



Cherry Tree Primary School - Newsletter

No: 1

Date: 8th September 2017

Website: www.cherrytree.herts.sch.uk

"Welcome back to everyone and a very warm welcome to our many new families. We hope you had an enjoyable summer holiday and are looking forward to another busy and successful year."

Ms Bruce

Meet the Teacher Sessions

Parents/Carers are invited to come along and find out what their children will be learning about in their new classes. The sessions take place in their classrooms as follows unless otherwise stated:

- **Reception** - Wednesday 13th September at 9am (in the hall)
- **Year 1** - Monday 11th September at 3.15pm
- **Year 2** - Thursday 14th September at 3.15pm
- **Year 3** - Friday 15th September at 3.15pm
- **Year 5** - Wednesday 13th September at 3.15pm



The sessions for Years 4 and 6 have already taken place this week. Each year group have produced a Curriculum Information letter giving termly information and this will be emailed to parents/carers and is also available on our website in the 'Curriculum' section.

Staff Changes

WELCOME We welcome three new teachers to school: Miss Nicholson (Year 2 - Willow Class); Miss Phillips (Year 4 - Ash Class) and Miss Penfold (Year 5 - Fir Class). We hope they will be happy at Cherry Tree! Miss Barnett, who has been a Teaching Assistant for 3 years has sadly left Cherry Tree during the summer holidays to pursue a different career. We are sure you will join us in wishing her every success for the future.

Reception Classes

We are very happy to see our new Reception children are settling into their classes. Please remember that next week the children stay for lunch and should be collected at 1.30pm.

Leave of Absence



Our School Governors have instructed us to improve our school attendance record. Ms Bruce will therefore be monitoring school attendance very closely as they would like our whole school attendance to be in line with the target of 96%, set by the Department for Education and observed by Ofsted. Please help us to meet this target by ensuring that your child attends school every day and is on time. Mrs Jackson, our Deputy Headteacher, is focusing on Attendance and Punctuality this year and may be contacting parents with any concerns. She is happy to meet any parent/carer who feel they need support.

School Lunches

A quick reminder that the cost of school meals for Years 3 to 6 is £2.30 a day. Therefore the cost for lunches every day for the half term is £78.20 and Friday Fun Lunch only is £16.10 for the half term. Payments should be made in advance of meals taken on our electronic payment system, School Gateway by visiting www.schoolgateway.com. Please remember that if your child has moved up from Year 2 to Year 3, they are no longer entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals and all meals need to be paid for. Also, HCL have asked us to remind you that if you believe your child has an allergy to a certain type of food, you must immediately inform the School Office for a form to register this with HCL.



Parking Issues



We must remind parents/carers to park legally and with consideration to other road users, pedestrians and residents. Many cars are parked illegally at school drop off and pick up - do not park on the double yellow lines or in the middle of the roundabout. We will be taking details, including number plates, of any offending vehicles and publishing them in future newsletters. We must put our children's safety first!

Swimming



Year 4 Ash and Yew classes started swimming sessions this week and the contribution for this half term is £21 payable on School Gateway. Please see letter emailed last term with all the details.

School Clubs

All before and after school clubs start next week and some of the clubs still have space. You can find details of the clubs, their days, times and cost in the 'News and Dates' section on our website. Please contact the club provider direct if you have any queries about the clubs.



Year 4 - Celtic Harmony School Trip



Ash and Yew class are visiting Celtic Harmony on Friday 13th October as part of their work on Prehistoric Man. A letter was emailed yesterday with all the details. Please be aware that we will only be asking parents/carers to complete an annual consent form for all trips this academic year.

Pupil Premium/Free School Meals

Free Meals and more!

Pupil Premium funding is available for all children whose parents are in receipt of certain benefits. The funding is given directly to school and we are able to use this to provide extra opportunities for the children. Parents/carers can ask for some of this funding to help with school costs including 50% discount on school clubs, school trips and swimming and your child can also benefit from free school milk. In addition, if your child is in Years 3-6 they could be entitled to free school meals. If you think you may be able to claim this entitlement, please apply as it benefits your child and school. Applications can be made at www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals but if you have any queries, please contact the School Office.

Year 6 - Secondary Transfer

If your child is in Year 6, you can now apply for their place at Secondary schools online at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/admissions/>. A leaflet with information about open evenings to view the school was sent home with the children earlier this week. Good luck to those children who are taking the academic test for the schools in the South West Herts Consortium tomorrow!



Parent Governor Vacancy

As you will be aware, one of our Parent Governors stepped down at the end of term. This means we have a place for another parent/carer to join our Governing Body. We will be emailing a letter with all the details and a nomination form. If you would like to know more about this voluntary role or have any queries, please call into the school office.

Cycles, Scooters and Playground Equipment



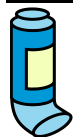
It is lovely to see so many children and parents/carers cycling and using their scooter to come to school. Please can we remind everyone that they must get off at the school gates and push their bike/scooter inside the grounds. Also, children should not use any playground equipment or climbing apparatus before or after school for health & safety reasons.

World First Aid Day

As part of their World First Aid Day initiative, the British Red Cross would like to ask every parent to watch a video on how to deal with a baby or child who is choking. You can view the video's by visiting their website <http://www.worldfirstaidday.co.uk/>. It will only take a few minutes and could save a life!



Inhalers for Asthma and Medications



As we start a new term, if your child suffers from asthma, please could you check that the inhalers we have in school are still in date. Also if we hold any prescribed medication, please can you call into the office to check expiry dates and give us any updates on their conditions.

*Learning Together
Learning for Life*

Attendance Winners:
Cedar 100%!

Outstanding Behaviour Winners:
Infants: Birch, Maple & Cedar Juniors: Oak

Punctuality Winners:
Birch, Willow, Yew, Elm - no lates!