

Cherry Trees School News



Diary Dates

**Monday 4th
April - School
Closed (INSET
Day)**

**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**

**w/c Monday
20th June -
Father's Day
Events**

Thursday 31st March 2022: Issue 7

Headteacher's message: Laura Slinn

Welcome to our March Newsletter, what a busy month we have had at school.

Please do enjoy taking a look through the pages, it's great to see exciting events happening throughout school. The children and staff have thoroughly enjoyed World Book Day, Mother's Day and Science Day. The leaders at school have also enjoyed visiting classes and looking at the wonderful teaching and learning that is taking place. I am pleased to share that we are really feeling like we are getting back to our full curriculum offer and the children are benefitting from this – including our out and about curriculum.

In this newsletter, we also need to say a huge thankyou to Kelly for all of her hard work for the school and especially in Blue Class, as she moves on to pastures new, allowing her to spend more time with her family. She will be greatly missed by all. Taking over Blue Class is Jenny, already a member of staff at school (our nurture lead) who will now be our Blue Class teacher. Jenny is already working with the class and is a great addition to the teaching staff at school.

On Monday 4th April it is our INSET day (where all children will be at home, not in school) – the teachers will be carrying out work on our long term curriculum – so keep an eye out on the website for updated documents for all of the subject areas following that day. Some of our Tas will be working with Tas from Two Rivers Primary (our other MAT primary school) to gain further knowledge and experience. We will share some of our learning in our next newsletter.

Many Thanks,

Laura Slinn

(Executive Headteacher)

Cherry Trees Learning



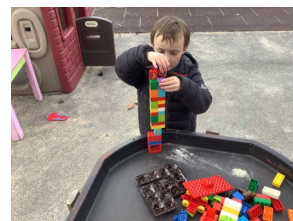
Blue Class News

As you can see from the pictures, we've had a busy half-term in Blue Class. The children have been working so hard in all areas. We have been very busy getting creative with our art skills and baking! The children really loved making the Mothers' Day cards and biscuits, we hope they were tasty!

The children really enjoyed interaction with the Science activities on our whole school Science Day, especially the soil and planting their own seeds.

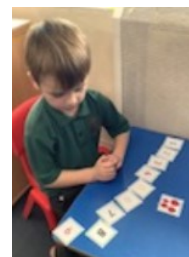
We have been enjoying the beautiful weather we have been having too, by spending time lots of time in our outside area building on our social interactions.

Well done Blue Class!

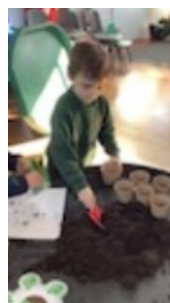


Red Class News

As you can see from the pictures, we've had a busy half-term in Red Class. The boys have been working so hard in all areas. We have been looking at subtraction, doubling numbers and now data in Maths. We have explored lots of different dinosaur stories in our English lessons.



The children really enjoyed interaction with the Science activities on our whole school Science Day.



We have been enjoying the beautiful weather we have been having too, by spending time on the field and also having lunchtime picnics in our outside area.



Cherry Trees Learning



Orange Class News

We have had a very busy few weeks and have all been enjoying being outside now the weather is getting warmer!

In maths, we have been singing 5 Little Men In a Flying Saucer.

Our topic this term is 'Do You Believe In Magic' and we have been listening to the story of the Magic Porridge Pot and doing lots of fun sensory activities. We have made porridge and used porridge oats to make flapjacks.

We celebrated St Patricks Day by making Shamrock Biscuits and listening to Irish music.

Everyone had lots of fun on our Science Day and enjoyed exploring the coloured ice and the 'frog spawn' tuff tray.

Our focus colour this month is yellow and we've all engaged in exploring (and eating) lots of yellow foods!

It was World Book Day this month and we all had fun dressing up and exploring lots of books.

Super work Orange Class!



Cherry Trees Learning



Green Class News

This month in green we have been looking at the history of CHOCOLATE!! We have made our own chocolate bar, designed a label and tasted it. YUM!

When the weather was lovely we went outside to create our own names on the playground in hieroglyphics. We have been working hard in English, using apostrophes and showing fractions in maths.

Peer massage has become a regular focus in green class and we love it AND we are so good.

We have just got back from our Cadbury World trip-keep an eye on dojo for the photos.



Cherry Trees Learning



Yellow Class News

WOW!

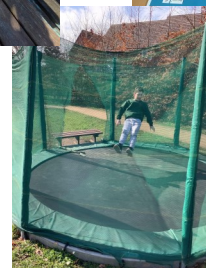
What a spring term we have had! The children have worked extremely hard and are now enjoying taking lots of learning outside.

This half term we have made cakes, fruit kebabs, beans on toast and yummy cookies! We have also been focusing on our physical, social and emotional development by inviting orange class to join us in our sensory outdoor space. The children have been amazing at sharing the area.

We have also been focusing our learning this half term on our topic Let it Grow. Following the topic we have experienced lots of activities in forest school (planting trees), we have also focused our learning around the story The Very Hungry Caterpillar. This has allowed us to explore the lifecycle of a butterfly, look at symmetry, look at the days of the week, and we have also developed our communication using a colourful semantics copy of the story.

Yellow class have also taken part in British Science Week, children at school took part in a variety of activities in the hall to suit the needs of the children. Yellow class continued the science investigations and the children took part in a volcano experiment, made paper aeroplanes, made bark rubbings and finally observed paint bubbles.

As we continue spring term we will continue our topic of Let it Grow by visiting some amazing outdoor spaces. We will also be engaging in Mother's Day celebrations and activities, as well as Easter Celebrations and activities.

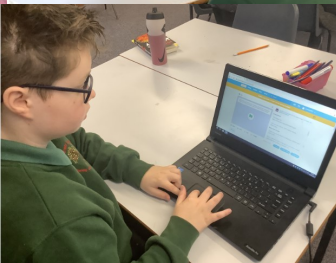
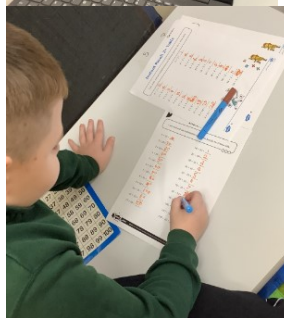
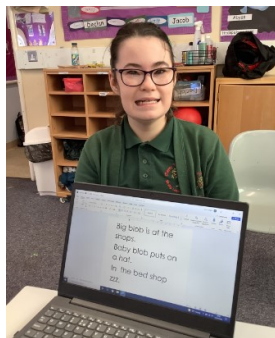


Cherry Trees Learning



Purple Class News

A very busy month here in Purple Class. There have been some special moments of friendship, lots of hard work and fun too. Here are some highlights:



Cherry Trees Communicating



Mothers' Day Celebration



A big thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Mother's day celebration last week.

Caudwell Children Warm Homes Service

Caudwell Children is a national charity based in Staffordshire dedicated to improving the lives of disabled children in the UK.

As a part of this work, we have been funded by the Energy Saving Trust to provide a free family support service, Warm Homes, which seeks to improve the wellbeing of families with disabled children in the East Midlands, West Midlands and North West of England.

Working in partnership with Auriga, one of the UK's leading providers of services to people in financial difficulty, we offer families support and advice to address families' energy efficiency and financial needs in addition to creating a tailored support plan around the families' holistic needs.

Families are able to self-refer by completing a simple online form at www.caudwellchildren.com/warmhomes. In order to be eligible, families must live in one of the regions identified by the project and have a child with a disability under the age of 19 years old.

If you have any specific questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the team:

0345 300 1348,

warm.homes@caudwellchildren.com

Mental Health Support

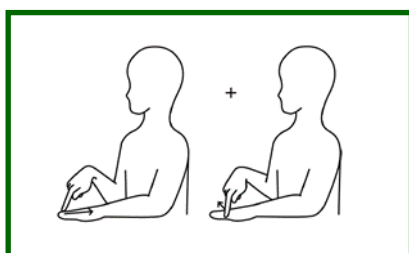
The following Link can be used to access online **mental health support** for Children and Young People in South Staffordshire:

<https://sandbox.getcerebral.co.uk>

Cherry Trees Sharing



Sign of the Month



Easter

Make the sign of a cross on back of your hand

You can see how to do the sign here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Kt_aS45rmw

Whole Class Monthly Attendance

Group	% Attend
Blue Class	94.5
Red Class	88.6
Orange Class	94.8
Green Class	93.7
Yellow Class	82.6
Purple Class	81.3



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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 changing 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!

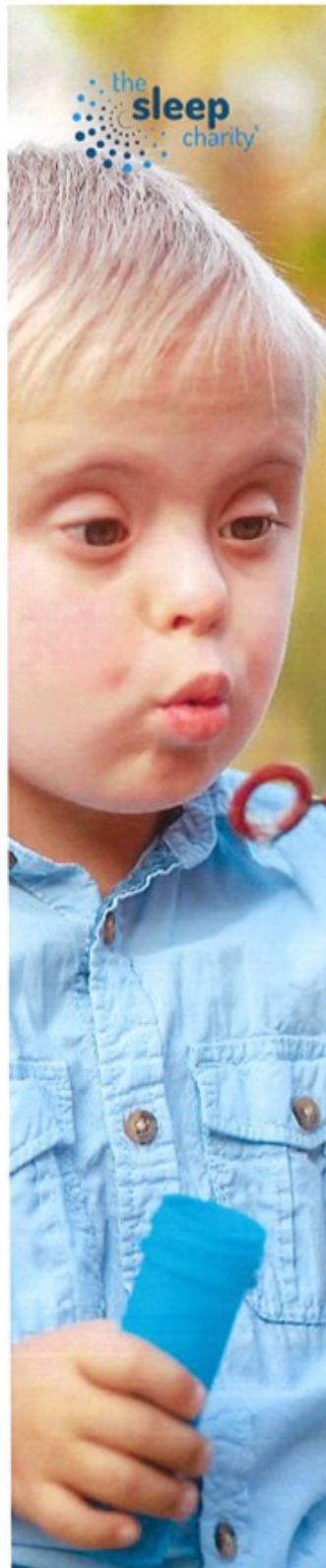
Meet Our Expert

Clare Bodwin (a.k.a. Lunawell) 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 Lunawell Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Cherry Trees Safe & Well



SLEEP ADVICE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND)

If you have a child with additional needs and sleep issues, bedtime can be tricky. Here is some advice that may help if your child struggles to drop off or stay asleep.

- Explore reasons for your child's sleep issues. Underlying reasons may include sensory processing difficulties, lack of understanding about night and day or medical issues.
- Record what is happening at night by using a sleep diary. Share this information with professionals to see if they can help you to explore why your child may have sleep issues and which might be appropriate strategies to try to improve your child's sleep.
- Use visual clues to support your child's understanding. Visual timetables can help to show your child what is going to happen next during the bedtime routine. This can make the evening calmer and easier for you and your child.
- Television viewing may hinder melatonin production so avoid any screens in the hour leading up to bedtime – this includes mobile phones and computer screens. Melatonin is the hormone that helps us to fall asleep and some research suggests that some children with SEND may not produce enough or may release it later in the evening. Replace TV with calm activities like completing a puzzle together or colouring.
- Review your child's diet to ensure that they are not eating or drinking anything sugar loaded before bedtime.
- Ensure that your child is in a routine and put them to bed at the same time each night. It is also important to wake them at the same time each morning.
- Review your child's bedroom and assess whether it is a good environment to promote sleep. If they are visually impaired or hearing impaired then sleeping in total darkness may be disorientating for them. Consider how their bed feels and whether it meets their sensory needs.
- Sleep problems can be complex and it is important to try to identify possible causes, these can include anxiety issues, behavioural sleep issues as well as medical factors. Ask your health practitioners for guidance make sure that you tell them about any unusual night time behaviours such as snoring, teeth grinding or night terrors too.

For more information, contact The Sleep Charity or your representative.

For more information and advice, visit The Sleep Charity at
thesleepcharity.org.uk or contact us on info@thesleepcharity.org.uk

Kale Lodge, Woodfield Park, Tickhill Road, Balby, Doncaster DN4 6BN

Copyright © 2021 The Sleep Charity. All rights reserved.

The Sleep Charity, a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 150585.

Cherry Trees Safe & Well



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

Dear Parents/Carers

We wanted to take this opportunity since our last letter sent in October 2021, to remind you that there are a number of ways in which you can still help us tackle County Lines across Staffordshire.

County Lines is the term used to describe the activity of organised criminal gangs (OCGs) who exploit young and vulnerable people into the distribution of illegal drugs within the county. These gangs target and manipulate young and vulnerable people into moving and storing drugs and money, often doing so by using blackmail, intimidation and violence.

We are working with our partners as part of a County Lines operation which has two aims;

- To arrest members of organised crime gangs who target young and vulnerable people
- Identify young people who are at risk of criminality and to help divert them away from criminal exploitation.

We are asking education establishments as well as parents to know what signs to look for that may indicate someone is involved in County Lines and therefore help identify anyone who may be at risk so they can get support.

The signs to look out for:

- Repeatedly going missing from school or home and being found in other areas
- Decline in school or work performance
- Having money, new clothes or expensive items and they can't explain how they paid for them
- Getting more texts or phone calls than usual and being secretive about who they're speaking to
- Significant changes in emotional or physical well-being
- Having injuries that they can't explain how they received them

No one school in Staffordshire is more or less affected by these problems and we know that the overwhelming majority of young people will never be affected by this issue. However, a conversation with your child about County Lines will help us collectively make a difference.

It is important that young people are aware that there is help and support available to them if they are involved in County Lines, not just from us but at home, school and agencies who work with young people. This information can be found on the enclosed leaflet and on our website here: <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/countylines>

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Detective Superintendent Tom Chisholm
Head of Major & Organised Crime, Staffordshire Police

Victoria Wilson
Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture

Mark Sutton
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Cherry Trees Safe & Well



~~MONEY~~
~~BELONGING~~
~~STATUS~~

~~DRUGS~~
~~EXPLOITATION~~
~~GANGS~~

**COUNTY
LINES**
THE REALITY

IT'S HAPPENING.
YOUR AREA? YOUR STREET? YOUR HOME?

City of Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire County Council, and Catch 22 logos.

IT'S HAPPENING. YOUR AREA? YOUR STREET? YOUR HOME?

The term County Lines describes gangs and organised criminal networks involved in moving illegal drugs into other areas of the country, often smaller areas, using dedicated mobile phone lines known as 'deal lines.'

Dealers will take orders from drug users through mobile phones and take advantage of children and vulnerable people to move and store drugs and money. Often they do this through blackmail, intimidation and violence.

HOW ARE CHILDREN BEING EXPLOITED?

Children and vulnerable people can be groomed online or face-to-face by a stranger or someone they know. They can receive money, mobiles, credit, expensive clothing, jewellery, or other items/gifts in exchange for a specified task.

WHAT IS CUCKOOING?

Cuckooing is a form of county lines crimes in which drug dealers take over the home of a vulnerable person in order to take advantage of them and use it as a base for drug dealing.

COMMON SIGNS

Common signs to look out for which could indicate that a person is involved in County Lines and possible drug dealing:

- Change in emotional wellbeing (e.g. secretive, withdrawn, aggressive, emotional)
- An increase in anti-social behaviour
- Missing episodes from home or school
- Receiving more texts or calls than usual
- Substance misuse and/or drug paraphernalia
- Unexplained, sometimes unaffordable new things (e.g. clothes, jewellery, cash)

- Isolation from friends
- May be carrying a weapon
- Unexplained injuries

The following signs suggest that someone could be a victim of cuckooing:

- An increase in anti-social behaviour
- Other people seen inside the house or flat who don't normally live there
- People coming and going from the property at all hours
- More taxis and cars than usual appearing at the property
- Not seeing the person who lives there as frequently
- When you do see the occupant, they may appear anxious or distracted
- Seeing drugs paraphernalia near to the property

CONCERNED?

If you are worried that someone is at immediate risk of harm contact 999.

Staffordshire Police
Private message us on Facebook and Twitter
Phone: 101

Crimestoppers
Report anonymously:
Phone 0800 555 111
or fill in their online form.

Stoke-on-Trent City Council
If you are worried about a child or young person in Stoke-on-Trent, contact the **Safeguarding Referral Team** on 01782 235100 or out of hours 01782 234234

Staffordshire County Council
If you are worried about a child or young person in Staffordshire contact the **First Response** on 0800 1313 126 or out of hours 0345 6042 886

Catch22
This organisation offer support when any child is reported missing. You can also contact them if you are worried someone may be grooming a child you know:
Email catch22cse@catch-22.org.uk (for criminal exploitation) or catch22cse@catch-22.org.uk (for sexual exploitation)
Call 01782 237106

WWW.STAFFORDSHIRE.POLICE.UK/COUNTYLINES

#COUNTYLINESHEREALITY