



Cedars Manor School Newsletter

Issue 8 — 6th March 2026



DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 10th March—YR 5 Old Redding Trip
- 11th March—YR 3 Mosaic Synagogue Trip
- 12th March—Class Photos
- 13th March—Rowan Class Assembly
- 17th March—YR2 Kew Gardens Trip
- 20th March—Rocksteady Assembly
- 23th March—Parent Consultations
- 24th March—Parent Consultations
- 26th March—YR1 Transport Museum Trip
- 27th March—End of Term (**1:30 PM FINISH**)

EAT THEM TO DEFEAT THEM

A big thank you to everyone who took part in *Eat Them to Defeat Them* this week. We hope families enjoyed the resources that were sent home and that the challenge has encouraged children to try and eat more vegetables at home.

It would be wonderful if you could take a few moments to complete the *Eat Them to Defeat Them* survey. This can be found in the attached poster alongside the newsletter email.

SIGNS OF THE WEEK



BUILDER

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

OVERALL ATTENDANCE – 96.80%
Week ending 06/03/2026

	Class	%	No of Pupils late	No of lates
1	Beech	98.67	2	3
2	Sycamore	96.54	3	5
3	Lime	97.60	1	1
4	Yew	98.21	1	1
5	Spruce	99.47	5	6
6	Maple	96.11	4	6
7	Cherry	90	3	7
8	Elm	97.86	3	6
9	Fir	97.83	0	0
10	Rowan	98.33	3	4
11	Pine	96.40	0	0
12	Hazel	96.11	1	1
13	Hawthorn	98.26	2	2

The whole school attendance is **96.80%** this week, which is **Above** the school average of **96%** and **Above** the National average of **95%**
WELL DONE!!

It is very important that your child is in school EVERYDAY and ON TIME, so that they can make progress in their learning. Parents must have a valid reason for keeping a child at home. Children have **13 weeks** of holiday time. Family holidays should be taken during this time only.

This week our whole school attendance was **96.80%** – well done everyone!

Even more impressively, attendance on World Book Day reached **98.46%**! It was wonderful to see so many pupils taking part and getting involved in the day's activities. Thank you for helping to make it such a memorable event!



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WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 5th March, the whole school came together to celebrate World Book Day dressed as either 'Where's Wally' or 'Where's Wenda'. It was a fantastic day. Children had the opportunity to take part in a 'drop everything and read session,' complete fun WBD activities and search for Wally and Wanda as they made their way around school during the morning. Thank you to our school community for the effort in making costumes, everyone looked fantastic and it was amazing to see a sea of red and white stripes throughout the day.



EYFS TEDDY BEAR'S BREAKFAST

A huge thank you to our EYFS parents who attended our reading event on Thursday. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, taking a moment out of your day to enjoy reading a story with your child. Reading is such a vital part of academic development and we are keen to excite our young learners in reading for pleasure. Thank you to our EYFS team for organising such a wonderful event.



CHOIR CONCERT

Our Joyful Jammers Choir had the exciting opportunity to join other school choirs from across the borough for a wonderful concert at the Harrow Arts Centre. The children sang beautifully and showed great confidence performing in front of a large audience. It was a fantastic experience for them to be part of such a special musical event, and they represented the school brilliantly.



NURSERY PARENT MATHS WORKSHOP

On Wednesday 4th March our Nursery children took part in a Maths workshop alongside their parents. During the session children took part in a range of activities exploring 2d shapes, forming numbers 1-5, counting activities up to 10 and copying and continuing patterns. Thank you to everyone who attended and we hope that you will use some of these activity ideas at home to further support your child's maths learning.



SCHOOL COUNCIL VISIT TO THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

On **Tuesday 3rd March**, our CMS school council pupils and head pupils visited The Houses of Parliament. It was a fantastic experience for our school leaders to learn more about Democracy and the ways in which decisions are made in Government. The children went on a tour of the palace, visiting key rooms including The House of Lords and seeing the magnificent architecture and furnishings. They were also incredibly lucky to go into the viewing platform in The House of Commons to observe a live debate. It was very inspiring.

Following this, the children took part in a school workshop where they learned about different key vocabulary and parliamentary terms including, Parliamentary Ping Pong, Bills and legislation. What a wonderful experience.





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LEARNING AT CEDARS MANOR SCHOOL

Nursery

We have been learning: about the story of 'Dora's Eggs'. We have been counting the eggs into their nests and matching them to a number card.

You can help at home by: using their number books to support recognising numbers and counting a certain amount using their toys, pens, pasta, rice, slices of bread etc.

Reception

We have been learning: some facts about worms through the story 'Superworm' and practiced our observational drawing when drawing a worm.

You can help at home by: encouraging your child to retell some of the facts we learnt about worms.

Year 1

We have been learning: about Volume and Capacity in math

You can help at home by: letting them fill and pour water using different containers e.g. (jugs, cups, bottles) and talking about which holds more or less.

Year 2

We have been learning: 2, 5 and 10 times table

You can help at home by: practicing skip counting and noticing patterns (e.g., 2s double numbers, 5s end in 5 or 0, and 10s add a zero)

Year 3

We have been learning: about how to use time adverbials in our writing

You can help at home by: encourage your children to use time adverbials when talking about their day (e.g. first. then. in the morning etc.)

Year 4

We have been learning: to identify fractions beyond 1

You can help at home by: asking your child to tell you what fraction of a pizza, chocolate bar or cake they have eaten.

Year 5

We have been learning: about methods to separate different materials in Science

You can help at home by: talk to your child about the role of a sieve or a coffee filter in your household.

Year 6

We have been learning: to write a recount in English

You can help at home by: asking your children to give a recount of their day. Please prompt them to use a range of time connectives when giving their recount.

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!

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorly and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like PolyIno and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



See full reference list on our website

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