

CLASS ONE

In Class 1 this term we have spent lots of time getting to know each other, our new friends and for some of us, our new school. We have learned how to share, take turns and play together. All the teachers are super proud of how well everyone is doing.

We have enjoyed and joined in with stories about families. We learned about each other's families and went on a 'Mammy/Daddy' hunt. Our favourite story was We're Going on a Bear Hunt, especially when we explored the sensory materials and Miss Mains made it snow in the classroom.



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Class 2 have enjoyed a busy Autumn term back at school. Everyone settled in well and it's hard to believe that we have been away for so long! We have acted out and responded to texts such as "Rumble in the Jungle" and "Aliens love Underpants" and these have helped us to learn about many different parts of life.

During the second part of the term, our work has been linked to the "People Who Help Us" topic and we have found out about different jobs that we might be interested in doing when we grow up. Normally, we would go on visits to different places to support our understanding but as that hasn't been possible, we have needed to be a bit more creative in our bubble. We walked to a pretend post box in the yard and posted real letters (thanks to Will who popped them in the real post box on the way home!) and had a tea party to celebrate Goldilocks' birthday. We also looked at the jobs of the important key workers such as the police, firefighters and doctors. We have found out about materials, looked at floating and sinking, we have thought about the different materials that are used around us. All of this on top of daily routines such as cutting, tracking, dough disco and P.E.

Class 2 have definitely earned their Christmas break!
Have a lovely relaxing holiday everyone!

CLASS TWO



CLASS Three

Class 3 have been learning about people who help us, we especially enjoyed looking at firefighters. We had fun making our own helmets before wearing them put out the different "fires" around the garden..



This year for Children In Need we wore our spotty clothes. The students came to school wearing spotty clothes and enjoyed all of the activities that they were doing in their classes throughout the day.

We raised £50.00

CLASS FOUR



This year has brought with it challenges we haven't faced before. Changes have happened in our daily lives and usual routines but **Class 4** have all coped amazingly well and have had a fantastic term! The children have worked so hard on the topic, 'People who help us'. We have enjoyed learning about several different careers and couldn't quite believe it when we walked into a crime scene in our class.

The children all became police constables and were able to complete an investigation and solve the crime. We've had a very special visitor in **Class 4** recently. Diamond the Elf came through a magic door to spend the run up to Christmas with us. We're having so much fun with him and have all worked hard to help him with his elf training. The children all worked hard on the design for our classroom window for the 'Fenwicks comes to Cedars' competition and have enjoyed many creative activities this term.

The children have all made progress and have worked incredibly hard through challenging times but most importantly, we have all enjoyed being back together. We are looking forward to next term and hope everyone has a wonderful holiday!



CLASS 5 FIVE

As part of Wellbeing Wednesday one theme **Class 5** learned about was kind and unkind behaviours. As a class we talked about what their understanding of what being kind looks like and what being a good friend means.

They developed their knowledge of unkind behaviours and what that looks like in and out of the classroom. The children role-played different scenarios and were able to say what made them feel good or bad.



CLASS SIX

We all love arts and crafts and have excelled in the area since September. The highlight has definitely been designing and making our own colour monsters. The storybook is one of our class favourites and it was made even more special when the characters came to life. Our teachers were very impressed with how we were able to use a sewing machine. **It was so much fun!**



CLASS SEVEN

We have been so happy to be reunited as a class and enjoyed playing games together in class. **Class 7** have enjoyed finding out about the life of inspirational, Sir Captain Tom Moore. To start our topic we got a clue for every lap we completed. We had 10 clues, so as a class completed 100 laps! We then used the clues to sequence events in his life then found out more information. We have written a biography of his life and a letter to Sir Captain Tom Moore himself. We have also been identifying place value and solving addition problems using a part part whole model. We have looked closely at numbers and what they represent using a range of equipment. We have also been developing our sensory tolerance and explored new sensory experiences.



Cedars is losing one of our most valued members of staff, Susan Reay or better known as Miss Reay. She has cared and supported students for 39 years. She is now ready to hang up her apron and enjoy a well earned retirement.

Miss Reay says *“I’ll miss everybody, and I hope everyone has a good New Year.”*

I’m sure you will join me in saying a big **‘Thank You’** to Miss Reay and wishing her a very happy New Year.



CLASS Eight

Class 8 had fun making their own Pudsey ears using pipe cleaners and paper. We also coloured in our own Pudsey bear using lots of different colours and fun designs we created ourselves

CLASS Eleven

This term **Class 11** have been very busy, we have loved learning about Mary Poppins, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Brilliant Britain and The Grinch! We have made a variety of desserts in Independent Living and looked at the skills we need to embark on our chosen careers.

Every birthday this half term we have celebrated by having a party in the classroom, which has helped us develop skills of winning and losing.



CLASS Twelve 12

CLASS 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Class 12 really enjoyed taking part in the Fenwicks Christmas window competition. We decided to go traditional and link it to our class number. Our design was based on stencils that class members found, we had so much fun designing and decorating it!

And... We won!! We won the prize of most imaginative. Take a look at the picture and let us know what you think, worthy winners? We think so!



Our New Sports Hall & Gym – The Miller Centre and The Neale Hall

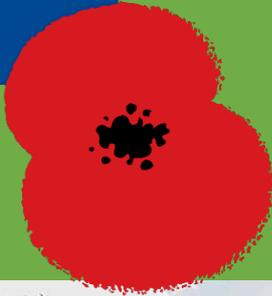


See what Mr Flowers, Mr Vincent, The Chair and Vice Chair of The Governor's said about our new facilities on the last page

CLASS Thirteen

This week, we sent letters to Craigielea Care Home. We discussed how they may be feeling this year and wrote thoughtful letters to encourage them. Many of us are missing loved ones too, and we hope our letters can bring some Christmas joy!

Lucy and her Aunty raised a whopping **£274.00** for the Royal British Legion. She wanted to say Well Done and Thank You!



CLASS Fourteen

Riley Lloyd 'I am going to get a new puppy after Christmas.'

Hope McLoughlin 'I've getting a new black trench coat.'

Chloe Dodds 'I have had a visit to Dryden. I loved it. I may go there next September. I also enjoyed making cheese toasties at school.'

Siobhan Hayward 'I was student of the week last week and chose a monster note pad. I use it to write in.'

Billie-Jo 'I would like to be known by #BJB16. When I was pupil of the week I chose a silver fairy wand. My mam and dad were proud of me.'

Torie Colls 'Would like to wish all her friends a Merry Christmas.'



Our outdoor decking area has had a re-vamp. Astro-turf has been laid over the decking. Not only does it look better but it means students can access it all year round (it was too slippery before). This will now be a safe place to work and enjoy in the coming months.



CLASS Fifteen

15

In **Class 15** we have tried a different approach to window decorating which involved us printing off our chosen pictures then sticking them onto the windows then tracing the outlines then painting them to add colour. We spent all day trying to perfect them and we really enjoyed doing it and we are very proud. We hope everyone has enjoyed them as they walk down the corridor.



Laighton. Class 15

My band is called 'The North Strokes' and we have been playing together since August 2019. I play guitar in the band which I enjoy a lot. I taught myself to play the guitar when I was 11 years old. My favourite band is Led Zeppelin. Before Covid-19 we rehearsed at least once a week but we haven't been able to rehearse for a long time due to restrictions which I find very frustrating. I am looking forward to the end of Covid-19 so I can meet up with my friends so we can start rehearsing again. My future dream for 'The North Strokes' would be to play in stadia around the world in front of thousands of 'North Strokes' fans.



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

I was overwhelmed when Dave came to the church with the donations for the Food Coop. I feel that thank you is not enough. The Deacon's wife came in when we were starting to sort it out and she was quite tearful when I said that it had all come from Siobhan's school. She realises it is only a small school. It is an amazing donation.

We are starting to sort the special Christmas bags to distribute next week and I'll send a photo when they're sorted. We will be distributing between 90 and 100 bags now as people are being accommodated in the area all the time.

We have had several new families this week so the extra donations are very welcome, Many thanks again,

Kath x



Class 16 have had a wonderful Autumn term which ended in triumph with us winning the 'best use of resources' prize in the Christmas window competition. We foraged on our school grounds and gathered holly, conifer, pine and ivy to create our piece (although we did have to buy the oranges from the shops as the Cedars orange grove never really took off!)

We're looking forward to Christmas as well as next year hopefully getting back to normal!

Merry Christmas!

CLASS 16 Sixteen

CLASS Seventeen 17



Class 17 have been working hard making our own pizzas. We were able to make a Gluten Free option and learn about the importance of dietary requirements. We have been learning about the differences of intolerances and allergies. We have also been having lots of fun decorating our Christmas window. Each student has taken time to contribute to a different part of the window!



RIGHTS
RESPECTING
SCHOOLS

unicef 
UNITED KINGDOM

As part of our Rights Respecting School Campaign, Cedars Academy set up a reverse advent. This took place from Tuesday 1st December – Wednesday 16th December 2020. We used the traditional idea of an advent calendar and reversed it. Pupils and staff brought in many donations to give to The Food Coop in Gateshead. The Food Bank Advent Campaign wasn't just about encouraging people to donate food to their local food bank. It was about raising awareness. First about food poverty and second about how to help. Every class throughout the school was given the opportunity to take part. We asked that you only give what you can and it has been a great success!

On behalf of the Rights Respecting School Council group, the staff at the Food Coop and everyone at Cedars we would like to say a huge thank you for all your support! There were so many boxes full to bursting, all ready to be delivered to the food bank. We have been overwhelmed by your generosity and the people at the Food Coop have too! You are all wonderful and so, so kind! Have a lovely Christmas.

STUDENT COUNCIL

In Student Council this term, we have communicated through Zoom because of the pandemic. We have decided that we're getting new play equipment in the near future including a new mугger. We gave students a choice to wear something spotty or normal uniform for Children in Need.

Every Friday afternoon the senior classes took it in turns to create a weekly assembly for the rest of the students. This started with a video that Class 12 made about Remembrance Day.

Student council have split into 4 groups which are Environment, Rights Respecting Schools, School Life and Fundraising/Events. We are also pleased to announce that our new sports hall is ready and the students are looking forward to using it.

This term the Environment group have had a meeting about developing the outdoor area. This was very successful and the Environment group came up with loads of ideas. As there's been a lot going on with the indoor environment (the new sports hall) we will meet up again in the new year to discuss progression with the development of the outdoor area.

The Fundraising and Events group met up via zoom, we discussed what we would do for the opening ceremony of the new sports hall and gym. We decided to do videos for the opening ceremony and the governing body meeting.

We also discussed what different charity days we know about and what fundraising events we could do to raise money for the school.



The School Life group met with Caron the cook to give them an opportunity to discuss the school meals and what they would like to see on the lunch menu. Classes made thank you cards as they missed seeing the kitchen staff.

We have decorated our Christmas tree outside the school with recycled decorations to show we are committed to being environmentally friendly. We would like to say a big thank you to all the children and staff that helped.

School Dinners

Mr. Vincent New Sports Complex



We are very excited to have opened the new purpose built complex at Cedars Academy. The complex consists of the **Liz Neale Hall** and **Stephen Miller Centre**, comprising an **inclusive physical development and wellness centre** with changing and shower facilities.

The new complex will allow us to have an even greater impact on the number of young people who access our support and expertise. This is something we are committed to and are immensely proud of.

The opening of the centre ends a **ten-year program** of fund raising events involving many hundreds of our parents/carers and wider community.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank **students, staff and our parent/carer support group and network of friends** represented by **'Cedars League of Friends'** and **'Cedars Parents'** for your continued effort and support.

We cannot wait to increase our offer of morning, lunch time and after school clubs all aimed at getting everyone **'Fit For Life'** and raring to go !





Mr. Flowers

A year that we would all like to forget, has if nothing else, made us all acutely aware of the importance of our family, friends, community and wellbeing. Never has the sentiment of our motto 'Fit for Life' seemed so relevant and important.

The opening of the Liz Neale Hall and Stephen Miller Centre marks the start of a major drive to improve the outcomes for all children and young people at Cedars. The focus of all our efforts for 2021 will be on the physical, emotional and social wellbeing of our community.

Early in the New Year we will begin the consultation process to seek approval of plans that will enable us to provide a more relevant and developmental curriculum, within a holistic and therapeutic approach, delivered in high quality accommodation.

Our plans will enable us, more than ever, to be... 'a community of staff, parents and governors whose aim is to nurture, inspire and prepare our students. Fit for Life in body and mind; happy, healthy and wholly equipped for life'.

So, details of our exciting plans will be shared with you all in January...for now I would like to take this opportunity to thank our entire community, our outstanding staff, compassionate parents and carers and AMAZING CHILDREN for unwavering support, care and understanding throughout these most challenging of times. We are so lucky to have each other.

I wish you all a peaceful, restful Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Chair & Vice Chair of the Governors

The governors would like to take this opportunity to tell all the staff and pupils at Cedars how proud we are of them all for the way they have coped with the COVID 19 restrictions placed on them within school.

Whenever a governor has to come into school we are still met with the most positive and polite students and staff, you all have a smile to give and are happy to tell us how you are feeling. You are all a credit to yourselves and Cedars.

We are sure you must all be as pleased as we are with our new Sports Hall and Gym. The opening ceremony was lovely and Stephen Miller was overjoyed to have the gym named in his honour as was Mrs Neale to have our hall named after her.

The governors wish you all a merry and safe Christmas and a very happy and healthy new year. We are sure 2021 will be an amazing year for you all.

BACK TO SCHOOL

04.01.2021

MERRY CHRISTMAS