



Cedars Manor School Newsletter

Issue 13 — December 5th 2025



ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

If your child is ill or unable to attend school, it is important that you inform the school office **before 8:30am**. You can do this by either speaking directly to a member of staff or leaving a voicemail on the absence line (Option 1).

If you are unsure if you should send your child to school please refer to the information in this link to determine: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

We kindly ask that all appointments for your child, including medical and dental visits, be scheduled **during the school holidays or after school hours** whenever possible.

Appointments during the school day can disrupt your child's learning and impact their progress.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

9th December — Year 6 Field Trip

10th December — Reception + YR1 Nativity
2:00PM

11th December — Nursery Showcase
9:00AM

16th December — Winter Wonderland

17th December — Class Parties

18th December — End of Term (1:30 finish)



SCHOOL DINNERS



There are lots of exciting things to look forward at school lunch times over the coming months, Chartwells have launched their new **Autumn/Winter 2025 menu** with lots of the children's favourites as well as some exciting new dishes.

We also have the school **Christmas Lunch**, this is a fantastic day for all the children to sit and share a festive hot meal together. All children taking a hot meal on this day will also receive a small Christmas gift, Christmas Lunch is on **11th December 2025** don't forget to book.

In **January** we have our fantastic **Pizza day and Chinese New Year** to look forward. Don't forget all school meals are **FREE**, saving parents on average £400 per year.



EMAILS OF THE WEEK:



01/12/2025 - Book Fair This Week!

02/12/2025 - Winter Fair Tomorrow

03/12/2025 - Winter Fair Volunteers

03/12/2025 - Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

04/12/2025 - Christmas Jumper Day

LOVE
SCHOOL
MEALS!



SIGN YOUR CHILD UP TODAY

Great food for growing minds

Nutrition that supports learning and concentration

Making food fun with themed menus

Dishes chosen by children

SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE

Chartwells



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SCHOOL CHOIR WINTER CONCERT!

Our school choir had a wonderful time performing at the Hatch End Winter Concert. For many of our pupils, it was their very first time on a big stage, and they performed beautifully. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and confidence. A big thank-you to all parents and carers for taking the time to support the children and celebrate this special occasion with us.

Mrs Henshaw -Choir lead



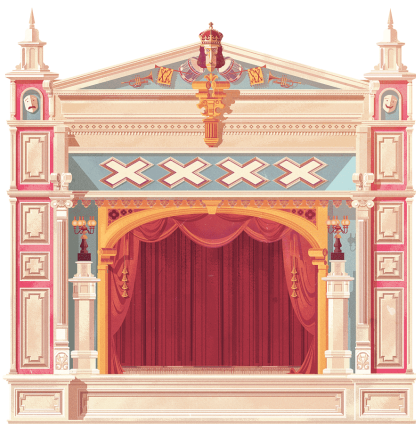
RECEPTION VISIT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

On Wednesday 3rd December, Reception visited All Saints Church to see the Christmas Tree Festival. The children spent some time looking around the Church, exploring the different tree designs and also learning about key features of a Church. The children heard the Christmas Story learning more about the journey that Mary and Joseph went on and the birth of Jesus. It was a wonderful trip and our children represented the school beautifully.



ROYAL BALLET AND OPERA WORKSHOPS

In school this week, Year 1 and Year 5 took part in a Royal Ballet and Opera workshop, exploring set design. The workshops were active and practical and the children had the opportunity to make their own models of a tree (Year 1) or a serpent (Year 5). It was great to see the children refining their design and technology skills.



YR 3 VISIT HEHS

Year 3 had their second session at HEHS developing their football skills. The children were exceptionally well behaved and thoroughly enjoyed their time.



WINTER WEATHER SAFETY REMINDER

Roads and sidewalks may be icy, especially in the morning. Please drive slowly around school grounds, allow extra time for drop-off, and remind students to walk carefully to avoid slips.

Students should come to school dressed warmly. Layers, hats, gloves and scarves wear help protect against cold temperatures. Outdoor recess will continue when conditions permit, so proper winter clothing is essential.



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LEARNING AT CEDARS MANOR SCHOOL

Nursery

We have been learning: all about Hanukkah and why people who are Jewish light 8 candles on the menorah.

You can help at home by: light a candle safely at home and make some wishes together. (When all wishing has been done, blow out the candle so the flame is gone.)

Reception

We have been learning: the story Lost and Found and how penguins live on the South Pole and we learnt the word Antarctica.

You can help at home: encouraging your child to retell the story in their own words.

Year 1

We have been learning: about writing in role through *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*.

You can help at home by: encouraging your child to write as one of the characters from the story.

Year 2

We have been learning: *different types of sentences and punctuation*

You can help at home by: *reading short stories and pointing out full stops, question marks, and exclamation marks as they appear.*

Year 3

We have been learning: about the uses of rocks

You can help at home by: *finding and discussing the many uses of rocks in our environment such as slate and chalk.*

Year 4

We have been learning: Roman beliefs and how they changed.

You can help at home by: *researching the Roman gods and creating an informative fact file.*

Year 5

We have been learning: about Water Resistance in Science.

You can help at home by: making a paper boat and seeing if it floats on water!

Year 6

We have been learning: To write a non-chronological report

You can help at home by: asking your child to recite all the features they can about a non-chronological report including the subject specific vocabulary.

Thank you for supporting your child's learning at home. Your involvement helps to reinforce what they've been doing in school and makes a big difference in their progress!

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ELECTRICAL SAFETY AND DEVICES

Electrical safety is a vital topic for parents and educators, especially with the growing use of devices like smartphones, laptops, and power banks. Electrical fires are a major risk and are the cause of many deaths and injuries each year. There are reportedly nearly 20,000 accidental fires of electrical origin each year in the UK. This guide offers practical advice to help families and schools prevent electrical hazards, and promote safety when using everyday devices.

1 CHECK FOR OVERHEATING

Devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartphones can overheat if used for long periods or when charging. Ensure that children don't use devices on soft surfaces like beds or sofas, which can block ventilation. If a device becomes unusually hot, turn it off and unplug it. Overheating can lead to fire hazards if left unchecked.

2 INSTALL RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES

Ensure that homes and schools are equipped with Residual Current Devices (RCDs). These devices cut off the power if an electrical fault occurs, preventing electric shocks and reducing the risk of fires. RCDs should be tested regularly to ensure they are working properly. More information about RCDs is available from Electrical Safety First.

3 AVOID OVERLOADING SOCKETS

Plugging too many devices into one socket can overload the electrical system and cause a fire. In schools and homes, ensure extension leads are not overloaded and never 'daisy chain' multiple extension cords together. Educate children on the dangers of connecting too many devices to a single outlet.

4 POWER BANKS: SAFE USE

Power banks are a handy way to charge devices, but they can also pose a risk if misused. Ensure power banks are of high quality and comply with UK safety standards. Teach children never to leave power banks charging unattended, and to avoid placing them under pillows or bedding where they may overheat.

5 REGULAR DEVICE INSPECTIONS

Regularly check devices for signs of wear and tear. Frayed charging cables, cracked device casings, or devices that are slow to charge may indicate electrical problems. If any issues are noticed, stop using the device until it can be repaired or replaced by a qualified technician. This proactive approach helps prevent fires caused by faulty devices.

6 UNPLUG DEVICES WHEN NOT IN USE

Encourage children and pupils to unplug devices when not in use, particularly overnight. Devices left plugged in unnecessarily can overheat or become fire hazards, especially if left charging unattended for long periods. Simple habits like unplugging can prevent serious incidents.

7 USE GENUINE CHARGERS

Always use chargers supplied by the manufacturer or from a reputable retailer. Faulty or counterfeit chargers can cause devices to overheat, short-circuit, or even catch fire. Teach children the importance of avoiding poor-quality chargers, and regularly inspect charging cables for signs of wear or damage. More tips on safe charging can be found at Electrical Safety First.

8 WATER & ELECTRICITY DON'T MIX

Teach children that water and electricity are a dangerous combination. Devices should never be used near sinks, bathtubs, or swimming pools. Parents and educators should ensure that any electrical appliances near water sources have proper waterproof casings and are plugged into RCD-protected outlets.

9 KEEP DEVICES VENTILATED

Devices need proper ventilation to avoid overheating. Avoid stacking items on top of plugged-in devices like laptops or gaming consoles, and make sure there is enough space around devices to allow for airflow. Proper ventilation helps prevent dangerous heat build-up, reducing the risk of fires.

10 SUPERVISE YOUNG CHILDREN

Younger children may not understand the dangers of electricity, so it's important to supervise them when they are using devices. Keep electrical cords out of reach and always remind children never to put objects into electrical outlets.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings as well as many other industries to help them maintain a safe working environment.



See full reference list on our website