeches class. The children have been working hard and having lots of fun! Particularly enjoying swimming and forest school. Even in the cold weather they have thrown themselves into outdoor learning and experiences.

In literacy we have been focused on the book 'The Great Explorer' and sentence building. We are so proud of how well the children are progressing and building their attention. Their writing and mark making has been fabulous!

In maths, the children have been fantastic at recognising their numbers and using them in lots of practical ways. We have also focused on shapes; naming them and describing them. We have been so impressed with how much the children have retained!

Thanks to all the parents and families for your continued support- it means a lot!

# Acers Class

Acers have got off to a flying start this year! The children who have joined our class are settling in beautifully and are getting used to their new routines and making new friends.

Our topic this term is Space. We have really enjoyed exploring books inspired by Space, written by the author Oliver Jeffers, in our Literacy sessions. We have had lots of fun building rockets and making pictures of the moon using messy art and we have even imagined what it might be like to walk on the moon during in sensory play. In Maths, we have been ordering and comparing numbers, as well as exploring number bonds to 5 and 10.

This half term, we have also enjoyed a weekly visit from the music teacher which is certainly a highlight of the week! It's amazing to see the children engage so positively – especially when handed a microphone to sing with!

We are really proud of how hard the children are working – they are a joy to teach! Thank you all so much for your ongoing support. It really means the world!



# **Poplars Class**

This term Poplars have been looking at explorers and their adventures. As a class we have packed our cases ready for our adventure, dived into the deep blue sea and built an igloo to stop the huge fierce polar bear. Children have worked on collaboration, team building and independent skills.







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# Maples Class

Maples have started their journey around the world, we are visiting different countries and meeting famous people from history. So far we have been to London where our journey started, Egypt and Crimea. We have learnt about Pharaohs and Florence Nightingale. We especially enjoyed role-playing the events that happened in history. During our English lessons we have been creating recounts about our own life and learning about children around the world. We are very interested in school life around the world and how it is so different to ours. Our maths has been based around counting and adding, we really enjoy counting and number songs to get us ready for learning. In computing we have been programming the bee-bots to travel around the classroom using directional language and commands. We have loved meeting Teddy the school dog and watching the chicks hatch and grow.

#### **Cedars** Class

Wow! This term has flown by!! We have had an amazing start to the New Year! Cedars have continued their swimming lessons- the confidence change in these children fills us with so much pride. We have been working with Mr Eaton on Thursdays in PE where we have been looking at our ball skills (rolling, skittle ball).

Our new Topic of The Stone age, shot us into the past where we looked at what life was like for them! The children really enjoyed learning how very different life was. For our Science topic of Living Things we welcomed baby chicks into Cedars class! The children have loved having them and were amazed at learning their life cycle. We have watched them hatch and grow. We have fed, watered and cared for them! A lovely experience for the class and the school! For our multicultural day this term we looked at China and Chinese New Year! During these days we come off timetable and explore different things to do with the country. We enjoyed the Chinese dance workshop as well as exploring the Chinese culture.

Well Done Cedars!

Happy half term, Cedars Team







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# Larches Class

Larches have really been getting back into our learning. We have been looking the topics of Forces and Lifecycles of Plants and Animals. In Forces we have had a wide range of activities around Pulling, Pushing, Turning and Twisting.

In Lifecycles we have been so lucky to have watched eggs hatch into baby chicks. We have looked at seeds and spoke about how they are dispersed. We had some Bullrushes and waved them in the air and watched how the wind took them into the sky. We have planted a wide range of plants, such as Broad Beans, Sunflowers, Tomatoes and onions.

# **Rowans Class**

Rowans have had a wonderful start to the new year. We have been working hard on our communication skills and how to interact with our friends. We have been using our communication books lots during greetings and during snack time to make our choices.

This term, our topic is 'transport'. In literacy, we have loved learning all about fire engines. We have learnt to label one and even wrote a set of instructions for how to make a handprint fire engine. In our topic lessons, we have been looking at old and new types of transport and in our DT lessons, we have learnt all about healthy eating. We have also had some beautiful lessons with the Music Lady this half term. We have learnt when to start and stop playing our instruments and have formed our own band!

The children have made so much progress already and we're only halfway through the year. Thank you for your continued support at home.

### Willows Class

Willows have come back after the break and are enjoying the new topic of transport. We have been learning about fire engines in English and sorting transport in topic. The children have made hand-print fire engines and collage boats. We have been enjoying lots of books this half term and the children are reading so well. Well done Willows.









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