



NEWSLETTER

13TH DECEMBER 2024

WELCOME

WOW! Thank you for all your shopping in ASDA over the last few weeks! Thanks to your participation in this scheme, we have raised a HUGE £684.67! We are excited to use this money for something special, and will update you once we have decided!



We are thrilled to welcome Jen Herbert to our staffing team! Jen has joined our Inclusion Team and is currently working with our Year 2 phase. In the new year, we also look forward to welcoming Catherine Howarth and Fathima Liyakathali to the team. Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to Mr Chauhan at the end of this term. We wish him lots of luck for the future and thank him for all he has done for our children.

Next week, we have plenty of festive events to look forward to. Our children have been very busy rehearsing and can't wait to impress you all. Please check the dates provided, as well as emails and updates on Twitter/X. We are excited to celebrate the season with all of you.

I continue to be proud of our children, this week Year 1 journeyed to Windsor Castle and Year 2 visited The Monument and Tower Bridge. Both were big trips but the children came back full of smiles and with tired legs! We were delighted to see their learning come to life. Thank you to the parent volunteers who joined us and to our staff for their meticulous planning.

This will be our last newsletter of the term so I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a lovely break over the holidays. I would also like to thank you all: children, staff and parents, for all you do to help our children thrive. Cherry Tree is an incredibly special place with lots of opportunity but it takes us all working together to truly help our children shine.

We look forward to seeing you all feeling bright and refreshed on Tuesday 7th January at 08:45.

Cheska Tyler
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 17/12/24 - 9:30am & 2:00pm EYFS Performances
- 18/12/24 - Year 2 - 6 Christchurch Service, parents welcome to join (WD24 5BD).
- 18/12/24 - Year 6 to see The Nutcracker Ballet
- 19/12/24 - Festive Performances (Year 1, 2 and 3 at 9:15am and Year 4, 5 and 6 at 10:15am)
- 19/12/24 - Festive Lunch
- 20/12/24 - Last Day of Term (School closes at 1.30pm)
- 06/01/25 - INSET DAY (School Closed for Children)
- 07/01/25 - First Day of Spring 1 Term
- 14/01/25 & 15/01/25 - Parents Evening
- 16/01/25 - Fun Lunch
- 20/01/25 - Cherry Week - A Week of Wellbeing
- 28/01/25 - School Photographs
- 28/01/25 - Fun Lunch
- 29/01/25 - Year 4 Yew Start Swimming Lessons
- 07/02/25 - NSPCC Number Day
- 14/02/25 - Last Day of Term (School finishes at 3:15pm)

RECEPTION CLASS

ADMISSIONS 2025 - 26

Applications for Reception 2025-26 are closing soon! The deadline to apply is Wednesday, 15th January 2025. We still have a few scheduled weekly school tours ([available here](#)), so please share this information with anyone who might be interested.

ORDERING SCHOOL MEALS

Starting in January 2025, school lunch orders will be managed by Swift Kitchen, overseen by Aspen. The school will no longer handle orders or cancellations.

Key Points:

- Ordering - Place or cancel orders by 9:00 am via the app or online.
- Free Lunches: - Reception to Year 2 and FSM-eligible children, must still place orders.
- Choose daily, weekly, monthly, or termly orders.

Instructions and login details have been emailed but click this link for a [YouTube guide](#). Please contact the School Office with any questions.

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

BOOK CORNER

It is incredible to think we have already nearly arrived at the end of our first term!

There are so many wonderful books that are inspired by the wonders of nature so here are a few of my recommendations for the winter season, including 'The Last Bear' by Hannah Gold, which is one of my all-time favourites.



I will be snuggling up with a good book over the holidays so please remember to share your recommendations or photos on X.

Happy Reading

Emma Hill

Class Teacher/ English Lead

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Hertfordshire County Council are providing a £30 digital supermarket voucher for the festive period to every child that is entitled to benefit-related free school meals. This voucher should have been emailed to you on Friday 13th December, please check your emails.

If you believe you might be eligible for free school meals due to low income, please [use this link](#) to check your eligibility. It only takes a few minutes to apply, and you may be entitled to extra help in school.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

The Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) has been set up so that all agencies and organisations who work with children and young people work together to keep children safe. Call 0300 123 4043 at anytime if you are a child or young person being abused or mistreated; or if you are an adult worried about a young person.

Call 999 if you're in immediate danger or a crime is being committed.

INCLUSION UPDATE

The festive period, with lots of change, social interaction, expectations and demands to negotiate, can be a very exciting but often stressful time of the year for many people. Here is a brief list of useful tips that may prove helpful in making this festive period as special and as stress free as possible.

- Prepare your child for any changes to the school routine
- Keep a good routine at bedtime
- Be aware your child may need more reminders as they will be tired and routines at school may be altered at the end of term.
- Discuss concerns and formulate a plan during the holidays
- Prepare your child for any visitors
- Ask children prior to the holidays what types of activities they would like to do and plan accordingly
- Use a calendar and mark on important events
- Keep surprise plans to a minimum.



By planning ahead and keeping communication open, you can help create a more enjoyable and relaxed festive season for both you and your child.

EYFS PANTOMIME FUN

Earlier this week, our EYFS children had a fantastic time watching and participating in the pantomime Beauty and the Beast.



The event was filled with dancing, singing, and cheering, and the children made a wonderful audience. It was a joyful experience that brought smiles to everyone's faces!

Well done, EYFS, for your enthusiasm and great participation!

BEEZEE FAMILIES

Beezee Families offers expert advice on healthy eating and exercise from family wellbeing specialists. For details on in-person or online courses, [see here](#).

FREE Healthy Lifestyle support for families in Hertfordshire

Our FREE 12 week in-person and online programmes start on week commencing 20th January 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
BOREHAMWOOD Aberford Park Community Centre, WD6 1PN 4:30 - 6:30pm	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Hobletts Manor Junior School HP2 5JS 5:30 - 7:30pm	STEVENAGE Oval Community Centre SG1 5RD 5:00 - 7:00pm	HATFIELD Birchwood Avenue Primary School, AL10 0PS 5:00 - 7:00pm
CESHUNT Andrews Lane Primary School, EN7 6LB 4:30 - 6:30pm	** NO SESSION **	WATFORD Leavesden Green Community Hub, WD25 0BW 5:30 - 7:30pm	** NO SESSION **

Sign up today!
@beezefamiliesuk.co.uk
01707 248 648
Hertfordshire

What we are learning.....

For EYFS, please see updates on your weekly letters and Tapestry.

Year 1

Our new topic will be 'What is life like on a farm?'

Our writing will be linked to animals and farm machines including 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'William Bee's Farm Machines'.

In maths we will be exploring 2D and 3D shapes.

In our wider curriculum, we will be learning about farm animals and have a visit from a mobile farm.

Year 2

Our new topic will be 'How do living things survive in their habitats?'

We will have a visit from some pet animals and spend some time in our Wildlife Garden exploring what lives in our pond.

Our writing will be linked to wonderful texts such as 'Poles Apart' and 'Dougal's Deep Sea Diary'.

In maths we will be moving on to introducing division structures and shape.

Year 3

Our new topic will be 'Has exploration improved our world?'

We will be reading texts such as 'The Pirate Cruncher', 'Lost and Found' and sea shanties.

We will be creating wonderful narratives and composing our own pirate songs.

In maths, we will be moving on to statistics, angles and shapes.

In our wider curriculum, we will be learning about different types of exploration and discovering how it has changed over time.

Year 4

Our new topic will be 'How the world works.' Our key focus will be on how water is vital to our world.

In our guided reading lessons, we will be focusing on 'James and the Giant Peach.'

In maths we will begin looking at area and perimeter.

Our key text in our writing lessons will be 'Monster Slayer'.

Year 5

Our new topic will be 'Where is the centre of the Universe?'

In writing, we will be watching 'Hidden Figures' and exploring the features of non-chronological reports.

In maths, we will be continuing our fractions topic.

In our wider curriculum we will be investigating the Space Race and debating who won.

Our new guided reading text is 'The White Giraffe'.

Year 6

Our new topic will be 'How does light save lives?'

We will be reading 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll and 'Cloudbusting' by Malorie Blackman.

In writing, we will be describing a scene in London during WWII.

In maths, we will be looking at BIDMAS and algebra.

In our wider curriculum, we will be learning about the history, impact and significance of lighthouses.

Reminders

Wednesday 18th December, Year 2 - Year 6 will be walking to Christchurch to attend a special Christmas service. The children will leave school at approximately 10:00am to walk to Christ Church and hope to arrive ready for the service to begin at 10:45am.

On Thursday 19th December, we will be having our school Christmas performance to parents. This will take place in the school hall. Year 1, 2 and 3 will begin at 9.15am and Year 4, 5 and 6 will begin at 10:15am. Both performances should last around 30- 55 minutes.

Friday 20th December it is the last day of this term and school will finish at 1:30pm. Our Friends will be serving festive treats in the school hall. You can prebook these [via the Friends parent portal](#) or pay on the day.



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	Liam	For adapting so well to his new lunchtime routine #WeAimHigh.
Sunrise/Sunset	Buster	For always being kind and polite at Sunrise & Sunset club.
Fireflies	Ayna (Yew)	For being brave and trying an activity whilst at Forest School.
Cherry Blossoms	Isaac	For excellent listening during story time and sign time. Well done!
Berries	Amira	For excellent number work.
Acorns	Myra	For learning your lines and taking on a role with confidence.
Conkers	Ernie	For learning his lines in the play and saying them loud and clear!
Maple	Alannah	For trying her best and working hard on her writing.
Birch	Zoya	For aiming high in phonics, reading and writing!
Cedar	Hasti	For aiming high in everything you do!
Willow	Yahya	For always being cheerful and helping in class.
Sycamore	Yanae	For always working hard and for being a helpful individual in Sycamore class.
Hazel	Bayyan	For absolutely fantastic singing in our rehearsal.
Ash	Sai	For working so hard to improve his stamina for writing this week and producing more writing than he ever has independently!
Yew	Sianna	For settling in so well and being a great addition to Yew class.
Pine	Mina	For aiming high with her writing and building on her independence.
Fir	Ria	For always displaying the school values and persevering in writing.
Oak	Max	For always aiming high and consistently challenging himself.
Elm	Antonis	For aiming high and really trying his best in all areas!

Well done, Cherries!



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