

# Cherry Trees School News



## Diary Dates

**Thursday 24th  
March -  
Swimming  
Gala**

**Friday 25th  
March -  
Mothers Day  
Event**

**Wednesday 6th  
April - Easter  
Workshop**

**Friday 8th April  
- Last Day of  
Term**

**Monday 11th  
April - Friday  
22nd April -  
Easter Break**

**Monday 25th  
April - Start of  
Summer Term**

## Friday 4th March 2022 : Issue 6

### Headteacher's message: Laura Slinn

What a busy month we have had. It has been great to welcome many of you into school for our second parents evening of the year. I hope you enjoyed taking a look at the fantastic work that the children have been learning.

This month the school council have met together, and we have enjoyed many immersive days – such as safer internet day, being safe and healthy week and Number Day – all were really positive events, that help us to develop a culturally rich school experience for all of the children (and staff). It is great to be part of national days – giving us a wider look at the world.

After half term, we are hoping to get back to some more parents' events, so that you can join us in school again. Keep the dates for Mother's Day and our Easter workshops. Do keep an eye on the website as we are adding new information to it regularly about school life and curriculum.

You will know that we were visited by Ofsted before the half term holiday and we are currently awaiting their report about school. Once we have this we will be able to share information about their findings about school, I will keep you posted about that.

I am pleased to share that we had further improvements carried out to the building over the holiday period. As well as some of the classrooms being decorated, we were able to have a new gate installed between the mobile buildings playground and the main part of the school and further soft flooring works done on the Yellow Class playground – both of these are great improvement to this part of the school.

Many Thanks,  
Laura

# Cherry Trees Learning



## Blue Class News

February 2022

We have all had another busy month in Blue Class on our 'learning journey'

We enjoyed celebrating 'Chinese New Year' we engaged with a range of activities including music, creative and stories.

This term we have all tried really hard on our communication skills, we still have our weekly lessons of communication working on learning 'Makaton' signs and to transfer these signs during the school day.

Everybody is also learning to develop their social skills by working on turn-taking through group and 1:1 work.

Sadly we do say good-bye to two members of the Blue Class Team. Mrs Gill and Miss Yates we are all going to really miss all of their hard work that they bring to the class but we wish them well.

We are lucky to be having Mrs Boddis to join Blue Class, and she already knows all of the children.



## Red Class News

Wow!

What an exciting and fun filled time Red Class have been having. As you can see from the photos, we have done lots of different activities. In Maths, we have been looking at number and addition. In English the boys have been reading, writing sentences and this week we have started to look at our new story

‘Owls and Dinosaurs’.

We are all looking forward to our new topic ‘Weather Explorers’ and all the fun things planned.





# Cherry Trees Learning



## Orange Class News

Orange Class have had another very busy month!

We have celebrated Chinese New Year by decorating Chinese lanterns and making Vegetable Chow Mein.

We have enjoyed mindfulness sessions relaxing with the Himalayan Singing Bowl and having a 'Spa' afternoon with foot spas and hand and feet massages.

We have been continuing with Write Dance and we are now more confident following the different actions to the music.

This month we had our first Number Day where we all had lots of fun exploring numbers in the swimming pool and the tuff tray.

Keep up the good work Orange Class!!



# Cherry Trees Learning

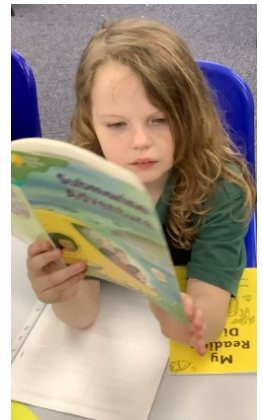
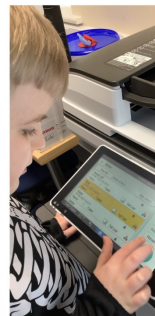


## Green Class News

In green class we have again done so many different things. We have made bird feeders with Miss Banyard, enjoyed a book exchange with Ms Higgs and learnt how to use the photocopier. We have spent time in our outdoor learning area, building relationships-making magnetic robots and so much more...Write dance and dough disco and sensory Wednesday maths.

We have also started a focus time for reading, 5 minutes daily after dinner. We are all really enjoying this and are super amazing!

And of course PANCAKE day. Yum!





# Cherry Trees Learning



## Yellow Class News

We had a great half term working hard on our activities linking to our topic "The Circus". We did amazing art work decorating circus related pictures in a range of materials and using different textures. In Computing we experimented on paint and design circus activities using Purple Mash. In Science we worked on senses and movement, we also worked on our independent skills in PSHE which included brushing our teeth and washing our hands correctly.

This term we are working on the topic "How does your garden grow. In science we will be looking at how plants grow and their needs. We will be going on visits to the garden centres and parks to see a range of plants. In Art we will be creating mosaics using a range of materials including biscuits, paper and general objects. We will be working on photography exploring different tools to take photos and how to hold and take photos in Computing. Our story focus is The Hungry Caterpillar and continuing with our phases in Phonics. In maths we are focussing on the song 5 speckled frogs and developing number knowledge through sensory activities we are also working on 2d and introducing 3d shapes using lots of sensory activities. We will continue swimming and forest school every Friday and going out in the community.



# Cherry Trees Learning



## Purple Class News

February just flew by for us. Here are pictures from our Number Day celebrations, some English activities related to fiction and non-fiction and a few miscellaneous pictures of the children. Hopefully we can start getting outside more now that Spring is around the corner—I am looking forward to March already!





# Cherry Trees Communicating



## WOLVES DISABILITY KICKS IN THE PARK

 Bantock Park, Wolverhampton, WV3 9LQ

 Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2:00pm - 4:00pm

*Fun football session for children and young people with a disability aged 8-18*

For more information please contact  
[gavinjones@wolves.co.uk](mailto:gavinjones@wolves.co.uk) or call 07572167347





# Cherry Trees Sharing



## Sign of the Month



### Love

Our sign of the week is Love – Cross your arms over your chest.

You can see how to do the sign here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=2BA9aitHICQ>

## Whole Class Monthly Attendance

Group	% Attend
Blue Class	84.7
Red Class	92.1
Orange Class	93.4
Green Class	92.3
Yellow Class	91.5
Purple Class	83.9



Congratulations to:

**Orange Class**

You have the best  
Attendance for the Month  
Well done to all of you.

**EVERY  
SCHOOL DAY  
COUNTS**



# Cherry Trees Safeguarding



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

### CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

### SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

### HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

### TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

### SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

### CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

### Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



**National Online Safety®**  
#WakeUpWednesday



# Cherry Trees School Council



## Pupil Voice at Cherry Trees School 2021-2022

*"We want to ensure that all pupils are happy and safe in our school."*

*The school council helps to do this by listening to everyone's opinions and ideas. We work together as a team to help our school to be a more wonderful place. The School Council discuss many ideas and see what's best for the school. We work hard to support everyone. We will make sure that everyone is listened to and will plan lots of fun things for us all to do."*

### Intent

- We have discussions on what we should do to help our school and where we can we will action our ideas.
- If children of the school have any worries or concerns the school council will help them.
- We hope to improve in all areas in our school
- We will respect any comments children and adults have on our school and appreciate all points of view.

### Impact

***Pupils were recruited as school councillors through a voting system. This allowed pupils to have an experience of the democratic process.***

Members of our school council supported the recruitment of new teachers. Pupils were involved in lesson observations and gave really useful feedback to our SLT.

Members of the school council reported that pupils really wanted to have proper swimming lessons from a qualified swimming teacher. They wanted to do badges and feel more confident with their swimming. During the Autumn Term we recruited a full time specialist Swimming Instructor and all pupils get at least one weekly swimming session.

Pupils ran the food drive during Harvest and collected an amazing 8 crates of groceries. Pupils delivered these items to the Black Country Food Bank.

The School Council organised activities for this 2021 Children in Need. The pupils raised a massive £520 for the charity. This was the largest amount raised in our local area despite being a small school.

### Actions/Ongoing

- Dance workshops (Planned for Summer Term 1) Requested Spring 1
- Tuck Shop (Planned for Summer Term 1) Requested Spring 1
- School Disco (Planned for Summer Term 1) Requested Autumn 2.

# Cherry Trees Safe & Well



This month we thought we would share some ideas and strategies about Positive Co-Parenting. Although this will not be relevant for some of you, we thought you may still know someone that would benefit from the advice.

## **Positive Co-Parenting**

Co-Parenting, or shared parenting, is when two people who have children together break up. They then carry on raising their children together even though they are no longer in a relationship.

The end of a relationship is never easy, especially when you have children together and especially if they have extra needs. While it may seem hard at first, there are ways to co-parent with your ex even though you are living apart.

While every family have their own arrangements, children will usually spend part of the week with one parent and the rest with the other.

1. **The First Step** – From confusion to upset, it's normal to have lots of different emotions when a relationship ends. So, the first step to shared parenting is giving yourself time to grieve. You may be feeling upset and angry with your ex, but even though it might not be easy, it's important to put those emotions to one side.
2. **Be Flexible** – If you are sharing custody of the children, there are bound to be occasions when one of you needs to swap times. Be as flexible as possible with each other. Try to remember that your child is at the centre and their needs are paramount. If you need to compromise, or change a plan, think about what is best for your child. If you get into an argument about swapping, that can leave your child thinking that no one wants them.
3. **Learn How to Communicate** – Face-to-face, text, over email, there are lots of different ways of talking to your ex about your children. Finding the way that works best for both of you is important.
4. **Get Organised** – Children have busy social lives so staying on top of key dates will cut out any arguments about diary clashes. It will also reassure your child to know what is happening. Make sure they know where they will be and when. Find a way that works for you both; some co parents have a shared online calendar, others may do it on paper or by email. Try to find a way together.



# Cherry Trees Safe & Well



5. Ask Family and Friends for Help – If you find you can't talk to your ex without arguing, it is a good idea to get someone to act as a 'middle- man' between you both. This could be a family member or a friend.
6. Be Prepared for Change – Another top tip is realising that how you co- parent will change as your children get older. Keeping communication open with your ex means that you can evolve and change how you parent together.
7. Be Prepared for A New Partner – If there is no one else involved when you separate, it might be quite easy to co-parent. However, when a new partner comes on the scene, it can all become a bit more complicated.
8. Be Kind To Each Other - If you have had a messy break up the thought of being nice to your ex might feel impossible. If you can, it will make co- parenting much easier. Even though you might not be in a relationship anymore you will always be in each other's lives because of your children, so try to still be friends.

We hope these ideas and strategies are helpful. Finally, please let us know here in school if anything changes at home that may affect your child's emotional wellbeing so that we can help them and support you too.

Please continue to Keep Safe and Keep Well!

