



## Well done to the following children who were awarded certificates:

### KEY STAGE 1:

|               |                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>VIOLET</b> | ADAM,<br>INNAYAH &<br>ALFIE   |
| <b>JADE</b>   | AALIYAH,<br>SOPHIA &<br>JEMMA |
| <b>RUBY</b>   | JOSHUA,<br>ELENA &            |
| <b>GREEN</b>  | AIDEN,<br>NIKOLOAS &<br>YASRE |
| <b>BLUE</b>   | FINN, JUSTINE<br>& JACOB      |
| <b>INDIGO</b> | LEIRON, RENEE<br>& EDEM       |

### KEY STAGE 2:

No certificates awarded this week.

## Cypress News

Friday 13th January 2012

### Happy New Year



A new year is often a time to have a review and relaunch of things you have been working on. As

I have written in the past, my advice is to discuss changes when everyone is calm and avoid "heat of the moment" discussions.

Involve everyone in the discussion as part of the solution not the problem. Children as well as adults feel more motivated when their views are valued. So if you have things to work on, plan a family "pow wow", talk, conference, chat; what ever you want to call it.

Let everyone know when it is going to be, have some nice food and make it as relaxed as possible.

Sell it as a positive thing where we are all going to have a chance to say what 's on our mind and think about how we can all try harder.

You may have lots of things to "bring to the table" but just start with the most important ones; that is the one that is causing the greatest anxiety.

This might be bed times, getting ready in the morning, doing homework.

If all is going great and no pow wow is needed, then lucky you! plan a lovely meal to celebrate how lucky you are and to go through all the things you love about each other. Really I mean it!

### Behaviour Policy

As a school we are re looking at behaviour and seeing now how we can move up to the next notch of expectation. Things have really improved around and in school.

Mrs Smith said in September, when she returned from a years maternity leave, that it was like "coming back to a different school."

Now our policy is well embedded we need to look at how we can raise the bar again.

So please work with us as we raise expectations yet further.

The two issues we will need to work further on, and will be tightening up on are, as always related to behaviours that stop children feeling happy at school and/or interrupt learning.

The main Cypress rule that still needs work is :

We are kind and helpful in what we say and do

The main behaviours that break this rule are unkind targeted comments between children, and answering back comments from children to staff.

These are not widespread but do cause upset and disruption to learning as teachers have to stop teaching to address inappropriate behaviour.

Please speak with your children about not making unkind comments about someone's appearance or their behaviour. This is stopping some children feeling free to be an individual as they are more concerned about what people think than being themselves.

Also, please spend time talking through what respectful behaviour looks and sounds like.

We will be doing the same at school.

After half term we will have a whole school focus on "Kind" behaviour in the form of "Kindness week"

For the very few children that are not changing their behaviour, we will be in touch to ask for your support in working together in a targeted way to change their behaviour for the better.

### Attendance and Punctuality

The other issue that we are tightening up on is attendance and punctuality.

We have a cause for concern register for attendance and punctuality. A child is entered onto this for monitoring if their attendance falls below 95% (equivalent of half a day a fortnight) or late in the morning or collected late more than once in 4 weeks.

Late at the juniors is 8.55am and 9.10 at the infants.

A working party has been set up by governors to look at attendance and punctuality. Governors are reviewing the policy and ensuring it is robust enough.

They are also looking into the whole issue of request for leave during term time. Please arrange family occasions in the ample school holidays where possible.

Leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Thank you for your support. We will only be able to work effectively on these issues with parental help; as always.

**Ms Godetz**

**Head Teacher**



### SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL ASPECTS OF LEARNING

The personal and social learning focus for the whole school in assembly and in the classrooms for the week ending Friday 6th January was:

**"I know how I learn best and use my strengths to become an effective learner ."**

### Prayers and positive thoughts needed please

Many of you will know that we have a speech and language specialist who works at our schools three days a week. Her name is Mrs Morden.

Mrs Morden works directly with many children and support staff to help many more.

Mrs Morden was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. She had an operation this week and will be undergoing chemotherapy and radiotherapy in the near future.

I have been in touch with Mrs Morden and she is home now and beginning her post operative recovery.

Mrs Morden has a strong sense of faith and believes firmly that God will help her and her family through this.

Mrs Morden wanted me to share this news with you all.

I know that you will want to join with us in sending your prayers, positive thinking and love to her for a full and speedy recovery

**Ms Godetz**

**Head Teacher**



### Developing the Ground in Front of the Children's Centre

Our Children centre building project is as last coming to a close in terms of final accounts so we can now begin to think of how we want to use the area in front of the Children's centre. We have lots of ideas and I am sure you will have too. We will be holding a meeting in the junior school Star room (bottom playground where breakfast and after school clubs are held) on Thursday January 19th at 9 15am. Please come!

if you cannot make it but are interested in being involved please let the one of the school offices know

Thank you.

**Ms Godetz**

**Head Teacher**

### Children's Centre Consultation News

You may be aware that children's centres throughout the country have been hit hard by cuts in public spending. Next financial year, our children's centre will be receiving a third of what we are currently allocated. We are very keen to ensure that we are still able to offer services, but will need your help.

All children's centres in Croydon will be having a consultation day on Friday 27th January at Ecclesbourne Children's Centre, Atlee Close, Thornton Heath. Parents/carers are very welcome to go and share their views and concerns, regarding children's

centres, from 9.30-11am or 1.30-3pm. If you are interested in attending, you can pre-register by emailing

[consultation@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:consultation@croydon.gov.uk)

Consultation questionnaires have been available in our children's centre; thank you to all those that have taken the time to fill these in. There are paper copies still available in the children's centre or available through the London Borough of Croydon website on [www.croydon.gov.uk/cc-consultation](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/cc-consultation) These need to be completed by Tuesday 31st January.

We thank you so much for your support in using our fabulous centre. If you have not used our services yet, do pop in to the centre and a member of staff will be happy to help you and tell you what we have on offer.

**Miss A M Chapman**

**Children's Centre Manager: South Norwood Hill Children's Centre @ Cypress Infant School**

### School Meal Provision

Most of you will be aware that the centrally - managed catering contract with our current providers, Eden, ends at the beginning of April 2012.

At the beginning of the autumn term, we began a consultation exercise with other local schools in our cluster; All Saints, Downsvew and Rockmount.

We were steered through this process by a specialist consultancy service.

In consultation with all stakeholders (parents, children, staff and governors) a tender specification was developed which outlined our vision for the future for our school meals service.

Interested parties were then invited to tender. 4 companies, including Eden, made it through to the presentation & interview stage.

Each of the 4 companies presented very well and provided a range of delicious fresh, healthy food for the panel to sample.

Although the decision was close, it was felt that the winning company, Pabulum, best represented our collaboration's agreed vision for menu requirements and priorities for further improvement to our children's lunchtime eating experience. In particular, panel members were impressed by Pabulum's commitment to good honest food &

excellent service delivery.

I will keep you posted with more news as we get it. In the meantime, I am delighted to share this exciting news with you.

**Mrs. Hart**

**Headship lead on personal development, health and wellbeing**



### Book Amnesty!

Over the last year we have invested a large amount of school funds into buying quality group reading books for your children to take home and enjoy. Fundraising events organised by the PTFA and your kind donations have enabled us to invest in wonderful resources for The Cypress Schools.

Sadly, many packs are now incomplete and missing just one copy. Please help your child to sort through their reading books at home this New Year. If you find a book with the school label, please, please return it to your child's class teachers asap. Help us restore these sets of reading books that you have contributed to, so that we can all enjoy these brilliant resources!

Many thanks,

Miss Rauf

Ruby Class Teacher



### Mathletics Update

#### Infant School

Congratulations to Yashil, Lola W (Jade class) and Kanisha (Ruby class) who earned a GOLD mathletics certificate over the holiday period.

Well done to Ruby class who have earned the highest number of certificates over the holiday and during last week. (32 in total)

### School Photographer

Please remember that the school photographer will be in school on the following days next week to take your child's photo:

Monday - Junior School

Tuesday - Infant School



Children will be photographed with their siblings from each school - (i.e. - infant school siblings will be photographed at the infant school) - unless you have told us otherwise

There is however an opportunity for you to have your child's picture taken together/ with other family member i.e. Mum/ Grandad from 8am on each of the above days - please book you slot via the office asap as this has proved very popular in the past.

Thank You.

School Office

Because of the fantastic collective effort of all children in Key stage 1, our total number of certificates earned has now exceeded 500.

Mrs Hart

Head of School

### Coffee Morning

Parents and carers of children with additional needs are warmly invited to attend a coffee morning.

Date: Wednesday 25 January

Time: 9.30am - 10.30 am

Venue: Children's Centre parents' meeting room

We hope this will be an opportunity for parents and carers to meet other parents or carers in a relaxing, calm and welcoming environment, to discuss issues and share experiences.

We look forward to meeting you.



Mrs Hart

Headship Lead on personal development, health and wellbeing

#### Junior School

Last week Birch class were champions at the Junior School with 12 Mathletics certificates and 5 Spellodrome certificates.

Mr Roebuck

Head of School

### Whole School Points Chart

|                |      |  |
|----------------|------|--|
| Birch          | 4284 | Congratulations to Cedar, Hawthorn, Horse Chestnut and Larch class for winning last Half Term's Whole School Points Chart. |
| Holly          | 4217 |  |
| Cedar          | 4325 | Children in these classes ONLY may wear their own clothes and bring in a treat on Friday 20th January 2011.                |
| Rowan          | 4381 |  |
| Hawthorn       | 4907 | <u>Thank you.</u>  |
| Poplar         | 4149 | <u>School Office</u>   |
| Sycamore       | 4022 |  |
| Willow         | 3965 |  |
| Horse Chestnut | 4182 |  |
| Oak            | 4330 |  |
| Larch          | 4566 |  |
| Beech          | 4188 |  |

**Lunch box ideas**

**Cranberry rock buns**



High in taste, but low in calories!

**Ingredients**

225g self-raising flour

75g margarine

25g sugar

100g dried cranberries

1 egg, beaten

1 - 2 tbsp milk

**Method**

Preheat the oven to 190C / gas mark 5.

Sieve the flour into a large bowl, add the margarine and rub in until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs.

Stir in sugar and cranberries.

Add the egg and stir in the milk until you get a stiff mixture.

Place small spoonfuls in heaps on a greased baking tray.

Bake for 20 - 25 minutes until golden brown.

**Key Dates for the Year**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 9-13th January        | Arts Week   |
| 10th January          | Reception Height and Weight                                   |
| 11th January          | Pre-French Trip Meeting for Year 5 at 4pm                     |
| 16th January          | Junior School Individual School Photographs                   |
| 17th January          | Infant School Individual Photographs                          |
| 19th January          | Parent Consultation Meeting. Re: Children's in Star Room, 9am |
| 23rd January          | Year 3 British Museum Trip                                    |
| 27th January          | Reception Horniman Museum Trip                                |
| 30th January          | Year 2 Victorian Day  |
| 31st January          | Year 4 Museum of London Trip                                  |
| 3rd February          | Violet Class (Year 2) to Clocktower Trip                      |
| 13th to 17th February | Half Term Holiday   |
| 20th February         | Children return to school                                     |
| 24th February         | Ruby Class (Year 2) to Clocktower Trip                        |
| 2nd March             | Jade Class (Year 2) to Clocktower Trip                        |
| 5th-9th March         | Parents sharing work during the day                           |
| 12th-16th March       | Science Week  |
| 20th March            | Parents Evening   |
| 22nd March            | Parents Evening   |
| 27th March            | Reception Easter Performance, 2pm                             |
| 28th March            | KS1 Easter Performance, 2pm                                   |
| 29th March            | Year 3 Easter Performance, 2pm                                |
| 2-13th April          | Easter Holidays   |
| 16th April            | Staff INSET day-school closed to children                     |
| 17th April            | Children return to school                                     |
| 17-20th April         | Kindness Week   |
| 7th May               | Public Holiday-School Closed                                  |
| 14-18th May           | Year 6 SATS   |
| 30th May              | Infant Group Photos   |
| 4-8th June            | Half Term   |
| 11th June             | INSET day-School closed to children                           |
| 12th June             | Children return to school                                     |
| 12-15th June          | Environment Week  |
| 15th June             | Re-Cycled Fancy Dress   |
| 18-22nd June          | Parents sharing work during the day                           |
| 20th June             | Year 2 Trip to Horniman Museum                                |
| 25th June             | Start of Olympic Month  |
| 26th June             | Year 1&2 Sports Day, a.m.                                     |
|                       | Nursery & Reception Sports Day, p.m.                          |
| 28th June             | Year 3&4 Sports Day, a.m.                                     |
|                       | Year 5&6 Sports Day, p.m.                                     |
| 28th June             | New to Reception&Nursery 2012-Parents Meeting                 |
| 29th June             | Reports out to parents  |
| 4th July              | Parents Evening   |
| 9th July              | Year 6 Leavers Performance, 2.15pm & 6.30pm                   |
| 11th July             | Year 2 Leavers Performance, 2pm                               |
| 11th July             | New to Year 3 Parents Evening, 6.30pm                         |
| 13th July             | Year 6 Leavers Assembly                                       |