



NEWSLETTER

12TH JANUARY 2024

WELCOME

Happy New Year, everyone! It has been a joy to welcome back our children and we didn't hang around in getting stuck in! Year 6 have already been into London to watch the 'Nutcracker' ballet, Year 1 have had the farm come to visit and we have finally agreed some beautiful artwork to brighten up our corridors. It's been a fantastic start and I very much look forward to seeing what the next few weeks hold.

I would like to welcome our new members of staff this term: Remya Thalappil, Poppy Davis & Emma Hill. Please have a look at their biographies later on in this newsletter.

I am sure you are aware that many of us find January a long month and it can sometimes feel a little trying so a couple of years ago at Cherry Tree, we invented 'Cherry Week'! Cherry Week happens for a week in January (WB 22nd) and is a whole week focussed on wellbeing and positivity. Staff and children will be taking part in activities to promote this so learning may look a little different. Please let us know if you would like to be involved or have any skills which might benefit our staff and children during this time.

Cheska Tyler
Headteacher



WE'VE BEEN ADOPTED!!

Thank you to Watford Leisure Centre Woodside for adopting our school for the month of January.

Parents and children can kick start 2024 with some fun new activities such as free unlimited swimming for children, and parents have a week to sample the gym, sauna, classes and swimming for free.

To find out more please email joelplumridge@everyoneactive.com or [click this link](#).



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 15th January - Deadline for online admissions to Herts CC for Reception class September 2024
- Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th January - Parent Consultation Evening
- Thursday 18th January - FuN LuNcH
- Friday 19th January - Flu Vaccination catch up session
- WB: Monday 22nd January - Cherry Week
- Tuesday 23rd January - Year 5 Wonderdome Visit
- Wednesday 24th January (2pm onwards) - SEN Coffee Afternoon in the Hub
- Thursday 25th January - Individual & Family photos
- Thursday 25th January - BETT Show for pupil computing ambassadors
- Thursday 1st February - Parent Coffee Morning in the Hub discussing Trauma & Attachment
- Friday 2nd February - NSPCC Number Day
- Tuesday 13th February - Warner Bros visit to KS2
- Friday 16th February - Last Day of this half term (school closes at usual time of 3.15pm)
- Monday 26th February - INSET day (School Closed)
- Tuesday 27th February - First day of Spring 2 term
- Friday 1st March - Deadline for Nursery applications
- Thursday 7th March - World Book Day

PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING

Parent/Teacher Consultations give you the opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and review their progress. Each appointment is allocated 10 minutes. This term, these meetings take place on the following dates.

Nursery – Tuesday 16th January 2024 (1.00pm – 6.00pm) and Wednesday 17th January 2024 (3.30pm – 6.30pm). Please note that consultations for our new January intake will be held later in the term.

YEAR 6 OAK ONLY - Monday 15th January 2024 and Tuesday 16th January 2024 from 3.30pm – 6.00pm.

Reception to Year 6 (ELM) – Tuesday 16th January 2024 and Wednesday 17th January 2024 from 3.30pm – 6.30pm.

Please check your emails for details on how to book your appointment.

We are kind, we aim high, we are brave!

READING CORNER

Hello everyone,

Warmest Happy New Year wishes from your Book Corner. To welcome in the new year here are some book recommendations for you.



This time of year is the perfect opportunity to snuggle up with a book and transport yourself on a great adventure. Hearing your child read will encourage and support them in becoming confident readers and open so many doors for them!

Happy reading!

Jane Sibbit
LKS2/Reading Leader/Class Teacher

RECEPTION CLASS ADMISSIONS 2024-25

The deadline for applications for Reception class admissions for September 2024 is Monday the 15th of January 2024. We still have a few scheduled weekly tours of the school for so please share this with anyone who may be interested.

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

Please be aware of our designated safeguarding team here at Cherry Tree.

If you ever have a concern about a child, family or staff member in our school, please contact one of these members of staff: Cheska Tyler (Headteacher), Emma Hibberd (Assistant Headteacher), Vicky Carrack (Inclusion Leader & SENDCo), Debbie Massey (Pastoral Leader), Emma Birdsall (EYFS Lead), Katy Wolstencroft (KS1 Lead), Jane Sibbit (LKS2 Lead) or Emma Penfold (UKS2 Lead).



PLEASE STOP



SPEAK OUT



DON'T TOUCH

YESSS ELECTRICAL

There is still time for children to submit their entries into Yesss Electrical's competition to design posters with ideas for energy efficiency and saving the planet.

The winning poster will be blown up and displayed outside the Yesss Electrical Watford branch with a £50 Amazon voucher for the winning child. They are also offering the winning school a free classroom lighting upgrade too.

Children should give their entries to their class teacher by Friday the 26th of January.

BLUE PETER BADGES

Is your child passionate about nature and the environment? Have they done something to help protect our planet, or encouraged others to help? Then maybe it's time for them to earn their Blue Peter Green badge like these Cherry Tree students! Congratulations to Nora and Yusuf who earned their Green badge for showing how much they care about nature, the environment and sustainability.

If your child is interested to learn more about how they can earn one of the eight Blue Peter badges you can [click this link](#).



SPRING TERM CLUBS

Our website has been updated with all the details that you need to book Clubs for the first half of the Spring term. Please check your emails for more information or [click](#) this link to view our webpage. Dodgeball and football are now fully booked but we do have a few spaces in our other clubs.

SCHOOL FLU VACCINATIONS - FINAL VISIT

On Friday 19th January the vaccination team will return to vaccinate any children from Reception to Year 6 that missed their previous visit. If you have any queries please contact them directly on 01462 427008.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you think that you are now entitled to free school meals please [use this link to check](#). It takes 5 mins and in most cases they can tell you straightaway if your child meets the criteria.

MEET OUR NEW TEACHERS

Mrs Poppy Davis - Teacher



Mrs Davis has recently joined Cherry Tree as a teacher working in KS1 in the morning and Cherry Blossoms in the afternoon. She has experience working in different schools across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, teaching in EYFS and KS1.

Mrs Davis has a passion for Art and Music and in her spare time enjoys picking up a paintbrush or pencil, sketching and drawing animals and nature. She loves walking the dog, cooking and especially enjoys baking cakes.

Mrs Emma Hill - Year 2 Willow Class Teacher



Mrs Hill has re-joined the Cherry Tree team as our Willow Class teacher. She has led many curriculum areas throughout her 30 years in education, however is passionate about learning in the natural environment. Mrs Hill is a qualified Forest School leader and has recently gained a postgraduate diploma in outdoor environmental education, with a particular focus on inclusion for pupils with special educational needs.

In her spare time Mrs Hill is an avid reader, loves music of all genres and has fun rowing on the sea as part of a quad team.

Mrs Remya Thalappil - SEND Teaching Assistant



Miss Remya Thalappil has recently joined Cherry Tree as a SEND Teaching Assistant. She has experience as a Biochemistry Lecturer and recent experience as an Assistant in an Early Year Setting.

In her free time, she likes cooking and listening to music.



TOP CHERRIES



Our Top Cherry Award is an award to celebrate exceptional behaviour, learning or manners. These children really are going above and beyond!

Class	Child's Name	Reason
Lunchtime	Adrien (Conkers)	For always living the Cherry Tree values at lunchtime. #WeAimHigh #WeAre Brave #WeAreKind
Red & Ready	Buster	For having a positive attitude, and always trying your best.
Fireflies	Ben (3H)	For independently trying new activities.
Berries	Sia	For always being kind and aiming high.
Acorns	Abdullah	For always listening well and giving his best in his learning.
Conkers	Reuben S	For aiming high and persevering with all areas of his learning especially with phonics and writing.
Maple	Jude	For working hard in all her lessons and being an excellent role model.
Birch	Alesha K	For exceptional effort in all lessons, we are very proud of how hard you are aiming high with your reading, writing and maths.
Cedar	Athavan	For aiming high with his writing.
Willow	Albert	For being a fantastic role model to his class and continuously aiming high.
Sycamore	Aashiha	For becoming more independent with their work – keep it up!
Hazel	Rachel	For always having a positive attitude towards her learning and always aiming high.
Ash	Daisy	For her enthusiasm and positive attitude to everything!
Yew	Nila	For her enthusiasm towards learning and always asking fantastic questions and contributing to discussions.
Pine	Daksha	For always displaying our Cherry Tree values and being a wonderful role model to her peers.
Fir	Anayah	For aiming high and consistently being an excellent role model.
Oak	Vanisha	For consistently aiming high in everything she does.
Elm	Nakshatra	For always completing her work with the best presentation.

Well done, Cherries!



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