



CHERRY ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

We care, we learn, we succeed.

www.cherryorchard.bham.sch.uk @copschool

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September 2019 no.2

Harvest Collection and Cherry Orchard Foodbank

This year we are collecting food again to help celebrate Harvest. Please bring any food you would like to donate on Monday 23rd or Tuesday 24th September ready to display for our visiting speaker at our Harvest Assemblies. The food will be given to Birmingham City Mission.

Following this, we will be opening our new Cherry Orchard Food Bank pictured below. This is something that the children wanted to introduce to the school after learning about food poverty in the local area during our last Rights Respecting Week.



So please continue to donate non-perishable food items as often as you wish, as it will all help local people. We have arranged for food that is donated to our School Food Bank to be collected monthly by the Trussell Trust Handsworth Birmingham Food bank which is based at the New Life Wesleyan Church.

The Trussell Trust is a charity that provides emergency food and support to people in poverty and campaigns for change to end the need for food banks in the UK. Illness, disability, family breakdown or the loss of a jobs are all common causes for referrals to food banks as are changes or delays to benefits and insufficient income to cover the cost of essentials. People from the local community who are in need of support can take their vouchers to Handsworth's food bank centre where they can be redeemed for three days' emergency food.

(<https://www.trusselltrust.org/what-we-do/>)

Upcoming Trips/Events

Family photographs

You will have already received a message about photograph day, but just a reminder that it is on Monday 23rd September. Family photographs will be taken between 8am and 9am in the Junior hall.

Meet The Teacher Invite to Parents and Carers

As part of our partnership with parents, we would like to invite you to a 'Meet Your Teacher' session where you will gain a valuable insight into the curriculum your child will be covering this academic year.

Teachers will be running the session and will provide you with information on the following areas:

- Reading
- Spelling and grammar
- Writing
- Maths
- Topic
- Assessment

Teachers will also be giving advice on how you can help your child at home as this is something many of you ask us for. Any questions will be welcome during the sessions and hand-outs will be given covering everything discussed. Most sessions will take place in the Junior hall and your child will remain in class during the meeting.

We hope that you can attend – please see below for each year group's meeting date and time:

Year 2: Monday 30th September, 2.30pm – 3.15pm

Year 3: Tuesday 1st October, 2.30pm – 3.15pm

Reception: Wednesday 2nd October, 2.30pm – 3.15pm

Year 6: Thursday 3rd October, 2.30pm – 3.15pm

Year 5: Friday 4th October, 2.30pm – 3.15pm

RB2: Monday 7th October, 10.45am – 11.15am

RB1: Tuesday 8th October, 9.05am – 9.35am

Year 4: Wednesday 9th October, 2.30pm – 3.15pm

Year 1: Thursday 10th October, 2.30pm – 3.15pm

The Bookfair Is Back!

Our annual Scholastic Bookfair will run from **Monday 11th November to Thursday 14th November in the Junior hall. It will open at 3.30pm and close at 4pm each day.** There will be the usual wide range of excellent children's fiction and non-fiction to choose from. We can take cheques made out to Cherry Orchard Primary School or we can take cash, but please can you bring change if you have it. Also, please be reminded that books can be ordered if we run out in the hall – if you place and pay for your order by the end of the Wednesday session, your child should receive their book on Friday 15th November.

If you spend over £1000 during the week, the school receives 60% of it back to spend on books for the classrooms and library so please

come along and support this event. We've achieved this every single year for the last 16 years that we have run the Bookfair so I'm sure we'll reach the target again this year! Furthermore, every child who makes a purchase will receive a raffle ticket that goes into a prize draw at the end of the week. Five lucky winners will get to select a book from the shelves worth up to £5.



More books!

During parent's evenings in October, there will be the opportunity to explore and purchase a selection of Usbourne books from one of our Year 6 parents. Usbourne have a wide range of educational books that cover the curriculum, as well as lots of fiction and non-fiction books to read just for fun! If as a school, we raise more than £300, then 30% of the proceeds can be donated back to Cherry Orchard to spend on more books for school.



New events featured on Twitter:

Gardening Club's enormous sunflower!
National Online Safety Retweet about social pressures
Our brand new weather station
Eco-Council's school environmental review

Year 2 Diwali Assembly

This year our Year 2 children will be learning all about Diwali and will be preparing an assembly to share with their parents and carers on **24th October at 2.15pm**. This is always a joyful occasion and we hope you are all able to come and watch their performance. We will remind you of this event closer to the time.

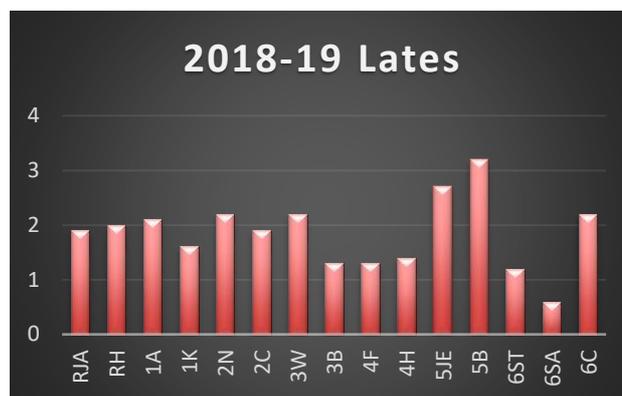
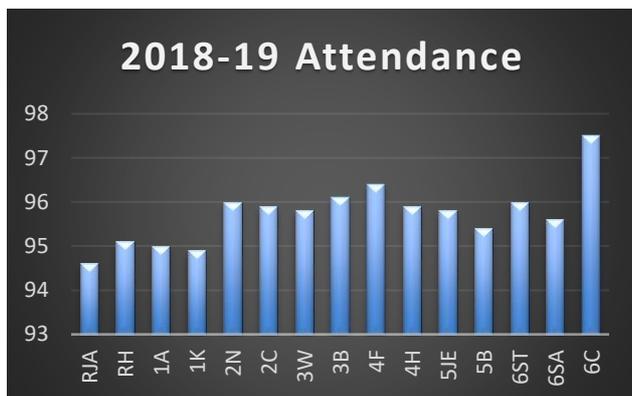
Reception - Phonics Workshop Reminder

Mrs Jones will be running her excellent phonics workshop for Reception parents and carers again this year. We have high expectations of the children and work hard to ensure they can read fluently as soon as possible and it all begins with Phonics! The workshop will take place on **10th October at 9am in the Junior Hall**. There's room for everyone so we'd like to see as many of you as possible.

Attendance

All pupils who achieved an attendance rate 98% and above in 2018-19 will receive a certificate celebrating their **outstanding attendance**. A special mention must go out to the following children who achieved 100% attendance as this is a fantastic achievement! Well done everyone!

2018-19 100% Attendees					
Name	Year	Name	Year	Name	Year
Jayanna	Rec	Yuvraj	Y3	Amanpreet	Y4
Xander	Rec	Alaa	Y3	Kerim	Y4
Mahi	Y1	Mahmoud	Y3	Aryan	Y5
Xenon	Y1	Niyah	Y3	Reanna	Y5
Keita	Y2	Skyler	Y3	Aman	Y6
Rajdeep	Y2	Omar	Y4	Kyro	Y6



In the academic year 2018-19, Cherry Orchard’s overall attendance rate was **95.2%**. The previous year’s national overall attendance rate in primary schools was **95.8%** so as a school we are **0.6% below the national average for attendance**. Interestingly, 0.6% of absence last year was due to term time holidays – this is the difference between the school being below the national average and in line with other good and outstanding schools.

There is a worrying trend of parents taking children on holiday for whole weeks before and after the school holidays – this is now the time when we teach our topic weeks. So if your child misses any of these weeks, they will miss a whole section of the history or geography National Curriculum, which gives them the knowledge and skills they need when they go to secondary school.

So PLEASE book your holidays as far in advance as you can so you can get flights during the holiday periods, your child can receive the full breadth of their curriculum entitlement and the school can achieve at least a Good attendance rate. THANK YOU.

Parent Survey Results and Feedback

Question/Statement	Strongly agree/Agree	Don't know	Disagree/Strongly Disagree
1. My child enjoys school.	94%	2%	4%
2. The school keeps my child safe.	92%	5%	3%
3. My child is making good progress.	86%	5%	9%
4. The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle.	92%	6%	2%
5. The school expects my child to work hard and do his/her best.	89%	6%	5%
6. My child receives appropriate homework for his/her age.	76%	6%	18%
7. The school makes sure pupils are well behaved.	80%	11%	9%
8. The school deals effectively with any incidents of bullying.	43%	41%	16%
9. The school is led and managed effectively.	78%	14%	8%
10. The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns.	60%	26%	14%
11. Pupils who have difficulties are well supported.	49%	45%	6%
12. The communication between school and parents is good.	83%	2%	15%
13. There is a good range of activities including trips, visits and clubs for my child to take part in.	85%	2%	13%
14. I receive valuable information about my child’s progress.	81%	5%	14%
15. The school makes sure my child is well prepared for the future.	81%	13%	6%
16. Would you recommend this school to another parent?	Yes = 87%	No = 13%	

17. What do you see as the strengths of the school?

core values, listening to concerns, amazing teachers, communication, caring teachers, good school, supportive, encouraging, helpful, reaching potential, early intervention, friendly, approachable, motivated, inspiring, proactive, knowledgeable, leadership team, visible and approachable headteacher, enjoyment, management, diversity, understanding, well-behaved, learning environment, progress, healthy eating, learning, respect, relationships, passion, child-centred, resource base, pastoral, ethos, common goal, high expectations, music, inclusive, welcoming, meal booking, rights respecting.

18. What would you like to develop further at Cherry Orchard?

parent volunteering, PTA, after school activities, paperless communication, more progress updates, share timetables, curriculum information, events information, playground activities, learning steps, parent workshops, homework, spelling, children's communication skills, writing, healthy lunches, school trips, vision, standards, relationship with parents, communication, use of planners, lunchtime supervision, community engagement, extra-curricular activities.

Actions from the parent survey
Improve communication through more regular and informative newsletters via email giving more advanced notice of events where possible, and the use of Twitter for reminders of events.
Improve parents' and carers' knowledge of their children's curriculum, timetables, teaching methods and homework expectations through this term's Meet The Teacher sessions.
Encourage the children to bring in their school planners every day so they can record targets, progress updates, spellings and any other feedback to parents/carers that may be useful to their learning.
We are always open to requests for volunteer work at school, from things such as helping with reading, joining in with our gardening club or being part of Rights Respecting steering group. We will explore the possibility of restarting our PTA so if any parents feel that they'd like to commit to this, please contact the school.
Alongside our current work on curriculum development (see our School Development Plan on the Parent Info section of the school website), we are reviewing our extra-curricular activities and visits so that visits to engage and support learning are evenly spread between year groups.
To support lunchtime supervisors to build relationships with pupils, they are now assigned to a specific class each term so that they can get to know the children better. They support the school ethos and now provide a wider range of activities for children to engage in at lunchtime, supported by our excellent sports coach, Harry. We will be updating our Playground Charter next week with the children and the lunchtime supervisors, and we will share this on the Rights Respecting School section of our website as soon as it is ready.

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.

Secondary School Applications Reminder

If your child is in Year 6, you must apply for their secondary school place by 31st October 2019.

Click on this link to find out more information and to complete the online application form:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/1778/apply_for_secondary_school_year_7_place/3 Use this link if you pay council tax to Birmingham. If you do not, you will need to apply to your local authority.

We recommend looking around the secondary schools before you apply so that you can make an informed decision. Should you have any queries, please contact Mrs Emery.

Open days for Reception and Nursery Intake Sept 2020 Reminder

14th November 2019: 9.30am – 11.00am

26th November 2019: 1.30pm – 3.00pm

If you have children who will be ready for Nursery or Reception in September 2020, come to one of our open sessions to see the school and, in particular, our Early Years provision. You will meet staff who will be happy to show you around and answer any questions you may have.

The closing date for primary school applications for a place in a Reception Class for September 2020 is: midnight 15 January 2020

Children in Birmingham can start school (Reception) in the September after their fourth birthday.

Example: If your child was born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016, they'll be able to start school in September 2020.

When to apply: Parents can apply for a place in the Autumn of the year before their child turns 4 years of age. It is important that you apply for a place as soon as possible.

At Cherry Orchard we follow Birmingham Schools Admissions Criteria:

1. Children with an EHCP or whom the Local Authority looks after
2. Children with an older brother or sister already at the school
3. Children who live nearest to the school, by straight-line measurement to one fixed point in the school.

*Attendance at Cherry Orchard's Nursery does not give your child automatic priority for a place in Reception.

Upcoming dates for your diary

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| 3rd Sept: | School open for pupils |
| 5th Sept: | Year 1 local area geography walk |
| 5th Sept: | Year 5 local area history walk |
| 12th Sept: | Year 6 visit to Birmingham REP Theatre |
| 18th Sept: | Resource Base Parents' Meeting |
| 20th Sept: | Year 4 maths competition at King Edwards School |

30th Sept – 10th Oct: Meet The Parent sessions

23rd Oct: Parents' Evening 3.30pm – 6.00pm

24th Oct: Parents' Evening 4.30pm – 7.00pm

25th Oct: End of term

4th Nov: Teacher Training Day

5th Nov: School opens for pupils

14th Nov: Reception and Nursery open session 9.30am – 11.00am

26th Nov: Reception and Nursery open session 1.30pm – 3.00pm

20th Dec: End of term

6th Jan: Teacher Training Day

7th Jan: School opens for pupils