

# Cherry Trees School News



## Diary Dates

**Monday 9th May  
2022 - Outdoor/  
Science Week**

**Friday 13th May  
2022 -  
Endeavour in  
Bloom (flower  
planting event)**

**Wednesday 18th  
May 2022 -  
Parents IEP  
Coffee & Catch  
Up**

**Tuesday 24th  
May 2022 -  
Bugclub  
phonics/coffee  
morning**

**Friday 27th May  
2022 - Kings &  
Queens Day to  
celebrate the  
Queen's Jubilee**

**Monday 30th  
May 2022 -  
Friday 3rd June  
2022 - Half Term**

## Friday 29th April 2022: Issue 8

### Headteacher's message: Laura Slinn

Welcome to our April Newsletter.

I do hope you all had a restful Easter.

It was lovely to see the children taking part in our Easter Egg hunt. A big thank you to Hannah Perkins and Tesco for donating Easter eggs for all of the children.

We enjoyed a great week celebrating and learning about Easter; with creative activities, Bonnet Making and designing Easter eggs.

This term, we look forward to celebrating the Queen's jubilee and we have entered into a card competition at the local church.

We will be holding a Kings and Queens day on Friday the 27th and will be having a special afternoon tea in the hall for the children.

There have been exciting developments in the library with the launch of our new Bug Club reading scheme. Children will be coming home with their new logins and will also be choosing a book to read for pleasure at home with parents and carers.

We will be holding a phonics information Coffee Morning for parents on Tuesday 24th May from 9:30. Ms Higgs will be sending more information out about this.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and get a flavour of the learning that is taking place.

Many Thanks,

Laura Slinn

Executive Headteacher

# Cherry Trees Learning



## Blue Class News

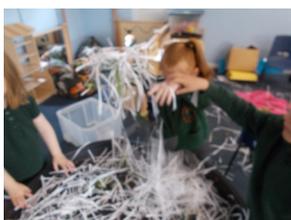
It has been lovely to welcome Blue Class back into school after the Easter holidays and to begin my role formally as Class teacher.

Blue Class had a super week before the holidays. We made Easter bonnets, Easter bunny cards and shortbread Easter biscuits.

We have started our new topic this week, "Let's Go on an Adventure!" Our Literacy adventure started with a sensory story "We're Going on a Bear Hunt". We all really enjoyed exploring the long grass, mud, water spray, forest materials and a shredded paper snowstorm!

Our Maths adventure began with making a picnic for our bears. We all enjoyed making sure each bear had everything they needed. We did lots of counting and checked if we needed more or less.

All the staff in Blue Class are really looking forward to sharing lots of lovely experiences within our topic this half term.



# Cherry Trees Learning



## Red Class News

Welcome back Red Class!

What a lovely Easter break we have had and we are all re-energised ready for this next half-term.

Before we broke up, the boys worked on some Easter crafts, including making next cakes. We also made our very own rain gauges and left them out on the grass for the break to see how much rain had fallen over the holidays.

This half-term our topic is 'Local Area'. We will be exploring our own local area, directions and landmarks. It would be lovely for you to also explore the area where you live and look at landmarks and places close to home too.

Keep an eye on our class Dojo page for daily updates of all the fun and exciting things the children are participating in.



# Cherry Trees Learning



## Orange Class News

A big welcome back to Orange Class, I hope you all had a lovely Easter break.

Before we broke up for Easter we had a lovely time making lots of Easter crafts and cooking our Easter nests.

This term in maths, we are focussing on 5 Current Buns in a Bakers Shop and doing lots of lovely sensory activities.

We will continue to work on our social and independence skills.

Our topic is Teddy Bears picnic so we are hoping to get out and about in our community along with our favourite teddy bears!

We are all looking forward to an exciting term!



# Cherry Trees Learning



## Green Class News

Just before we went off on our holidays, green class topped their Chocoholic topic focus off with a trip to Cadbury World. We had the best time playing on the park, tasting the chocolate, and walking around the factory. We spotted the Aztecs and some of the key items we had made and looked at in history, such as headdresses, shields, and the calendar stone. We enjoyed lots of Easter activities during our last week, making cards, pictures, and even our very own Easter eggs! Which I hope made it home and you enjoyed.

I hope you had a fantastic Easter break. Our first day back consisted of making a collage full of drawings, wow words and pictures from home. During this the children got to share all their lovely stories.

We have a super, busy half term ahead of us and I can't wait to finish the year with green class as my first leading teacher role.



# Cherry Trees Learning



## Yellow Class News

I am very happy to welcome all of Yellow class back after the Easter holidays.

Yellow Class had a great week leading up to Easter. We got creative and made Easter bonnets, nests, wreaths and even took to the kitchen to make some chocolate Easter treats.



We enjoyed going on an Easter egg hunt and learning about the Easter story.

This half term our topic is A Pirates Life for Me. We are aiming to make the children aware and experience Pirates and items associated with pirates. The awareness will be developed and embedded through a wide range of sensory stimulation, music, song, poetry, environmental and ICT experiences. We will continue to develop our maths and English skills through direct teaching and via a TEACCH approach. The children will also be taking part in 3 phonic sessions a week which is tailed to their individual needs.

This half term we also aim to develop an awareness and have experiences related to the Queen. To do this we will be thinking about birthdays, crowns, marching to The Grand Olde Duke of York, and to end the unit we will be holding an award ceremony for the children with afternoon tea. We really want to invite you in for this so please keep an eye out for a letter with more information.



# Cherry Trees Learning



## Purple Class News

Hello,

Am I so pleased to be able to share with you my first few days with your lovely children in Purple Class. It's been a busy few days but it started for myself over the Easter holidays. I have made changes, I'm sure the children have shared this with you BUT I am so proud of how hard they have worked and starting to except these changes. We have started our English text: Harry's Mad by Dick King-Smith. We have talked about the characters and made predictions. Will we be right?! In PSHE we have started the unit that'll be cover in the week: Celebrating differences.

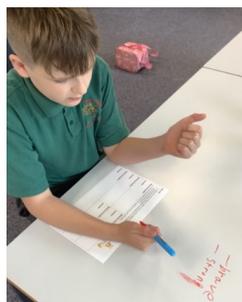
We have talked about first impressions and the assumptions we make a people. We have also looked at two illusions to emphasise the point that from different angles people see different things. What do you see? ...

On Wednesday morning we had a yoga session by Sarah, our Wellbeing Lady.



I am looking forward to the rest of this half term together to see what we can achieve.

Mrs Hill



# Cherry Trees Communicating

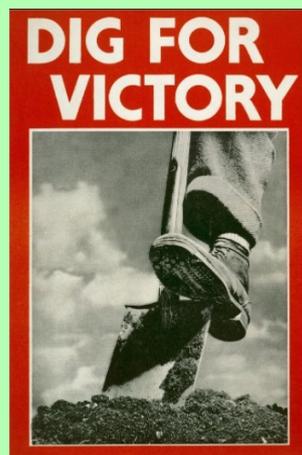


We would like to invite parents and carers to join staff on Saturday 18th June 2022 at Cherry Trees School to help prepare the ground for our new animal therapy area.

We will meet in the school reception at 10 am and will then begin work to dig over and level the area for a couple of hours. Refreshments will be provided but please, if possible, bring your own spade as we do not have enough for everyone!

For safety reasons, this activity will need to be for grown-ups only so please do not bring your children with you.

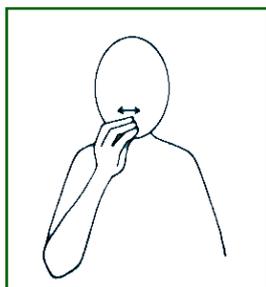
If you can spare us some time to help, please notify the school office so we know who to expect on the day.



# Cherry Trees Sharing



## Sign of the Month



### Flower

Mime smelling perfume.

You can see how to do the sign here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jkH4VXLYQJk>

## Whole Class Monthly Attendance

Group	% Attend
Blue Class	92.9
Red Class	92.9
Orange Class	92.9
Green Class	92.3
Yellow Class	94.7
Purple Class	86.7



Congratulations to:

**Yellow Class**

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

**EVERY  
SCHOOL DAY  
COUNTS**

# Cherry Trees Safeguarding

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

#### BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

#### SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral), is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

#### EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

#### UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

#### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

#### NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert; potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engage in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

#### GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

#### BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

#### PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

#### AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

#### SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



# Cherry Trees COVID Safe



27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

We are now all learning to live safely with COVID-19. Following our return from the Easter break we are moving to a different approach to managing COVID -19 in school. The government has changed the rules on accessing tests for COVID-19. As a result of this, they have removed the current COVID-19 guidance for schools and replaced it with more generic guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infectionincluding-covid-19>

As we move into this next phase, we will continue to have a baseline of control measures in place at school and these will be:

- Monitoring how well rooms are ventilated and making responses to the need for greater ventilation.
- Enhanced handwashing for all as part of our school day and routine.
- Increased cleaning in classrooms throughout the school day.
- Working with the local outbreak team in the event of an outbreak (still described as 2 school-originating cases within a special school setting)
- Sharing information about any further updates on an at least monthly basis through our school newsletter.

Updated guidance from the government states that whilst it is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional, if they were to test positive, they should not come into school and try to isolate for **3 days after the day they took the test**. After 3 days, if they are well enough, they can return to school.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.

For staff, the guidance now states that they are to only be tested for COVID 19 if directed to by a health professional, if they test positive, they should not come in to school and try to isolate for **5 days after they took the test**.

We hope that these changes will have a positive impact on our ability to keep the classes open.

Thank you for your support.

Yours Sincerely

*Laura Slinn*

Laura Slinn

Executive Headteacher

Cherry Trees School