Cherry Trees School News

Cherry Trees School
Working, Learning, Achieving Together

Diary Dates

3rd January - INSET Day (School Closed)

4th January - First Day of Term

17th January - French Day

20th February - 24th February - Half Term

16th December 2022: Issue 4

Headteacher's message: David Murphy

Hello all and welcome to December's Newsletter.

It has been a busy month as the school has been celebrating Christmas with lots of exciting activities.

In this newsletter, you will get to see some of the lovely activities that we have been up to in preparation for the special festival! We have had our Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner in the main hall, the Christmas Nativity Play and lots of Christmas activities in the classroom.

You will notice that your child has come home from school today with a special present, which Father Christmas gave to them during their Christmas parties this afternoon. This has been especially chosen for your child, and we hope that they enjoy them!

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 4th January 2023!

Cherry Trees Learning

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Blue Class News

This month Blue Class began activities based around the Christmassy story "Stickman". We all enjoyed making our own Stickman out of twigs. We also made him with mini rolls and Matchmakers!

We have explored his adventures in the river, at the seaside and in the snow through lots of lovely sensory activities.

We have also been very busy recently making some Christmas 'surprises' to bring home at the end of term. We have enjoyed lots of exciting Craft activities involving paint, glue and glitter!

Everyone has worked really hard this term and we are very proud of all the achievements our children have made. We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and we look forward to welcoming everyone back into school in the New Year.

Merry Christmas!

Blue Class Staff

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Red Class News

Wow, what a busy half-term we have had. The children have wowed us with their amazing learning in all of their lessons and have really enjoyed a whole range of activities, such as exploring 3D shapes in Maths, finding out all about changes of state in Science and working on their writing and reading skills in English and Phonics sessions.

We also worked hard to create some superb Christmassy items for our annual Christmas Fair. These are beautifully and carefully decorated by the children and they all looked wonderful.

The children then enjoyed their Christmas dinner in the hall. They loved the music and the décor and sharing the experience with not only their friends from class, but also from across the school.

Finally, Red Class worked so well on their beautiful rendition of 'Little Donkey' for our Nativity. The children astounded us with how well they performed to such a large crowd and we were all very proud of them.

Well done Red Class! That is your first term completed. Now to have a well earned rest with your families over the festive period.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we will see you in the New Year.

The Red Class Team

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Orange Class News

We have had a very busy few weeks getting ready for Christmas! We made Hot Chocolate Reindeers for the Christmas Fair and it was so nice to see so many family members in school.

We have decorated our Christmas Tree and opened our Advent Calendar everyday. We have had a new addition to the class this month, Buddy The Elf has been causing lots of mischief!!

For our topic, we celebrated Birthdays and made a Birthday Cake and blew out the candles.

We've planted a Christmas Tree to take home and done a lot of Christmas craft activities.

We have worked hard practising for our Nativity Play! We hope you all enjoy it!

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to seeing you all in 2023. Love from The Orange Class Team.

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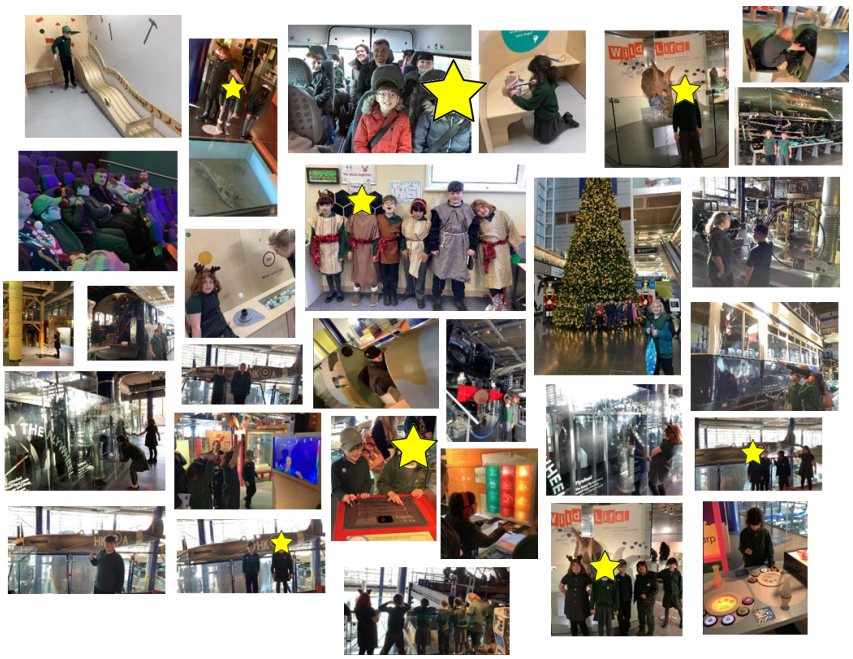
Green Class News

Where has the time gone?! Our first term together in green class has been amazing. I am so proud of how well they have done building relationships, as only a handful of the children in this class knew each other before September. I now have the pleasure of seeing them laughing, giggling, chatting, and playing together every day. We have such a solid routine in class every day that I don't even have to touch the musical cues or timetable now and next board, they all love changing it or playing the music themselves. In this short time, we have also been able to have two fantastic trips to the SnowDome and ThinkTank. They loved looking around the museum, pressing many buttons and watching things move. The pictures say it all. Finally, how amazing they did in the nativity. We practised the song for the entire half term, and they did fantastically! However, this is only the beginning! We have so many things planned in the upcoming months, and I'll be taking them out every chance I get. Thank you for all your support this last term, parents you have been amazing! Have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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Yellow Class News

We have had a busy and exciting month getting ready for Christmas. We have made crackers and reindeer food in forest school for the Christmas fair, and clay decorations and placemats for the Christmas dinner which we all enjoyed.

We have looked at lots of Christmas stories and have took part in lots of cooking activities, including making Christmas cupcakes and decorating Christmas cookies.

We have been continuing to work on our shape targets and in number working on the concept of many and few. We have worked hard in phonics and have begun to recognise initial sounds while others have focussed on natural sounds in the environment.

The children have all been very enthusiastic to take part in swimming now the pool is up and running, and have enjoyed practicing for the chiasmas play and learning Christmas songs using Makaton.

We hope you have an amazing Christmas and new year and look forward to seeing you all in 2023!

Happy Christmas!

Love from

Yellow Class Staff

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Purple Class News

The year 2022 has come to an end as Purple class have managed to fit so much learning in to the time we've had so far! We have made pottery Christmas decorations with Penguin Potteries. We have performed the Christmas Nativity to you all. I'm sure you can agree it was amazing! So proud of them all.

Mrs Smith has made decorations with the children for our trees and they will be coming home so they can take pride of place in your tree.

We have gained a mischievous elf in purple this year, he had made snow angles on the carpet, decorated the tree with toilet roll, zip lined down the book corner and had (Mr) Beans on toast as just a few...Whatever next!!

In science we have been looking at circuits, using batteries, bulbs, switches and motors. We have drawn our circuits, checked what materials are conductors and even had some vibrating games to play.

Happy Christmas Love Purple Class Team x

Cherry Trees Communicating

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Thank you to everyone who joined in the fun of the raffle at the Christmas Nativity Play! We raised a total of:

£66.00!

We hope that the winners enjoyed their hampers!

We have recently moved MIS systems from SIMS to Arbor at school. In January, we will be issuing login details to all parents to be able to see your own child's dashboard, to be able to communicate with the school, and make payments to the school for dinners and trips. We hope this will be useful for parents, and will give further details in the new year.

The children had been working really hard on this years Christmas Nativity Play, and we are so happy that you were able to join us. We are so proud of everyone, as they gave such amazing performances!

Cherry Trees Sharing

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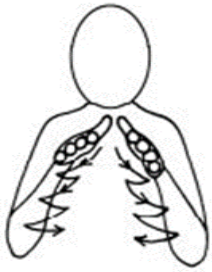
Sign of the Month



Christmas Tree

Our sign of the week is Christmas Tree – Mime the outline of a Christmas tree.

You can see how to do the sign here:

https//: www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZhy_4y6t6I

Whole Class Monthly Attendance

Group	% Attend
Blue Class	80.9%
Red Class	87.5%
Orange Class	83.2%
Green Class	92.8%
Yellow Class	80.8%
Purple Class	93.8%

Congratulations to:

Purple

You have the best Attendance for the Month

Well done to all of you.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Cherry Trees Safeguarding

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Sources of support for you

Christmas can be a difficult and stressful time of year for many different reasons. If you feel like you're struggling right now, you're not alone. We've gathered contact information for some helplines, so you know where you can turn to if you need some help. Remember, it's ok not to be ok.

Family life

Family Lives (support on any aspect of parenting and family life. Free phone) | 0808 800 2222 | askus@familylives.org.uk | familylives.org.uk

Mental health

For you:

Samaritans (free) | 116 123 | jo@samaritans.org | samaritans.org
Mind (calls charged at local and network rates) | 0300 123 3393 | info@mind.org.uk | mind.org.uk

If you're worried about your child:

Young Minds Parents Helpline (free) | 0808 802 5544 | https://bit.ly/3p8kpDp

Food

Kingsway Foodbank | Staffordshire | kingswayfoodbank@yahoo.co.uk | Kingsway Church, High Street, Wombourne, WV5 9DN

Adventist Foodbank | Wolverhampton | 215 Great Brickkiln Street, Wolverhampton, WV3 0PN | 07826 240716 | seventhdayadventistfoodbank.btck.co.uk

Black Country Food Bank | Dudley | Albion Street, BHill, DY5 3EE | 01384 671250 blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk

Domestic abuse

National Domestic Abuse Helpline (free) | 0808 2000 247 | nationaldahelpline.org.uk

Men's Advice Line (free) | 0808 8010 327 | mensadviceline.org.uk

Galop (free, LGBT+) | 0800 999 5428 | galop.org.uk

CHADD – (Dudley) 01384 456465 | www.chadd.org.uk

The Haven (Wolverhampton) 0800 019 4400 | havenrefuge.org.uk

Staffordshire Women's Aid | 0300 330 5959 | www.staffordshirewomensaid.org

Children's Services

Staffordshire Advice & Support— 0300 111 8007

Wolverhampton Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub –01902 550477

Dudley Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub –0300 555 0050

Cherry Trees Safe & Well

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Christmas is nearly here! For most families, Christmas is a joyful occasion, an opportunity to spend time together and enjoy a bit of overindulgence. For families of children with extra needs it can be a very different story. Their surroundings are full of noise and people, normal routines are abandoned, and our special children can be stressed by crowds, lights and unfamiliar sights and smells.

Whilst no amount of preparation can make the Christmas celebrations easy, there are many things you can do to make them easier. Here are some suggestions that should make the season more enjoyable for everyone.

Maintain Routines – as much as possible. There will be routines that are adjusted or forgotten. Try to maintain usual routines if you can. This is especially important for bedtimes and getting up times.

Create a Christmas-free zone. Leave one room in the house, perhaps your child's room, free from anything to do with Christmas, so that they can come back to the room as a safe space if necessary. This room should be accessible at all times.

Decorate Slowly. Don't put up the decorations when your child is sleeping -if possible, get them involved. Introduce new sights, smells, and sounds one at a time.

Create a plan. Make a visual plan. You could print off a week-to-view calendar page and add pictures of planned activities during the Christmas holidays.

Make special time for your children. It is easy to get overloaded with Christmas preparations so put time aside to forget about Christmas and do a familiar activity that interests your child.

Prepare your extended family. Talk to family members ahead of time. Discuss your child's specific needs and tell them what your plans are. Ask for their support.

Simplify opening presents. Break up present opening over Christmas Day and Boxing Day. For children who struggle with fine motor skills, reduce frustration by loosening ribbons, unsealing envelopes, and minimizing tape. For children with limited attention span, make sure that batteries are in gifts and that they are set up and ready to use as soon as they are unwrapped. Wrap up something familiar and comfortable as well as new gifts.

Christmas Dinner. Remember your child does not need to eat it. Give them some of their favourite foods at the table.

New Clothes. Don't worry if your child does not want to wear new clothes. Remind family and friends about any sensory issues if they want to buy clothes as presents for your child.

Plan a calming activity. This could be a walk outside or watching a familiar movie when things get too much. Fill a bag with things your child finds comforting or enjoys playing with. If they get overstimulated find a quiet place to get them out.

Safeguarding Children Partnership STOKE-ON-TRENT

Child Death Prevention Newsletter

Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board

This newsletter is designed to raise awareness of the work of the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) and to bring news on our ongoing campaigns

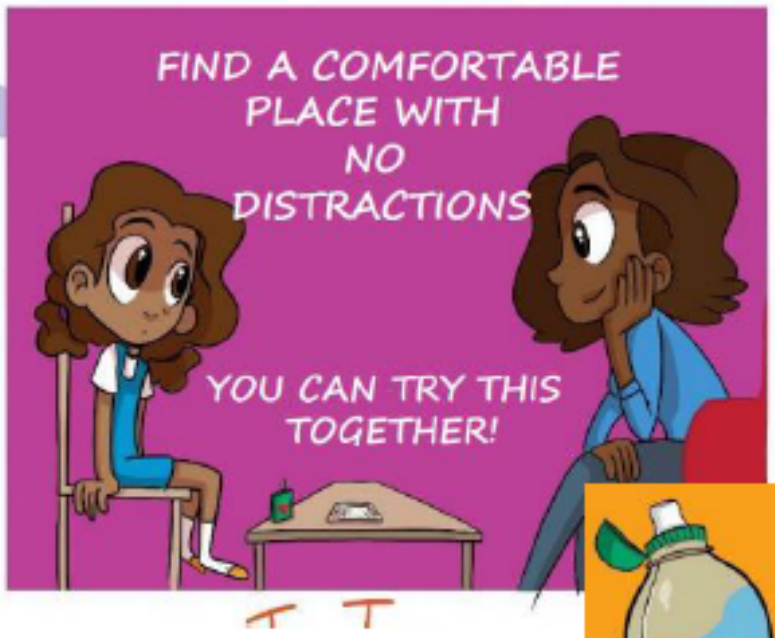
Swallowing Pills December 2022

Being able to swallow tablets or capsules is an important life skill

Many medicines come in chewable or liquid form. But some are best taken as a pill or tablet.

As with any skill, learning to swallow a pill takes practice. Teach your child at the right time and in the right way to make it a positive experience that builds your child's confidence.

Below are 6 simple tips to help children learn :



Safeguarding Children Partnership
STOKE-ON-TRENT

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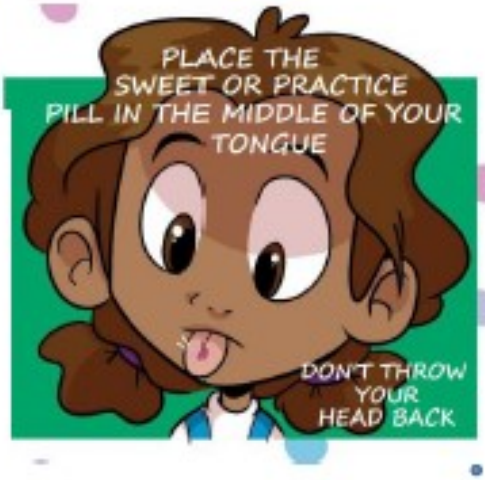

For further resources and tips go to : [KidzMed - elearning for healthcare (e-lfh.org.uk)]