CHERRY ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We care, we learn, we succeed.

www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk @copschool
0121 5540862 enquiry@cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk

Sept 2026

Please see our latest updates.

Welcome back!

A very warm welcome back to all of our children and families as we begin another exciting term together. It has been wonderful to see how quickly the children have settled into their new year groups with their new teachers.

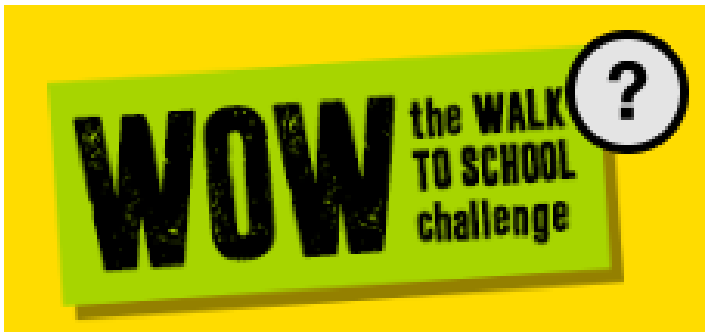
We would also like to extend a special welcome to the new children and families joining our school community this term. It has been a very positive start and we are delighted to have you with us, and look forward to getting to know you more over the coming weeks.

Welcome to our new staff

We're delighted to welcome three new members to the Cherry Orchard teaching team this year! Mrs Parveen joins us in Year 4 whilst Mrs Hutton enjoys her maternity leave and Mrs Begum joins us in Year 1 with both Mrs Archibald and Miss Richardson are on their maternity leave. Miss Mills is teaching in our Resource Base.
We would also like to welcome Mrs Swikidisa to our pastoral team and Mrs Porter to our Resource Base team.
We're thrilled to have them all on board and happy to see that they are already making wonderful contributions to Cherry Orchard.
Please join us in giving them a warm welcome!

Walk to School Initiative

This year, Cherry Orchard Primary School is once again a part of an initiative to encourage more children and their families to walk to school. **Pupils are encouraged to walk to school at least once a week.** The aim is to make children feel happier and healthier; to ensure children arrive to school refreshed and ready to learn and to help reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates. If your child can't walk to school, we encourage them to 'park and stride'. This means that families park at least 10 minutes away from the school gates. If children walk (or scooter or bike) or 'park and stride' to school at least once a week, then they will earn a badge. Pupils can earn one badge a month by walking at least once a week.



Respecting road and pedestrian safety

We are asking again 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:



- **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.
- **Residents' driveways are being blocked**, preventing them from entering or leaving their homes.

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 throughout the school day. We rely on parents and carers to model safe, respectful behaviour.

Since the start of the school year, we have already had to explain to some parents that PARKING ON ZIGZAG LINES IS ILLEGAL. It doesn't matter if you are only going to be there for a short time while you drop off your child.

Please note that we will photograph your car and report it if you do not move when asked by a member of staff to do so. We are not doing this to upset anyone – we are simply trying to keep the area safe for your children, so please show staff respect.

As our local councillor, The Highways Agency and West Midlands Police are aware of the situation, we occasionally have support from the police at drop-off and pick-up times. Please note that if you receive a penalty notice for parking on zigzag lines, **this is an immediate 6 points on your licence and a £1000 fine**.

What we ask from you:

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

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.

PE Kit

Just a reminder about PE kit. We have seen a growing number of children who are not wearing correct PE kit which does not fit in with our core values of respect and equality. Children must wear plain white T shirts with no branded logos. These T shirts are available at many supermarkets and uniform providers at a reasonable price, well below the cost of branded ones. Please also make sure your child does not wear branded PE bottoms or jackets. If your child does not come in correct PE kit, they will be asked to change into one of our PE kits. Please see the school uniform policy on our website for more details. Here is a summary:

Indoor P.E.	• Plain white T-shirt • Plain black shorts or leggings or Cherry Orchard tracksuit bottoms • Plain white, black or grey socks and black plimsolls (although children can be in bare feet for some activities)
Outdoor Games	• Plain white T-shirt • For summer wear, plain black shorts or leggings • Plain white, black or grey socks and trainers • Green school jumper OR Cherry Orchard tracksuit
Swimming	• Swimming costume or trunks (modesty swimsuits may be worn if required) • Swimming cap or bobble for tying back hair • Towel • Goggles if required

School Policy Updates

Please note that our school policies have been updated in accordance with the latest legislation and guidance. Most of our policies can be found in the key information section of our school website, but if you can't find something you are looking for, please contact the school office.



Year 6 Secondary Transition – Apply online for 2027 entry

If you live in Birmingham you should apply for your child's secondary school place online at http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions between 1 September and 31 October 2026. It is important that you submit your application by 31 October 2026. Applications received after the national closing date of 31 October 2026 will be treated as late applications. Late applicants are less likely to be offered a place at one of their preferred schools, as these applications will be processed after 1st March 2027, in accordance with Birmingham's coordinated admissions scheme.

If you have any questions about your child transferring to secondary school, in the first instance please visit the website: www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions where you will find all the relevant information to support you through this process. Alternatively contact Mrs Emery or Mrs Khatkar.

Wider personal development at Cherry Orchard

Eco Council Visit to Winterbourne Gardens – Seeds of Change Event

On Friday 18th September, our Eco Council enjoyed a visit to Winterbourne Gardens to take part in the *Seeds of Change* event. The children explored the beautiful gardens and learned about the importance of sustainability and caring for our environment.

Throughout the day, pupils participated in a variety of engaging activities that encouraged them to think about how small actions can make a big difference to our planet. They discovered more about the role we can all play in protecting nature for future generations.

Our Eco Council represented the school brilliantly, showing enthusiasm, curiosity, and respect throughout the visit. They returned with lots of exciting ideas and we are proud of our Eco Council for being excellent ambassadors for our school.







Extra-curricular Clubs

Here is a timetable of the extra-curricular clubs being offered this term.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 8:15 – 8:45	Multi-sports	Multi-sports	Multi-sports	Multi-sports	Physical Friday – walking (8:30 – 8:45)
After school 3:30 – 4:30 (With Harry)	Year 1 and 2 Multi-sports	Year 5 Multi-sports	Year 6 Multi-sports	Years 3 and 4 Multi-sports (places are running out)	Karate – Reception to Year 6 (Rikai)
After school (With Kitts Academy)		Years 1 - 6 £4.25 a session	Years 1 to 6 – arts and craft £4.75 a session		

Multi-sports sessions are £3 per session before school and £5 after school. Please contact Harry Cockbill in the school office if you are interested in your child attending.

For archery and arts and craft, please contact Kitts Academy: : https://www.kitsacademy.com/ or call on 07772873271

In term time, Rikai Karate Club will continue to run in the Junior Hall on Fridays after school for children in Reception to Year 6. Please contact Sensai Pansy Wright on 07970452277 or e mail her on rikaimartialartacademy@gmail.com

Pupil Leadership Opportunities

We are very pleased to introduce our pupils who will take on additional responsibilities over the next term or year.

Year 5 Young People's Parliament Representatives (YPP)

Nyla	Laila
Avin	Shivaay

Year 6 Autumn Term House and Vice Captains	
Ashley – House Captain	Aneesa
Ashley – Vice Captain	Anaiya
Birchfield – House Captain	Zaakir
Birchfield – Vice Captain	Aliyah A
Thornhill – House Captain	Joanna
Thornhill – Vice Captain	Amiyah
Woodville – House Captain	Khushpreet
Woodville – Vice Captain	Aaliyah S

School Council Representatives	
3J	Hana and Malachi
3B	Aiyah and Ava
4L	Abubakar and Nkechi
4P	Abigail and Hajaar
5SA	Anthony and Jatinder
5ST	Keerit and Josephine
6B	Balveer and Amelia
6K	Zakariya and Aliyah
RB	Yahya

Stars of the Week

11/9/26	Ibrahim RH, Shaan RA, Shafay 1HB, Yuri 1SB, Ayra 2JA, Ayyub 2D, Mustafa K 3B, Amin 3J, Rajan 4P, Aizah K 4L, Hayat 5SA, Mikaeel 5ST, Sarina 6B, Alayna 6K, RB - Abdulrahman
18/9/26	Anaya RH, Ishaac RA, Zoraiz 1HB, Mikael 1SB, Hasan 2D, Yusuf 2JA, Kareena 3J, Aaliyah 3B, Rehn 4P, Maleek 4L, Mariam 5ST, Dania 5SA, Rianna 6K, Flynn 6B, Damian RB
25/9/26	Khial RH, Safaa RA, Amyra 1HB, Fuaad 1SB, Imani 2JA, Fareeha 2D, Quinn 3B, Isa 3J, Ria 4L, Abiyah 4P, Ariana 5SA, Freya 5ST, Joanna 6K, Ariya 6B, Tion RB

Attendance for 2026-27 academic year

Our whole school target for 'good' attendance is 96%. Our current attendance figure is 96.4% so well done so far. This is above the current national average, so thank you for your support with this. Let's keep it up!

Congratulations to everyone for reaching or exceeding the target of 96%. Nursery – you are so close so keep trying hard.

RA	98%	RH	97.7%
1HB	97%	1SB	99.3%
2D	98%	2JA	96.6%
3B	98%	3J	96%
4L	97%	4P	96.8%
5SA	96%	5ST	97%
6K	97%	6B	96%
RB	96%	NUR	95%

Illness

Please use the link below for a simple guide to help you decide whether or not to send your child to school: **Is my child too ill for school? - NHS advice**

Sometimes, your child may not be feeling 100%, but they are well enough to come to school. On those occasions, please let a member of staff know when you drop off your child in the morning. If you are unable to do this, we now have a quick and easy Form that you can complete to let us know – it's our 'Under The Weather' Form. A member of our pastoral staff will check this every day and pass on any messages to your child's class teacher. Please use the QR code to access and complete the Form as and when necessary.



Medical appointments

We ask that where possible, GP appointments and routine dental check-ups are booked outside school hours. We do understand that it can be very difficult to get an appointment with a GP. Community Pharmacy and Pharmacy First now offer clinical support for many minor illnesses and access to assessment and treatment, with opening hours outside of school hours.

Local pharmacies:
Here is a list of local pharmacies and their opening times – many are open outside school hours.

- Wards Chemist – 49 Coopers Road, 0121 5540715, open 09:00 – 18:00 Mon-Sat
- Handsworth Wood Pharmacy – 110 Church Lane, 0121 5540808, open 08:15 – 18:30 Mon-Fri
- Healthstop Pharmacy – 168 Hamstead Road, 0121 5541670, open 9:00 – 18:30 Mon-Sat (closed 1pm on Weds)
- Towerhill Pharmacy – 435 Walsall Road, 0121 3566975, open 9:00-21:00 every day (closed 1-5pm on Saturdays)
- Star Pharmacy – 295 Walsall Road, 0121 3564435, open 9:00 – 18:00 Mon, Tues, Weds, Fri, open 9:00 – 13:00 Thurs & Sat
- Health Plus Pharmacy – 219, 221 Aston Lane, 0121 3565358, open 09:00 – 18:00 Mon-Fri

Leave in term time

Leave in term time was a significant contributing factor to our below average attendance during the 2025-26 academic year.
During the year, 32 families received penalty notices and fines for taking their children out of school during term time. Fines are currently £80 per pupil per parent for a first offence, and £160 per pupil per parent for a second offence. Third offences will most likely result in court proceedings.

ONLY YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE HERE
PLEASE BOOK YOUR HOLIDAYS AND VISITS TO FAMILY IN THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

Upcoming dates for your diary

06 Oct	School Games - Year 4 cricket – Engage event
15 Oct	HSBC finance assemblies – EYFS, KS1 and year 4
16 Oct	HSBC finance assemblies – Year 3, 5 and 6
20 Oct	Parents' Evening 3:40 – 6:00pm
22 Oct	Y2 Diwali assembly 9:20am
22 Oct	Parents' Evening 4:30 – 7:00pm
23 Oct	**End of half term**
02 Nov	**School Closed – teachers training day**
03 Nov	**School open for pupils**
10 Nov	School Games – Year 3 and 4 hockey
17-20 Nov	Year 6 Pioneer Centre Residential
23-27 Nov	Years 4 – 6 Bikeability

Please note: there is an error in the School Planners regarding the diary dates – the teacher day in July is on Monday 12th July, not 7th July. Thank you.


Ofsted
Good
Provider

QUALITY MARK

COMMITTED
TO ICT

Be Healthy
Schools' Award

ACCREDITED
SCHOOL

SCHOOL
GAMES
GOLD
2025/26

Birmingham Active School Alliance

RIGHTS
RESPECTING
SCHOOLS
unicef
UNITED KINGDOM
GOLD – RIGHTS RESPECTING

PRIMARY SCIENCE
QUALITY MARK
SILVER AWARD

NCETM
NATIONAL CENTRE for EXCELLENCE
in the TEACHING of MATHEMATICS

MODESHIFT
STARS
EDUCATION
GOOD TRAVEL PLAN 2024