



CHERRY ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We care, we learn, we succeed.

www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk @copschool
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Sept 2021 – Issue 2

Dear parents and carers

Here are the latest notices from Cherry Orchard.

Secondary School Place Applications

Families with children due to start secondary school in September 2022 (i.e. those children born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011) are now able to apply online for secondary school places.

The deadline for applications is 31 October 2021 and places will be offered on 1 March 2022. All the information families need to make their applications is on our website:

[Before you apply: Researching schools | Apply for Secondary School \(year 7\) place | Birmingham City Council](#)

It is particularly important that families carefully consider schools' admission criteria and name at least one school on their application where their child would have been offered a place in previous years. The council will also be sharing information about the application process on its social media channels throughout the application

period: <https://twitter.com/BhamCityCouncil/status/1440968174476877827>

I would be grateful for the support of schools to ensure parents are aware of the deadline as parents who apply late are less likely to be offered one of their preferred schools.

Applications to start Reception class in September 2021

If your child will be 4 years old before 1st September 2021, you can apply for a place in Cherry Orchard's Reception class.

You will need to visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and submit an online application **by 15th January 2022 (the final closing date)**.

As we can't invite parents into school at the moment, please look out for our Virtual Open Day content on our website coming soon on www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk

School meal service – important information

We have been informed that our school meal provider is experiencing difficulties with product availability and staffing. This is something that is currently affecting many companies across the food industry nationally.

Although our provider is taking action to mitigate some of these issues and the food industry have advised that they are prioritising school meals, they have brought this to our attention as our school lunch service may still be affected for several months.

Therefore, there may be occasions when the meal on offer is not the same as the meal on the menu for that day. If this is the case, please rest assured that your child will still receive a meal that meets their dietary requirements.

Apology

Please accept our apologies for the text message sent to parents earlier this week regarding the flu nasal spray consent forms. This is not the tone that you are accustomed to from us and is not appropriate. Steps have been taken to ensure that it does not happen again. Thank you to all the parents who sent in their consent forms on time.

Black History Month at Cherry Orchard

As always, our assemblies throughout this month will be based on black role models from history. We are also running a BHM competition for Year 1 to Year 6 – your child can find details on this week's homework sheet and in their Google Classroom. The closing date is Tuesday 19th October and the winner in each class will be awarded with a £10 book voucher by our history leaders Mrs Allchin and Miss Newcombe.

Why not log on to <https://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/> which has a collection of resources celebrating diversity and the achievements of some of the world's most influential people? The password should be in your child's school planner. If not, just ask the class teacher.

Remember, you can find out where British Black History features in our history curriculum throughout the year, which has been shared on our website www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk. Click on the 'Curriculum and Learning' tab and go to Cherry Orchard Curriculum, then History. There is still more that we aim to do across the curriculum, but we hope that this will show how Black History is not an 'add-on' at Cherry Orchard, but an integral part of our history curriculum.



On 22nd October, we will be joining in with Wear Red Day to support the Show Racism the Red Card charity organisation. **On 22nd October, the children may come to school wearing red, and bring any donation you wish to contribute – all donations will go to the charity.**

On the day, the children will talk about equality and racism, and will look at the Children's Rights that relate to this topic. Part of the day will also be spent creating artwork that promotes anti-racism and equality.

Online Safety



At Cherry Orchard we constantly reinforce the importance of staying safe online. Our website has a link on the home page to a variety of information for parents and carers. Please follow the following link for more! <https://parentinfo.org/article/help-your-child-make-positive-cyber-choices>

To celebrate Black History Month, follow the link below for a wonderful resource to share with your children.

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/black-inventors-and-pioneers-who-have-influenced-the-way-we-use-the-internet-and-technology-today>

Villa Vision teams up with Cherry Orchard to help



This week, Cherry Orchard were thrilled to welcome Villa Vision into school. They are funded to check the eyesight of children in Years 5 and 6. 100 Cherry Orchard children have had their eyesight checked over the last 2 days (we could only check the ones whose parents sent in the consent letter on time so unfortunately some children missed out).

Villa Vision have identified 20 children who have problems with their eyesight, and those children will now receive an invitation to attend a free full appointment on Monday 11th October and will receive a FREE pair of glasses if needed. If your child has been offered a full appointment, you are welcome to attend. **The consent form must be returned by Friday 8th October** – Villa Vision will make no exceptions.

Curriculum information updated on our website

We have updated our parent booklets which summarise the end of year expectations for maths, reading and writing. Should you wish to view these, please click on the following link on the school website: <https://www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk/curriculum/4118-end-of-year-expectations.html>

Also, look out over the following week for updated overviews of the topics covered across the school in each subject area.

Amazing learning resources for children from newborn to 5 years old

Children learn from the minute they are born. They understand language before they can speak and the more they are engaged in stimulating activities at an early age, the better they will do when they start school.

We'd like to recommend the [Hungry Little Minds](#) website for tips and practical activities that parents can do at home with children from newborn to 5 years old to support their early learning.

Holyhead Open Evening

For now, it would help transition massively, if you could inform Year 6 parents that a recording of last weeks' live event is now available on the Open Evening 2021 section of our website.

For convenience, click on the link below

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61c7BipaOcQ>

Local Sporting Opportunities

If any of your children were inspired by Emma Raducanu's truly magnificent achievement winning the US Open Tennis last month, please see the adjacent information for a great opportunity to take up tennis locally.

**TENNIS IN HANDSWORTH WOOD
AT SPRINGFIELD TENNIS CLUB**

Stay active
Whilst having fun with family and friends.

Small groups, 1 to 1, all ages and abilities.
League matches plus Squash and racketball too.
Qualified & insured coach Dan Wegrzynowski

Contact Dan 07427 111555
Or dwtc@outlook.com
to find the best time to play.

SPRINGFIELD TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB
KILBYS GROVE
HANDSWORTH
B20 2ER

Reminder of our COVID-19 Response

Detailed information regarding our current procedures can be found on the Covid-19 section of our website.

The government has published the [Covid-19 response autumn and winter plan 2021](#). This guidance sets out plans for autumn and winter 2021/22 in England. It includes the government's "Plan A" – a comprehensive approach designed to steer the country through autumn and winter 2021/22. It also outlines a "Plan B" which would only be enacted if the data suggests further measures are necessary to protect the NHS.

Safety Measures

Although we are trying to get as close to 'normal' as we can, we are still continuing with caution and maintain a number of safety measures in school in order to keep the children and staff as safe as we can.

- Both children and staff are still handwashing/hand-sanitising at regular intervals throughout the day
- Classrooms and communal areas are well-ventilated
- We are limiting the amount of mixing across whole year group sets inside the school
- Touch point cleaning continues throughout the day, with cleaning of regularly touched surfaces such as door handles, bannisters, handrails and other surfaces
- We make use of quarantine rooms in case children display COVID-19 symptoms whilst in school
- Staff are being asked to test for COVID-19 using lateral flow tests twice weekly and report their results to the NHS.

If your child has possible COVID-19 symptoms:

Please do not send them to school and get a PCR test as soon as possible. You need to inform the school of the result so that we can take any actions needed and make sure we are following government guidance. If you are unsure, please call the Main Office for advice.



If anyone in your household tests positive for COVID-19:

Everyone in your household should take a PCR test as soon as possible. Again, please inform the school of the situation so we can take any actions needed to keep everyone as safe as possible.

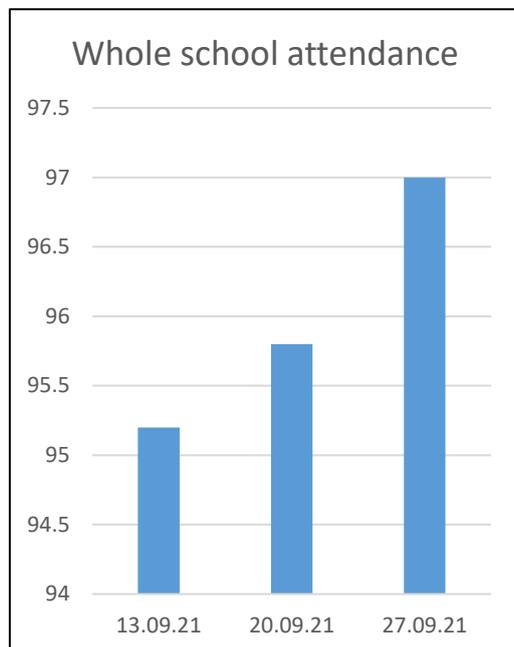


Please follow us on Twitter @copschool for news and updates on learning and fun at Cherry Orchard. You can also find our Twitter feed on the home page of our school website.

Thank you!

Attendance

The graph shows the whole school attendance for the last three weeks. We're thrilled to see that attendance has risen to 97% across the school this week – outstanding!



Week beginning 13.09.21:

Congratulations to RB2 for achieving 100% attendance!

Week beginning 20.09.21:

Congratulations to 6BU for achieving 100% attendance!

Week beginning 27.09.21:

Congratulations to RB1 for achieving 100% attendance!

Upcoming dates for your diary

20 Oct	Parents' evening online (3.40pm – 6.00pm)
21 Oct	Parents' evening online (4.30pm – 7.00pm)
22 Oct	Wear Red Day (and end of term)
01 Nov	Teacher training day (school closed to pupils)
02 Nov	Start of term for pupils
17 Dec	End of term
04 Jan	Teacher training day (school closed to pupils)
05 Jan	Start of term for pupils
18 Feb	End of term
28 Feb	Teacher training day (school closed to pupils)
01 Mar	Start of term for pupils
08 Apr	End of term
25 Apr	Start of term for pupils
02 May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
27 May	End of term
06 Jun	Start of term for pupils
11 Jul	Teacher training day (school closed to pupils)
21 Jul	End of term

Additional Information

You will find lots of additional information on our school website. Please go to www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk. If you cannot find the answer to your question, please ask a member of staff. The office number is 0121 5540862.