



Edison Primary School

Weekly News

26 April 2024

Hot Chocolate with Mrs Dokal



Mrs Dokal invited some very special guests to have Hot Chocolate with her on Wednesday – our Edison Friends! We have been delighted with the participation from parents and carers this term, and our very successful Easter Cake Sale raised a grand total of £769, which will be put towards enriching and enhancing our children’s educational experience. Many thanks to Mr Mistry and his fantastic team for all of their efforts. If you would like to be part of this lovely team, please do let us know, or come along to a future meeting!

Dry Ice Experiment

This week, we learned about dry ice and how it reacts when we put it in warm water. Dry ice is actually solid carbon dioxide, which is a special kind of gas that becomes solid when it's really cold. When we put dry ice in warm water, it starts to turn back into carbon dioxide gas. This change makes it look like it's bubbling and creating fog. It's a cool way to see science in action!



Attendance Winners





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Well done to Reception, Bell Class for being the winners for the highest attendance this week with a percentage of 95.5%.

Registration Form	Week 22.04.24 - 26.04.24	
YR Newton	95.5%	
YR Bell	98.5%	1st
Y6 Hawking	94.1%	
Y6 Einstein	94.1%	
Y5 Jemison	95.3%	
Y5 Armstrong	95.2%	
Y4 Goodall	97.9%	3rd
Y4 Carson	93.8%	
Y3 Faraday	91.0%	
Y3 Curie	98.1%	2nd
Y2 Pasteur	96.8%	
Y2 Fleming	96.5%	
Y1 Watson	97.2%	
Y1 Franklin	95.9%	

Over and Above: Focus of the Week

Being Ready

Our dedicated attention this week centered on adhering to **our four school principles: Ready, Respectful, Safe, and Kind**. The primary objective was to surpass the norm in these aspects, fostering mutual assistance in enhancing our collective commitment. At Edison, continual improvement is paramount, and our weekly focal points contribute significantly to achieving this objective. See the outstanding individuals recognised for going "Over and Above" in the newsletter, with the added privilege of enjoying hot chocolate with Mrs. Dokal.

Next week the Focus is 'Being Respectful'.

Early Start for Early Birds!

In response to requests from parents, we are pleased to announce that our 'Early Birds' breakfast club will open at **7.45am** from 15 April onwards.

The following charges will apply:

'Early Birds' Breakfast Club - £6 per session (one hour)
'Night Owls' After School Club - £6 for one hour and £12 for two hours.

Early Birds runs from 7.45am to 8.45am, and Night Owls runs from 3.45am to 5.45am daily. At each of these clubs, children get the opportunity to catch up with their friends, play games and have a healthy snack.

Parents and carers can book their child's sessions on ParentPay 48 hours in advance. However, if you should need to book a slot at short notice, please contact the School Office to check availability.

Attendance – Late Arrivals

This is a polite reminder that if your child/ren are late in the mornings, please ensure you bring them to the school office as they would need to be signed in by the adult.

We have a new electronic sign in system, the office team will assist you with this.

Please **DO NOT** drop your child/ren at the gate and allow them to come into school on their own.

Early Pick-Up Procedure

If you require to collect your child/ren early for any reason, you would be required to send an email to info@edisonprimary.org with a reason to why you are requesting an early collection, the email will be passed onto Mrs Dokal to authorise.

If collection is for medical appointment, you would need to provide proof of the appointment, and this should be provided to the office at least 24hours before the appointment.



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To help the attendance of the pupils in class and ensuring that they are getting the best out of the education, early collection will not be permitted unless authorisation has been by Mrs Dokal in a reply to your email.

We thank you for your support and understanding.

Car Parking

Please remember that parking on school premises is for **STAFF ONLY**. Please support our school and its safety by parking a short way away and walking with your child. **Please** can we urge you all to continue to support the school and be aware of not blocking local residents' driveways, double parking and bus routes. Also please remember parking on double yellow lines is **NOT** permitted at any time. We would like to say a big thank you to all those parents that have been mindful to the local residents when parking.

Scooters and Bikes

We would like to remind you that if your child rides a scooter or bike to school, you must park it under the bike sheds, near the main school entrance. Wherever possible please keep them locked too. These should only be left here for the duration of the school day. Please **DO NOT** leave anything overnight or over the weekend as this would be left at your own risk. We appreciate your support with this.

Bringing Children to School

Your child should arrive at school by **8.45am**, the school gate opens from 8.35am so you can drop your child at their year group entrance from this time onwards. Please ensure you support your child by ensuring they arrive on time and ready to learn. Any late arrivals should need to report to the main school office. If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please inform the school office by **8.30am** using our automated telephone service and choosing option 1. Lateness, at either end of the school day, is disruptive and can make the children anxious. Please make every effort to arrive at school on time to help your child have the best school

experience possible. Persistent latecomers (more than three episodes) will be referred to Mrs Dokal and, if the

lateness is not then resolved, will be passed onto the Education Welfare Officer for further action.

Night Owls Collection

Our school office closes at **4.30pm**. If you are picking up your child from After School Club after this time, please

use the bell at the school office entrance, and Mrs Mahal or Mrs Gill will come to meet you, and fetch your child from the club. If you have rung the bell and there is no answer, please call the school mobile: 07814 021729. This will only be necessary on the occasions that the children are taken outside to play. We appreciate your patience and support with this.



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Key dates for your diary	
Thursday 2 May	School closed due to Polling Day
Monday 6 May	School closed due to Bank Holiday
Wednesday 8 May	Year 3 Natural History Museum Trip
Monday 13 to Thursday 16 May	Year 6 SATS
Monday 20 May to Wednesday 22 May	Year 6 PGL Trip
Friday 25 May	Last day of half term school closes 1.30pm
Tuesday 4 June	Pupils return to school
Tuesday 4 June	Year 1 Trip to Boston Manor Park
Sports Day Reception	Wednesday 5 June 9.15am to 10.15am
Sports Day Year 3 & 4	Wednesday 5 June 1.45pm to 3.15pm
Sports Day Year 1 & 2	Thursday 6 June 9.15am to 10.45am
Sports Day Year 5 & 6	Thursday 6 June 1.45am to 3.15pm

Thought of the Week

Equipped with his five senses, man explores the universe around him and calls the adventure Science.
Edwin Powell Hubble



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Picture News

IN THE SPOTLIGHT 1

NEWSPAPER
22nd - 28th
April

Time to Play!

The boss of Lego, Niels Christensen, is one of a group of people who want to raise awareness of the importance of play. He says, '... all children should benefit from the power of play'. His comments come after a worldwide study found that nearly three quarters of children think that their grown-ups do not take play seriously. Education experts across the globe agree on the huge benefits that play can bring children, including building curiosity, developing imagination and solving problems. A coworker of Niels at Lego says, 'Play is the superpower of children', but she worries that not all children



Pictured: Lego. Source: Canva.

get the chance to learn through play. To this end, some companies from around the world have come together and decided to invent a day dedicated to playing! The very first 'International Day of Play' will take place on 11th June this year. The hope is that this day will remind people around the world just how important it is for children to be able to play freely. So, get the date in your diary, it's time for children to teach their adults a thing or two about playing!

Hello, what's your name?

The first few months of 2024 have seen some incredibly wet and windy weather in many countries. But did you know that lots of storms have names? The idea behind this is that it helps the public to keep track of storms as they move and change. It also helps people to prepare for weather that can be dangerous. Not all storms are named, only those that are expected to be particularly severe. Most countries have a special office in charge of studying and

predicting weather patterns. In the UK, this is the Met Office, and they decide whether a storm should be named and what that name should be. In fact, the Met Office ask the public for ideas for storm names, and the most popular names are made into a list for the year. So, if you have an awesome idea, you can send it into the Met Office, and it might be used to name the next big storm!



Pictured: A storm approaching.
Source: Canva.

Should everyone be allowed to lead a private life?



There are some things that you don't always want people to know. Everybody should be able to keep some things private.
Ted

Let us know what you think about this week's news

 picture-news.co.uk/discuss

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IN THE **SPOTLIGHT** **2** NEWSPAPER
22nd - 28th April

Croissant Race

Around 200 Parisian waiting staff have taken part in a traditional croissant race through the streets of France's capital city. The participants, who all work in cafés and bistros, completed the 2km course whilst wearing their work uniforms. They showed their professional skills by balancing a tray containing a croissant, an empty coffee cup, and full glass of water with one hand during the race. Running is not allowed, and penalties are given for spilling the water or eating the croissant! Similar races are held in other countries too, but the first one in Paris took place in 1914. This year marks the return of the historic event after a 13-year break, timed to promote the Olympics, which will be hosted in Paris this summer. The competitors' times, and the amount of liquid they spilled, were used to calculate the winners. Pauline Van Wymeersch and Samy Lamrous were crowned Paris' fastest waiting staff. Both finished the race in less than 15 minutes. They each



Pictured: Competitors who took part in 'la course des cafés par Eau de Paris'.
Source: EAU DE PARIS Facebook page.

won medals, two tickets for the Olympic opening ceremony and a night at a Paris hotel.

Do you think it would be very difficult to carry the trays without spilling the glass of water? What skills do think would help you to do well in a race like this?

Bears in a Boat

Four young black bears, who live at Woburn Safari Park in Bedfordshire, UK, have been enjoying a new pastime. Harvard, Maple, Colorado, and Aspen have been riding on a swan pedalo! The recent heavy rain caused a mini lake to form in their reserve. Their keepers thought this would be a great time to repurpose a pedalo that was awaiting repair! Speaking about the unusual addition to the bears' habitat, Tommy Babington from the park said, 'It was great fun for visitors to see them climb on board, and we love devising new ways to provide food, scent and habitat enrichment that stimulates their natural foraging behaviours. Bears are naturally very curious animals, and keepers will encourage this with all kinds of enrichment through their habitat as this keeps their minds and bodies active. The swan boat enrichment may be a



Pictured: The black bears at Woburn Safari Park ride on a swan pedalo.
Source: Woburn Safari Park Facebook page .

less conventional approach to stimulating their natural behaviours, but it certainly was a hit.'

What other items do you think could make exciting additions to the bears' home?

Should everyone be allowed to lead a private life?



I think that some events in someone's life can be shared in public, but everyone deserves the right to have some things private.

Lena

Let us know what you think about this week's news



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help@picture-news.co.uk



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TAKEHOME



In the news this week

Scottish runner, Jasmin Paris, has become the first female runner to complete what is thought by many to be the world's toughest race. Jasmin is one of only twenty people to have successfully completed the Barkley Marathons in Tennessee, USA. She crossed the finish line in March with less than 100 seconds to spare before the 60-hour cut-off time. Jasmin said she wanted to inspire others and test the limits of her capabilities.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Can you imagine how Jasmin might have felt when she finished the event? Make a list of the different feelings you believe she may have had.
- > Can you think of a time when you found something really difficult? Were you able to complete the challenge or task? Talk about the experience and what you learned from it.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments



Can you learn to persevere?

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

Microtransactions have been criticised for promoting gambling-adjacent behaviour in children. Research has also suggested that exposure to the loot box system could affect the likelihood of a young person suffering gambling harms later in life: children who purchased or used loot boxes in the last 12 months were found to be more likely to have gambled during the same period, as well.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Microtransactions (and loot boxes especially) could lead to young people displaying compulsive behaviours. Loot boxes are designed to be addictive, and the sought-after prizes they contain are dispensed at random. This means that young gamers might not get what they want straight away, causing them to spend more money as well as additional time gaming.

PAYING TO WIN

In many popular games (the FIFA series being a notable example), microtransactions make it far easier to succeed – which is a concern because children can often find it difficult to keep track of their spending. Once a child starts making in-game purchases, they may continue buying to keep up with their friends and other players – sometimes without recognising the mounting real-world cost.

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

DATA COLLECTION

To allow a young person to complete microtransactions, many app and game developers collect personal data such as their name, address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this data remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's always the chance that it will be used – and possibly sold on to third parties – for marketing purposes.

AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can affect purchasing decisions and potentially influence children's spending patterns. This could lead to your child not only handing over more money but also adjusting their daily routine to match the game's schedule – potentially impacting more important elements of their day, such as homework and family time.

SATELLITE SPENDING

If you've linked a payment method like a debit card or a PayPal account to your child's game or app, it's wise to keep a close eye on their microtransactions to ensure they aren't racking up a large bill. Letting a child have access to your card (if they're still too young to have their own) or other means of payment could also lead to them spending beyond the apps and games they normally use.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

It's important to have a serviceable idea of whether the games your child plays use the loot box system (even if it goes by a different name) or include the option of buying items, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help your child understand that this costs actual money, and that they shouldn't feel pressured into making any purchases.

CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE'

It may help to explain to your child that many microtransactions involve an element of chance: they could pay money and still not get what they want in return. Emphasise that – while not usually costing much individually – these in-app and in-game purchases can soon add up. Talk to your child about how spending their money in a game or app means they have less to use in the real world.

(GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get to grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a £10 V-bucks Fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes them to spend it. When they come to you asking for more, you could make it the starting point for a conversation about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

If you're worried that your child's passion for a particular game or app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, it's important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour. Irritability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen time ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to have a conversation about a more balanced routine.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.





Swappy

Toys and Story Books Swapping event

Free event for parents and
children (under 12 years)



Heston Community Centre
Vicarage Farm Rd
TW5 0EE



Apr 26th (Drop-off item)
09:00 – 11:00 & 15:00 – 17:00
3 drop off items per person



Apr 27th (Swap Shop Event)
12:00 – 14:00



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