



CHERRY ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We care, we learn, we succeed.

www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk @copschool

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December 2023

Dear parents and carers,

We'd like to wish you all a relaxing and safe holiday, and look forward to welcoming the children back into school on **Tuesday 9th January 2024**. Here are the latest notices.

Headteacher Award Certificates

Well done to the following children who have received a headteacher's award for Autumn 2023.

RA - Amara, Isa	RH – Hafsa, Ozil
1JA – Hajaar, Rajan	1A - Aizah, Yusuf A
2B - Ayla, Emad	2K – Laila, Hayat
3JN – Khushpreet, Balveer	3JS – Rianna, Sultan
4L - Ekamjeet, Jayden	4T – Parineeta, Ibraheem S
5SA – Aleemah, Jai	5ST – Samia, Abubakr
6BE - Farrah, Rayyan	6K – Umyza, Zaki
RB- Haaris, Flynn	



New childcare offer

On the 29th November, the DfE announced that, from January, eligible working parents of two-year-olds will be able to register to access 15 hours free childcare per week from April 2024. The window for registration will open on the 2nd January.

Here's the link to the web page: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/date-set-for-new-childcare-offer-applications>

The Big Ambition Survey

The Big Ambition provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell policy makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election.

The Children's Commissioner has **extended the closing date to Friday 19th January 2024** to allow even more children the chance to have their say on the education they wish to receive.

Children and parents can complete the survey
here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

NSPCC advice for when to leave a child home alone or unsupervised

A NSPCC guide is available that provides practical tips and advice to help parents and carers decide what is best for their child when it comes to staying home alone or going out alone. It covers some of the risks parents should consider before making a decision, such as how their child feels about the idea and who they should contact in an emergency. There is also a checklist for parents and children to work through together to help them prepare for different types of scenarios. This includes questions about what to do if there is an accident at home or they are approached by a stranger outside. Click on link below to view:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/leaflets/home-or-out-alone-guide?fbclid=IwAR2-0CPKpx7XiyCuiYFTSYOJOE6I2DDDhqaj4UEdRDB1pCg3BuXe9JXTB4A>



Threadworm

There have been cases of pupils with threadworm at school. Threadworms (pinworms) are tiny worms in your poo. They're common in children and spread easily. You can treat them without seeing a GP.

You can spot threadworms in your poo. They look like pieces of white thread. You might also see them around your child's bottom (anus). The worms usually come out at night while your child is sleeping. To find out more information, please visit the link below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/>

Wider personal development at Cherry Orchard

Reception - Christmas

Our Reception children gave two super performances of their Christmas nativity 'Shine Star Shine.' They sang beautifully with wonderful actions. They certainly were all superstars! Well done Reception on your first ever school performance.



Year 1 – History Walk



Year 1 enjoyed a walk around the local area with Sian Campbell, learning about what the area was like before Cherry Orchard school was built. We had lots of fun on our walk, finding hidden pictures showing what life was like years ago. All Year 1 children showed their core values of respect to our visitor. Well done Year 1!



Year 1 Christmas

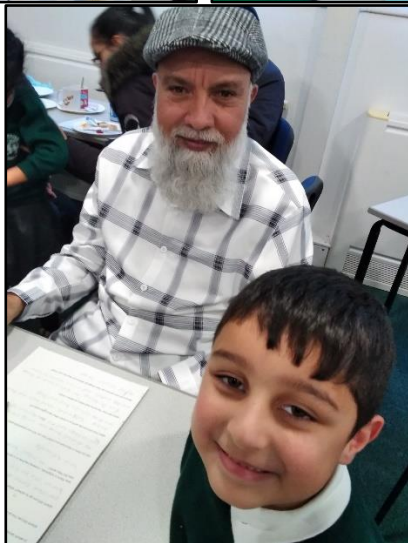
Year 1 children told the story of the Nativity through song. They all sang beautifully and were all superstars! Well done Year 1 - your families and teachers are so proud of you!



Year 1 – Grandparents' afternoon

The children in year 1 had a lovely time with their grandparents for their history topic entitled 'What was Life Like 50 years ago in Handsworth and for our Grandparents?'

They enjoyed having afternoon tea together and the children had fun finding out what their grandparents lives were like as children. It was very interesting. Televisions only had three channels, the programmes were black and white and the children's grandparents didn't have a phone. Life was quite different for the children's grandparents when they were children.



Year 2 – Pantomime

Year 2 enjoyed themselves when they visited the Blue Orange Theatre in Birmingham to watch Sleeping Beauty. Everyone had a great time and they even sang 'Happy Birthday' to one of our pupils on stage.



Year 3 - Think Tank

Year 3 had an exciting day learning about fossils at the Think Tank. The tour guide was amazed about the children's prior knowledge in the workshop activity. During the day, the children went on an adventure trail looking at the different aspects of engineering and transport.



Year 5 - RAF Museum

Year 5 had a fantastic time on our trip to the RAF Museum at the end of November. Miss Sandford and Mrs Standen were very impressed with how the children worked together to apply their understanding of levers, gears and pulleys. The children were challenged to create a system that would safely raise and lower Steve the Bear.

As well as this, Year 5 were able to design, build and then - the most exciting part - LAUNCH their own rockets! We thought about what we had learnt about air resistance, thrust and gravity in order to create successful rockets.

We then finished off our day by experiencing everyday friction, mechanisms and levers in the playground! Check out our year group photo!



Resource Base – Winter Workshop

Resource Base welcomed parents and siblings in to celebrate the winter season. They made all sorts of fun craft along with some tasty ones too. The afternoon ended with a surprise performance for our families.



Fundraising at Cherry Orchard

The Wear Red Day in school on 27/10/2023 raised a total of £241.31 for the charity, Show Racism the Red Card.

The Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day raised a total of £109.13 for the charity.

Key Stage 2 House Results

This half term, our house and vice captains have collected, counted and collated all the house points. Here are our totals for this half term.

1 st Place - Thornhill	4754 points
2 nd Place - Woodville	4644 points
3 rd Place - Birchfield	4168 points
4 th Place - Ashley	4160 points

Well done to Thornhill. Remember next half term, keep working hard to earn house points for producing excellent class and homework.



Early Years and Safeguarding Updates

Safeguarding Update

A shocking number of dangerous baby products are making their way into family homes throughout the UK. ITV Regional News revealed on 13.12.2023 that many parents are unaware that products they're buying from online marketplaces could suffocate, strangle or even choke their baby. A survey by the Institute reveals that 88% of health visitors have come across parents using dangerous products and 97% are concerned by the availability of dangerous products online. Please read this important advice about dangerous baby products - [Learn more](#)

Measles

Measles is circulating in Birmingham and Solihull – protect yourselves and your families

What to do if you think you or your child has measles?

It's vitally important any child displaying suspecting measles symptoms isolates at home with no contact with others. They should NOT go to hospitals, GP practices, pharmacies or any other health setting. Parents should call their GP who will take them through a screening process and if measles is suspected or identified, they will support them in a clinically safe way to ensure it is not transmitted to others.

What are the signs of measles?

The first signs of measles, which is a highly infectious condition that can cause serious illness and in rare cases be fatal, are:

- High temperature;
- Runny or blocked nose;
- Sneezing;
- Cough;
- Red, sore, watery eyes;
- A rash will usually appear a few days after cold-like symptoms (sometimes starts around the ears before spreading to the rest of the body).



Stars of the Week



8/12/23	Damian RA, Alessia-Marie RH, Nikhil 1JA, all of 1A, Adam 2K, Hajra 2B, Amelia 3JN, All of 3JS, Esa 5ST, Rayyan 5SA, Mahi 6BE, Avneet 6K, Janaid RB
15/12/23	Mohammed RA, Haitham RH, All of 1JA, All of 1A, Daniel 2K, Alicia 2B, Aaniyah 3JS, Sehaj 4L, Liyah-Rose 4T, Sukhleen 5ST, Kaylen 5SA, Abdullah 6BE, Eesa 6K, Ansumana RB

Attendance

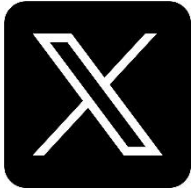
As you will know from the letter we sent out about attendance, 'good' attendance is classed as 96% or above over the year. **This is our whole school target. We are currently at 95% which is slightly down on previous months.** We monitor class and individual attendance weekly. Here are the percentages for each class from the beginning of the school year to now:

RA	91%	RH	89%
1JA	95%	1A	91%
2K	95%	2B	86%
3JN	97%	3JS	96%
4T	95%	4L	96%
5SA	89%	5ST	97%
6K	97%	6BE	97%
RB	94%	NURAM	90%

Well done to 3JN, 3JS, 4L, 5ST, 6K and 6BE for achieving over 96%.

Upcoming dates for your diary

08 Jan	Teacher Day (school closed for pupils)
09 Jan	School starts for spring term
11 Jan	Year 3 - Temple Visit
16 Jan	Year 4 - Roman Soldier Visit in School
16 Jan	RB – Think Tank
24 Jan	Year 5 and 6 Mixed Football Tournament
24 Jan	Parents' evening 3:30 – 6:00pm
25 Jan	Parents' evening 4:30 – 7:00pm
01 Feb	Year 6 STEM Ambassador Visit in School
09 Feb	Break up for half term
19 Feb	School opens
21 Feb	Year 6 poetry winners- Verve Poetry Festival 6:30pm – Hippodrome
29 Feb	Year 5 – Mosque Visit
04 Mar	Year 5 and 6 Bikeability
19 Mar	Jo Nightingale Celebration Day – sports festival: years 4, 5 and 6
22 Mar	Break up for holiday



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.