

# Careers Education at Cedar

## Summer 2 Newsletter

Secondary Department

### A round up of Summer: **Essential Skills**

This term, we welcomed Apostolos from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP who delivered a skills session to our children based around 2 of our essential skills; Teamwork and Listening. The session involved considering what teamwork means to us and what makes a good team member and the children took part in a number of critical thinking tasks in small groups where they were able to apply their understanding of the importance of working as a team to solve a problem. They then considered the skills required to be a good listener, strategies to use to be a good listener and why listening is so important in the workplace. The children then took part in exercises that developed and rehearsed their listening skills.

#### Teamwork exercise

##### **You've been shipwrecked and are stranded on a desert island!**

Luckily, your group managed to rescue a few items from the sinking ship - but you can't carry all of them. You need to work together to survive.

**Step 1:** look at the list of items your group has below.

**Step 2:** on your own, choose the top 3 items you think are most important.

**Step 3:** compare your top 3 choices as a group. As a team, you must decide on just 3 final items you'll keep.

- |                   |                     |                    |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| • Mosquito net    | • Emergency rations | • Waterproof sheet |
| • Matches         | • Sea chart         | • Fishing rod      |
| • Can of petrol   | • Floating seat     | • Sun cream        |
| • Shaving mirror  | • Chocolate bars    | • Walkie talkie    |
| • Water container | • Rope              | • Firelighter      |

#### Being a good listener

##### **What makes a good listener?**

- Not interrupting
- Using body language to show that you're listening
- Minimising distractions like phones
- Asking questions if you don't understand
- Summarising what you've heard

At Cedar, we value the opportunity to welcome a wide range of volunteers from workplaces who give their time to support our Careers programme. If you, or anyone you know, have a scheme at your work place, we would love to hear from you!

## Careers Week

Autumn 1 2025

Week Beginning 29<sup>th</sup>  
September

The theme for Autumn 1 is  
**Essential Employability Skills**

### What's coming up in Autumn 1 2025?

#### **Employability Skills**

The skills we teach during our Careers weeks are not just important for the workplace, they are important in life! We develop and put into practice 8 essential skills that can be used to support children to be positive members of society. These are: Listening, speaking, problem solving, creativity, staying positive, aiming high, leadership and teamwork. Each class will focus on developing one or two of these essential skills through a range of tasks and activities. We look forward to sharing what we get up to!

#### **What you can do to help: Employability**

When you are out and about in the community, look at different jobs that people are doing that impact upon you and your family. Talk about what types of skills those jobs need and why those jobs are important in society.

If your child is in Year 10 or 11 next year and you have a suggestion for an appropriate work experience placement over and above those offered at school, please contact me on [katyleonard@cedarschool.co.uk](mailto:katyleonard@cedarschool.co.uk) so we can discuss it.



This term, Ruby Class were given an opportunity to work on their problem solving skills by being asked to do something to improve the parent room at Cedar for their Careers project.

They have worked independently in every area of this process from making mood boards, communicating and discussing ideas, measuring the available space, planning and attending a trip to Ikea, putting together the furniture, adding finishing touches and much more! They have used so many skills that they will use in the future and the finished product is absolutely fabulous!

We love the look of our new parent room and we hope you do too!

Well done Ruby!

#### **BEFORE:**



#### **AFTER:**

