



CHERRY ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We care, we learn, we succeed.

www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk @copschool

0121 5540862 enquiry@cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk

October 2020

Messages from Birmingham City Council

Drop and collect COVID testing

Please see the letter from Cllr Paulette Hamilton, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, attached.

Black History Month

Birmingham's Black History Month has become an important feature of the city's event calendar since the mid-1990s. Birmingham holds its diversity dear and the City Council is mindful of the need to reflect on its development, to learn new and inspiring stories, and include as many people as possible in considering the impact of black history on our identity in the 21st century. Birmingham City Council is proud to support the annual Black History Month each October. Throughout October, residents and visitors will be able to take part in various cultural activities which celebrate and explore our black history. We greatly encourage all communities to engage in Black History Month as a portal for developing lifelong partnerships and friendships and celebrating our black heritage together.

Congratulations must go to the partners and organisations involved in organising and coordinating the month's activities across Birmingham. Our thanks, in particular, go to **Blackstory Partnership**, which includes **Inspiring a New Generation**, **Recognize Black Heritage and Culture** and **Mykal Wassifa Brown CIC**, who have compiled an exciting brochure of events including an online launch. Link: <http://birminghamblackhistorymonth.co.uk>

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.



On 16th October, we will be joining in with Wear Red Day to support the Show Racism the Red Card charity organisation. **On 16th 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.

We have also produced an outline of where BAME history features in our history curriculum throughout the year, which has been shared on our website alongside the full outline of history topics at www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk. Click on the Curriculum and Learning tab and go to Cherry Orchard Curriculum, then History. We hope that this will show how BAME history is not an 'add-on' at Cherry Orchard, but an integral part of our history curriculum.

Flu vaccinations for children

If you did not manage to return your child's flu vaccination form by the deadline given, you can now bring it into school on Monday or send it in with your child. The nurse is coming on Monday to collect the forms so we will need them first thing in the morning please.

Parents evenings

Parents evenings will be on 21st October from 3.50pm to 6.00pm and 22nd October from 4.30pm to 7.00pm, but they will have to happen remotely this term. We are currently testing the system to make sure it works smoothly. Next week, you will receive an email asking you to book your appointment through ParentPay as usual and giving you information about how the online meetings will work. PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY.

Chromebooks

You can now purchase a Chromebook from the school for home learning for £160 through ParentPay. We have a limited number of devices at this price, but we will try to get more if these ones run out and there is still demand. We can hold devices for those of you who would like to purchase one later this month – just let us know.

If your child receives free school meals, we will be loaning out devices free of charge for your child to use at home shortly.

Online Safety

Please ensure that your children access Google Classroom by logging on to Google using their own login details. This will enable them to access all of their work.

New addition to our school uniform

We have introduced a winter P.E. kit at Cherry Orchard. This includes a zip-up jacket and track pants. The children will also be allowed to wear the jacket over their jumpers in class every day. This is to give them an extra layer to keep them warm whilst we are having to open classroom windows for added ventilation, following Public Health advice.

The kit is very fairly priced and a flyer with more details will be sent out early next week. The items should be available from Gogna's on Rookery Road during the October half-term holiday. If your child receives free school meals, they will receive their winter P.E. kit free of charge, and we will contact parents about this shortly.

Safety procedures for parents for drop off and pick up

When you are on our school site, adults must stay 2 metres apart from other adults or wear a face covering if not socially distanced.

Do not stop on the crossing zig-zags in the morning and ask your child to get out of the car – you are putting them and others in danger.

Lunchtime

Can I remind parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 that you can order hot meals for your children's lunches. The sandwich option remains for Years 3 to 6 at the moment.

Upcoming dates for your diary

23rd Oct:	End of term
2 nd Nov:	Teacher Day – school closed to children
3rd Nov:	Start of term
18th Dec:	End of term
4 th Jan:	Teacher Day – school closed to children
5th Jan:	Start 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.