



CHERRY ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We care, we learn, we succeed.

www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk @copschool

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October 2023

Dear parents and carers,

This half-term, the children have settled well into their new classes and we'd like to thank you all for your continued support. We hope you enjoyed meeting your children's class teachers this week and finding out how your children are progressing.

We'd like to wish you all a relaxing half-term, and look forward to welcoming the children back into school on **Tuesday 7th November**.

MMR Guidance

Measles cases are rising across the country, with over 102,000 children starting primary school in England being at risk of catching the disease. Measles is highly infectious and if left unvaccinated nine out of ten children in a classroom can catch the disease if just one child is infectious. Please check that your child is up-to-date with their vaccinations.



The BBC's 500 Words Story Writing Competition

"Write a story you would love to read". BBC's 500 Words 2023 is the UK's largest children's writing competition for children aged 5-11. The deadline is Friday 10th November.



The BBC's 500 Words competition was launched in 2011 by BBC Radio 2 as a way to encourage young people to develop their writing skills and foster a love for storytelling. This year there are two age categories: 5-7 and 8-11.

To enter, children need to write an original story that they would want to read which is no more than 500 words. More information can be found [here](#).

The Big Ambition

The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people, and parents across the country.

This is an opportunity to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting. The survey will be used to encourage policymakers to think about children and young people's needs, to ensure children's voices are reflected in the decisions that will affect them in years to come.

To find out more head to [The Big Ambition page](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition). To take part in The Big Ambition survey visit: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition.

Parking reminder

Please can we remind parents who drive their children to and from school to leave themselves enough time to park considerately and legally.

It is illegal to park, pull over or stop on the zigzag lines, and anyone doing so may incur a fine.

The zig-zags are there as a warning to motorists not to stop on this part of the road. This is because the cars block pedestrians' view of oncoming traffic, making crossing the road unnecessarily hazardous. **Please note that school staff will always put keeping Cherry Orchard children safe above your parking needs, and we ask that parents are not aggressive towards us when they are reminded not to park on the zig-zags.**

Also, the Highway Code Rule 243 reads, '**do not stop or park in front of an entrance to a property.**' Please ensure that this rule is followed so that our neighbours can use their driveways at all times.

And to the vast majority of Cherry Orchard parents, thank you so much for parking legally and considerately every day, and for walking your children to school. Your sense of community and understanding is very much appreciated.

School Council traffic survey

On Tuesday 24th October, School Council conducted a traffic survey to find out how safe our pupils are when arriving at school. Their aim is to reduce the risk of a pupil getting hurt when coming to school. They are looking at how they can promote safer travel within the school. Here are their results:

Children getting out of the car on zig zag lines	35
Children not looking left or right or running across the zebra crossing	67
Children cycling to school and not wearing helmets	4
Cars pulling up onto the pavement or parking on the zig zags	16

As you can see, school council have a lot of work to do to help improve the safety of our pupils. Please help them by reinforcing these safety messages at home as well.

Wider personal development at Cherry Orchard

Black History Competition Winners – Celebrating Our Sisters

This year's Black History Month theme was Celebrating Our Sisters. This was to recognise the leadership, talent and impact of pioneering black women. Our children were asked to find out more about these inspiring women and produce a piece of homework to show what they had found out. Here are our competition winners with some examples of their work.



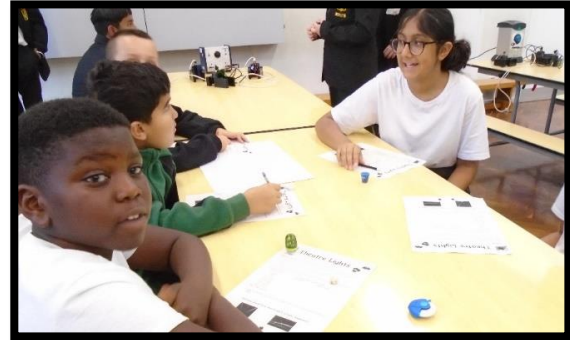
1JA	Eva	1A	Iqra
2K	Dania	2B	Inayah
3JN	Sarina	3JS	Aaliyah
4T	Ismael	4L	Hamzah
5SA	Zakariya	5ST	Adina
6K	Faizan	6BE	Anaya



Year 6 Handsworth Grammar

On Friday 13th October, King Edwards IV Handsworth Grammar School delivered some fantastic workshops for our Year Six pupils. Year Six have been finding out about light in science lessons so they loved using all the different equipment to investigate light and colour.

We really valued the opportunity to learn from the older pupils and the secondary science teachers. Many thanks to the team at Handsworth Grammar, who took the time to visit us.



Level 1 Bikeability Years 3 and 4

Some pupils in Years 3 and 4 had an exciting opportunity to participate in Level 1 Bikeability training. This training was for pupils who can ride a bike without stabilisers. On the training the pupils learnt the following skills:

Maintain their cycle: made sure their bike was in tip-top condition

Glide: rode their bikes smoothly, calmly and collectedly

Control their bike: including setting off, cruising, slowing down, braking and stopping. They even learnt to pedal one handed!

Pedal: without feeling wobbly or out of control

Be aware of their surroundings: looked behind and turned around obstacles.

Congratulations to the following children for achieving their Level 1 Bikeability - Krishan 4L, Amelia A 4L, Kayaan 4L, Jason 4L, Ricardo 4T, Andrea 4T, Faariah 4T, Ismaeel 4T, Hamza 4T, Jonah 4T, Jayden 4L, Easah 3JS, Khushraj 3JN, Khushpreet 3JN, Faaris 3HN, Ethen 3JN, Sarina 3JN, Taslima 3JN, Ameera 3JN, Kirpa 3JN



Bikeability levels 1 and 2 will be available for pupils in Years 5 and 6 in March.

Key Stage 2 House Results

This half term, our house and vice captains have collected, counted and collated all the house points. They have added these to the points each house was awarded in the house games events: netball, bench ball, observational drawing and music. Here are our totals for this half term.

1 st Place - Ashley	2351 points
2 nd Place - Woodville	2313 points
3 rd Place - Thornhill	2113 points
4 th Place - Birchfield	1962 points

Well done to Ashley. Remember next half term, keep working hard to earn house points for producing excellent class work.



Stars of the Week



6/10/23	Yusuf RB, Isa RA, Yusuf RH, Zohran 1JA, Aiza 1A, Abraham 2K, Inayah 2B, Jake 3JN, Aneesa 3JS, Gurkiran 4L, Harry 5ST, Gina 5SA, Taran 6BE, Sahib 6K
13/10/23	Hanaya RH, Amrit RH, Idris RA, Aria 1A, Hajaar 1JA, Areen 2B, Laila 2K, Easah 3JS, Isa 3JN, Daniyal 4T, Isa 4L, Aliza 5ST, Ahmed 5SA, Sumaiyah 6K, Gurveer 6BE, RB Chavin
20/10/23	Haniya RA, Jamal RH, Esa 1JA, Ektha 1A, Moussa 2B, Anaya 2K, Siyana 3JN, Isaac 3JS, Khadeeja 4L, Hamnah 4T, Ibrahim 5SA, Yaqub 5ST, Virun 6BE, Ashar 6K, Akaal RB
28/10/23	Samarra RH, Kayan RA, Ayan 1JA, Rayaana 2K, Zaiden 2B, Taslima 3JN, Amelia A 3JS, Ibraheem 4T, Blanche 4L, Ayaan 5ST, Kh'alia 5SA, Aisha 6K, Samar 6BE, Flynn RB

Attendance

As you will know from the letter we sent out about attendance, 'good' attendance is classed as 96% or above over the year. **This is our whole school target. We are currently at 95.1% which is an increase on last month's attendance so well done to everyone for attending school. Keep up the hard work!**

We monitor class and individual attendance weekly. Here are the percentages for each class from the beginning of the school year to now:

RA	95%	RH	94%
1JA	96%	1A	94%
2K	96%	2B	96%
3JN	96%	3JS	96%
4T	96%	4L	97%
5SA	96%	5ST	94%
6K	96%	6BE	93%
RB	93%	NURAM	88%

Well done to 4L for having the highest attendance this year with 97%!

Upcoming dates for your diary

06 Nov	Teacher Day – school closed for pupils
07 Nov	School opens for pupils
09 Nov	Flu immunisations (Rec – Year 6)
10 Nov	Year 2 – Diwali Play 2:15pm
13 – 17 Nov	Anti-bullying Week
16 Nov	Year 3 and 4 Girls' Football Development
17 Nov	Children in Need Day
20 Nov	Year 6 Poetry Workshop
21 – 24 Nov	Year 6 – Pioneer Centre trip
24 Nov	Year 6 – Active Kids Day (children who are not attending the Pioneer Centre)
29 Nov	Reception 2024 Open Day (9:15 – 10:00 and 17:15 – 18:00)
30 Nov	Year 5 RAF museum trip
30 Nov	Year 3 and 4 Girls' Football Development
04 Dec	Year 3 Think Tank trip
06 Dec	Year 1 Heritage Walk
07 Dec	Christmas jumper day and Christmas meal
07 Dec	YPP Opening Ceremony
08 Dec	Year 2 Theatre Trip – Blue Orange Theatre – Sleeping Beauty
12 Dec	Birmingham City Mission Assemblies
15 Dec	Year 4 – Sparks Fire Safety Workshop
18 Dec	Year 4 – St Mary's Church Visit
22 Dec	End of term

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



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.