



# CHERRY ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

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

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**November 2020**

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you and your families are all well. Here are the latest notices from Cherry Orchard.

## **Pick-up and Drop-off Procedures**

I would like to say a huge thank-you to all of our parents for supporting the school's current safety measures for drop-off and pick-up. Thank you for wearing face coverings on site and thank you for observing the one-way systems that we have been fortunate enough to be able to put in place. I realise that some parents have to walk around all three of our routes, and I especially thank them for their patience and effort! You're setting a wonderful example for your children, which I'm sure is helping us to ensure the children follow the safety rules as well as they do in school.

## **New Guidance and School Attendance**

The Department for Education has issued new guidance in relation to education and childcare settings concerning the new national restrictions in force from 5 November 2020. [You can find the full guidance here](#). The headlines are as follows:

- School attendance continues to be mandatory and the usual school attendance powers and duties continue to apply. Children must come to school unless they are unwell or are isolating because someone in the household has symptoms or has tested positive for Covid-19. If their school bubble is closed due to a positive test result, children should also remain isolated at home and access their learning on Google Classroom Live.
- Children whose doctors have confirmed they are clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend education whilst the national restrictions are in place. Parents of clinically extremely vulnerable children will be receiving a letter shortly confirming this advice.
- children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend school.

The government recognises that some families with clinically extremely vulnerable family members may be anxious about their children attending school, and has asked schools to reassure parents. Please continue to contact the school if you would like to discuss your child's attendance.

## **Chromebooks**

Chromebooks for home learning can still be purchased from the school for £160 through ParentPay. We have a limited number of devices left now.

If you have received an email to say that your child qualifies for a school-loaned Chromebook, please come to the school office by the end of this week to collect one for your child and sign the loan agreement.

### **KS2 school lunches**

We have ordered the equipment needed to transport hot food from the kitchen to the KS2 building in accordance with food safety regulations. We are expecting to be able to offer the hot food options to KS2 children with two weeks. When the equipment arrives, we will email you to let you know as soon as you can order hot food for your children.

### **New winter PE kit**

Items of kit were delivered last week, with more to arrive in the coming week. Our intention is to get a jacket and a pair of joggers out to everyone by the end of next week if stock allows. The items are coming up quite big and we are making sure each child has kit that fits them properly, so you may find that the sizes your child brings home are different to those you ordered. We will also try to ensure your child's name is written on the labels before they take them home but if they do not have their name in, please label the items yourself as we cannot return lost items without names in. **Please wash the kit before your child wears it.**

### **Black History Month Competition Winners**

Well done to all of the children who entered our Black History Month competition last half-term. A lot of research and effort clearly went into all of the entries, and they will all contribute to displays around the school. Congratulations go to all of our winners listed below and we hope they enjoy spending their book tokens – well done!

6C – Abdullah

5N – Joshua

4ST – Zain

3BL – Krishan

2D - Dax-Emmanuel

1W – Ismaeel

6SA – Arissa

5B – Eden-Scarlett

4L – Naadhira

3BN - Harpreet

2K - Sienna

1A - Yusuf

## **Children In Need Day**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November is Children In Need day and we are supporting this again this year. To make things easy during lockdown, we're asking everyone to simply come into school dressed as colourfully as possible - let's see how bright we can all be!



For Covid-security, please DO NOT send cash to school. We're asking you to pay your donation (suggested minimum £1) direct to Children In Need via their website <https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/> or you can text the word 'GIVE' to 70405 to donate £5. Thank you as always for your support!

## **Diwali 2020**

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Diwali for 14<sup>th</sup> November. Unfortunately, we are unable to prepare our usual performance for parents, not only because parents would not be able to gather in the building but also because the current advice is that the children should not sing in school. All classes across the school will be learning about Diwali this week and the children will be making cards to give to their friends in class or family members.

Please note that this will also be the case for our Christmas performances this year.

## **Applications to start Reception class in September 2021**

If your child will be 4 years old before 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021, you can apply for a place in Cherry Orchard's Reception class.

You will need to visit [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) and submit an online application by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (the final closing date).

As we can't invite parents into school at the moment, please look out for our Virtual Open Day content on our website coming soon on [www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk](http://www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk)

## **Birmingham City Council Notice: Fire Work Safety**

The cancellation of organised firework displays for bonfire night and Diwali in 2020 may mean that more parents are planning to do their own display at home. It is predicted that 500 children and their families will join the growing number of people who will remember this time of year for the wrong reasons. They will have been injured as a result of an accident with fireworks.

We would like to do all we can to highlight the risks and make sure parents are fully informed. Did you know there are 4 categories of fireworks? They are:

- **Category One:** Indoor fireworks
- **Category Two:** Are suitable for back gardens

- **Category Three:** fireworks which require a minimum safety distance of 25 metres, which is far bigger than the average family back garden. They are designed for large displays and should not be used in back gardens.
- **Category Four:** are meant for professional use only.

If you are planning a firework display for your household, please take care to buy your fireworks from reputable retailers and avoid pop-up shops; only buy fireworks marked with safety standards (EN 15947 or BS 7114); and follow the guidance on the following websites:

- [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) Firework safety from the office for product safety and standards.
- [www.rospa.com/homesafety](http://www.rospa.com/homesafety) for a Firework code including sparkler safety and bonfire safety.
- [www.capt.org.uk/](http://www.capt.org.uk/) for more information and guidance click [here](#).
- [www.cbtrust.org.uk](http://www.cbtrust.org.uk) The Children's burns trust also has statistics on accidents as well as good advice to share with parents.

### **Upcoming dates for your diary**

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Nov:</b>	<b>Start of term</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov:	Children In Need Day
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Nov:</b>	<b>Teacher Day – school closed to children</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	Christmas Jumper Appeal Day
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Dec:</b>	<b>End of term</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Jan:	Teacher Day – school closed to children
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Jan:</b>	<b>Start of term</b>

### **Additional Information**

You will find lots of additional information on our school website. Please go to [www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk](http://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.