



# CHERRY ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

**We care, we learn, we succeed.**

[www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk](http://www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk) @copschool

0121 5540862 [enquiry@cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk)

**February 2026**

Please see our latest notices.

## **Respecting road and pedestrian safety**

We are asking for your urgent support in keeping all members of our school community safe during drop-off and pick-up times.

We still have serious concerns about unsafe parking and driving behaviours outside the school. In particular:



- **Residents' driveways are being blocked**, preventing them from entering or leaving their homes.
- **Children are being dropped off on the white zigzag lines**, which is both illegal and extremely dangerous. When this happens, other cars then attempt to overtake—often very close to children and families crossing the road.
- **Drivers stopping in the middle of the road** to let children out is also causing significant risk.

We want to be absolutely clear: **someone is going to get seriously injured if this continues.**

As a school, we are doing everything we can to teach children how to stay safe, but we are *not* able to police the road. We rely on parents and carers to model the safe, respectful behaviour we teach every day.

We have informed our local councillor who has arranged to meet with me regarding the situation, along with The Highways Agency and WMP. As we have said in previous newsletters, **PARKING ON ZIGZAG LINES IS ILLEGAL**. This morning, police officers issued four penalty notices for parking on zigzag lines – **the penalty for this is 6 points on your licence and a £1000 fine.**

### **What we ask from you**

- **Please do not park on or block residents' driveways.**
- **Do not stop or drop off on the zigzags at any time.**
- **Park a little further away and leave a few extra minutes to walk.** This supports safety and reduces congestion.
- Remember, we run the **Walk to School initiative** to encourage and support healthy, safe travel choices.

The safety of our children must always come first. By making small changes to our daily routines, we can create a calmer, safer environment for everyone.

Remember if you do stop on the zigzag lines, you are teaching your child to break the law.

## Togetherness – An Update on Wellbeing for Every School Parent

Birmingham City Council's Family Hub programme funds local access to [Togetherness](#), enabling parents and carers to benefit from high-quality NHS-developed emotional health and wellbeing content at no cost.

Togetherness is an online learning platform created by psychologists and health practitioners. It provides accessible, evidence-informed learning designed to support emotional wellbeing, strengthen relationships, and positively influence behaviour.

Please share this wellbeing update from the Togetherness team with all parents and carers: [Togetherness - An update on wellbeing for every school parent.](#)

## DfE Proposed Changes to the SEND System

Changes to the special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) system have been announced, as part of the Schools White Paper: Every Child Achieving and Thriving. Parents and carers are encouraged to review the planned changes to the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) system recently shared by the Department for Education. These proposals outline how support for children and young people with SEND will develop.

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2026/02/schools-white-paper-what-parents-need-to-know-about-changes-to-the-send-system/>

## Key Stage 2 Boys' Toilets

We have recently received a number of concerns from both pupils and our cleaning staff about the condition of the Key Stage 2 boys' toilets. Staff are finding large amounts of tissue paper on the floor, as well as urine on the seats and surrounding areas, and this is now occurring on a daily basis. To help us maintain a clean and hygienic environment for all children, please take a moment to speak with your child about using the toilets responsibly and respectfully. Your support in reinforcing these expectations at home makes a real difference to our school community. Thank you.

# Wider personal development at Cherry Orchard

## Year 5 Maths Challenge

Year 5 pupils visited King Edward VI School for a Maths Challenge Morning, where they competed against Year 7 students to solve a range of challenging problems. They showed excellent teamwork, resilience and mathematical thinking throughout. The children also created beautiful geometric artwork inspired by the Sierpiński triangle.



## ECB year 1 and 2 Cricket Visit

Years 1 and 2 enjoyed a fantastic afternoon developing their cricket skills with coaches from Edgbaston Cricket Club. The children took part in fun activities that helped them practise batting and bowling to build their confidence. It was a brilliant opportunity for pupils to learn new skills and stay active, and they left the session buzzing with excitement!



## Year 4 SPARKS visit



Year 4 had a fantastic time learning all about fire safety during a special visit from the fire brigade. The firefighters delivered an engaging SPARKS session, teaching the children how to stay safe, make sensible choices, and understand what to do in an emergency. The pupils loved asking questions and exploring the equipment, making it a memorable and educational experience for everyone.



## Year 6 Gurdwara Visit



During the visit to the local Gurdwara, pupils entered the Darbar Sahib, where the host explained key Sikh beliefs and how they are reflected in the Gurdwara. The children asked thoughtful questions and were able to see the Guru Granth Sahib resting respectfully on the raised platform, helping them understand how Sikh beliefs are lived out in practice.



# ★ Stars of the Week ★

6.2.26	Musa (Nursery), Michelle RH, Alaia RA, Dean 1JA, Suleiman 1RA, Kareena 2R, Chennai 2D, Amelia 3B, Abigail 3J, Adam 4H, Bliss 4L, Khushraj 5ST, Aaliyah 5SA, Andrea 6B, Hassnain 6K, RB
13.2.26	Bryan (Nursery), Saleh RH, Zakariya RA, Zahra 1RA, Alfie 1JA, Inayah Y 2R, Eden 2D, Jemima 3J, Younus H 3B, Jatinder 4H, Lujain 4L, Easah 5SA, Ethen 5ST, Maham 6K, Indy 6B, O’Ryan RB
27.2.26	Aqsa (Nursery), Fuaad RH, Sienna RA, Ayyub 1RA, Harris 1JA, Hafsa 2R, Myrah 2D, Esa 3J, Samara 3B, Keerit 4L, Zayna 4H, Ayden 5SA, Taslima 5ST, Amaya 6B, Khadijah 6K, Kajus RB

## Attendance

As we are a Birmingham Local Authority School, we follow Birmingham’s attendance policy and procedures. Our attendance policy is shared on our website, but you can also find further details at [Birmingham Attendance Advice for Parents](#) Our whole school attendance figure for 2025-26 so far is **94%**. This is slightly below the national average at the moment and we aim to be above average as a school, so attendance will continue to be a priority. Congratulations to 1JA, 2R, 4L, 5ST and 6B for reaching or exceeding the target of 96%. Well done!

RA	93%	RH	93%
1JA	96%	1RA	91%
2D	95%	2R	96%
3B	94%	3J	95%
4H	91%	4L	96%
5SA	95%	5ST	96%
6K	93%	6B	96%
RB	93%	NUR	92%

## Upcoming dates for your diary

- 26 Feb      Years 1 and 2 - Edgbaston Cricket Club workshop
- 05 Mar      World Book Day
- 12 Mar      NHS Careers Day – KS2 (part of Science week)
- 13 Mar      YPP – Meet your MP
- 20 Mar      Comic Relief ‘Take Yourself Funny for Money’
- 24 Mar      Year 5 and 6 – Level 3 athletics
- 25 Mar      Resource Base – Spring workshop
- 26 Mar      Year 5 – Easter assembly
- 27 Mar      End of term**
- 13 Apr      School Re opens**
- 15 Apr      Whole School class photos
- 15 Apr      Year 3 – Vaisakhi assembly
- 27 Apr      Resource Base – Safeside visit
- 20 May      Year 4 – Eid assembly (TBC)

