

**SPRING TERM  
2020-21  
NEWSLETTER 20  
Friday, 12<sup>th</sup>  
March**

# CHERRY TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL



## Our Mission Statement

*Bringing out the best in each other as we blossom & grow*

## Our Values

*Happy, Aspirational, Resilient, Independent, Open-minded, Compassionate*

## SCHOOL NEWS

Friday, 12th March 2021

Dear Parents and Families,

This week we were very happy to welcome all of our children back to school. A few children were a little nervous on day one but everyone quickly settled back into their usual routine.

Many of the children seem tired today after their first full week in school this year; the relaxing yoga workshops have been a perfect way to end the week.

### School Uniform

Thank you for following the guidelines written in the Newsletter last week about drop off and pick up routines and our one way system. Also we appreciate the children coming to school with the equipment they needed.

Currently, we are not enforcing our strict school uniform policy. Some children have outgrown shoes or items of school uniform and we fully appreciate that shops are not open and we are still being encouraged to stay at home. After the Easter break we will re-instate the full uniform policy and all children will be expected to be in full school uniform unless otherwise agreed with a member of our Senior Leadership Team (Mr Adams, Mrs Bottomley, Mrs Graham).

### Staffing Update

I am sorry to inform you that Mr Morris has resigned from his position at Cherry Tree. He has decided that the long journey he makes each day is proving to be too much and he is therefore going to work closer to home.

Mr Morris has been with us for four years and during that time has had a significant, positive impact on raising the profile of sport both in school and within the local community. Our success rate at local competitions was excellent under the guidance of Mr Morris. I am sure you will join me in wishing him all the best in the future.

His last day with us will be in the Easter holidays, during the holiday camp.

## Reminders

Children	<b>What should I bring to school? NO LARGE BAGS / RUCKSACKS PLEASE</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Please return Chrome Books/CGP books/handwriting books sent home last half term.</b></li> <li>❖ <b>Water bottle</b>, re-filled with fresh water daily and a fruit or vegetable <b>snack</b>.</li> <li>❖ <b>Your own stationery kit</b>: green/black pens, pencils, coloured pencils, felt tips, ruler, rubber, scissors, glue stick in a NAMED CLEAR WALLET, NOT a big pencil case.</li> <li>❖ <b>Coat / hat / gloves</b>, depending on the weather.</li> <li>❖ Your own <b>tissues</b> if you have a runny nose / cold.</li> <li>❖ Your <b>reading book</b>/ reading diary.</li> <li>❖ <b>Spare trainers and socks to leave in school each day- we will be using the running track daily.</b></li> </ul>				
PE Lessons	<b>What should I wear?</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Normal school uniform as far as possible, some relaxation on rules this half term. Please come to school in PE uniform on your PE days (see table below):</li> </ul>				
	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
	Y3		Y2		
	YF	Y5	Y3	Y5	
	Y4	Y4	Y1	YF	Y2
	Y6		Y6		

## Covid-19 Latest Update

Firstly, we have a detailed, 15-page Covid Risk Assessment that we are following to keep our staff and children safe. This has been approved by Warrington Borough Council and by our Governing Board. Should you wish to read this document it has been posted on ParentApp under 'Covid information' and on the school website under About Us/Covid-19.

Secondly, I would like to clarify the different testing programmes that are currently in operation in schools:

- **Secondary Schools/Colleges and Universities ONLY:** All children/students and staff are to be tested for Covid twice weekly using a Lateral Flow Device (LFD). These are rapid tests that can be administered at home. If the LFD test shows a positive result, a further Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) confirmatory test is required at a testing centre. The person must isolate for ten days if they test positive for Covid.
- **Primary Schools:** All staff are to be tested twice weekly using a LFD test-and the same procedures as above apply.
- **Cherry Tree School:** As our school was selected to take part in Office for National Statistics (ONS) School Infection Study (SIS), ALL of our staff and children are invited to take part in a testing programme whereby those who give consent are tested for anti-bodies and the Covid virus. This was monthly, but is now taking place once per half term. This is an important research study which is helping scientists to fully understand the transmission of the virus. Being part of the survey so far has helped us to reduce transmission within our school community. Data gathered is helping scientists and government to understand the virus and pandemic. It also informs policies to manage risks of transmission and helps to ensure that schools can operate safely. A leaflet with further details was sent home earlier this week, and an explanatory video was sent via the app.

## Isolation Periods

Should we have a positive case of Covid-19 among our staff or pupils, there are procedures outlined by the DfE that are followed to manage the risk to others. The guidance that we follow can be found in the DfE document 'Schools Operational Guidance' February 2021. Here is an extract from this key document which may answer some of your questions about potential isolation going forwards. Please pay particular attention to the section in **BOLD** which is something I have been asked about:

### **11. Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community**

*You must take swift action when you become aware that someone who has attended has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) having developed symptoms and taken a PCR test outside of school.*

*If you would like support on the action you should take to respond to a positive case, you can contact the dedicated advice service introduced by Public Health England (PHE) and delivered by the NHS Business Services Authority. This can be reached by calling the DfE Helpline on 0800 046 8687 and selecting option 1 for advice on the action to take in response to a positive case. You will be put through to a team of advisers who will inform you of what action is needed based on the latest public health advice.*

*The advice service (or PHE local health protection team if escalated) will work with you to guide you through the actions you need to take. Based on their advice, you must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate immediately and for the next 10 full days counting from the day after contact with the individual who tested positive.*

#### **Close contact means:**

- anyone who lives in the same household as someone with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)
- anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) with a PCR or LFD test:
  - face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within 1 metre
  - been within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer without face-to-face contact
  - sexual contacts
  - been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)
  - travelled in the same vehicle or a plane

*The advice service (or PHE local health protection team if escalated) will provide advice on who must be sent home. To support them in doing so, we recommend you keep a record of pupils and staff in each group, and any close contact that takes places between pupils and staff in different groups. This should be a proportionate recording process. You do not need to ask pupils to record everyone they have spent time with each day or ask staff to keep definitive records in a way that is overly burdensome.*

Where individuals are self-isolating and are within our definition of vulnerable, it is important that schools put systems in place to keep in contact with them, offer pastoral support, and check they are able to access education support.

A template letter will be provided to you, on the advice of the health protection team, to send to parents and staff if needed. You must not share the names or details of people with coronavirus (COVID-19) unless essential to protect others.

Household members of those contacts who are sent home do not need to self-isolate themselves unless the pupil or staff member who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms, unless they have been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or their public health protection team, in which case they must self-isolate. If someone in a class or group that has been asked to self-isolate develops symptoms themselves within the 10 days from the day after contact with the individual who tested positive, they should follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. They should get a test, and:

- if the test delivers a negative result, they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 10-day isolation period. This is because they could still develop coronavirus (COVID-19) within the remaining days.
- if the test result is positive, they should inform their school immediately, and
- should isolate from the day of onset of their symptoms and at least the following 10 full days. Their household should self-isolate starting from when the symptomatic person in their household first had symptoms and the next 10 full days, following guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection

**Based on advice from Public Health England (PHE) and NHS Test and Trace, the testing programme initially included offering those who came into close contact with a positive case in schools the option of 7 days of daily contact testing (with self-isolation if a subsequent test was positive) as an alternative to self-isolation.**

**PHE and NHS Test and Trace have now reviewed their initial advice in light of the higher prevalence and rates of transmission of new variants. They have concluded that these changes in virus mutations warrant further evaluation work and that daily contact testing in place of self-isolation should be paused until this evaluation has taken place. We will update this guidance once this evaluation is complete.**

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## **FUTURE EVENTS**

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### **Islam Workshops- Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> March**

On Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> March, as part of the RE National Curriculum, the children in classes 1 to 6 will take part in a workshop to learn about the Islamic religion, led by Imran Kotwal, from Muslim Learner Services. Imran will use stories and artefacts to share information with the children about places of worship, sacred books, religious festivals and customs associated with Islam.

### **Residential Visits**

Residential visits planned for Year 5 and Year 6 during the last academic year, have been rescheduled to June 2021. Year 6 will visit the Conway Centre, Anglesey for two nights on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> to Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June and Year 5 will spend one night at Burwardsley on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June. Further information has been sent out to the parents of these children.

Please make any outstanding payments for these trips via ParentPay.

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## **PTA NEWS**

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### **PTA Book Club Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm**

Cherry Tree PTA presents a Book Club with a difference. Tickets are available for £5 to join a live chat with Yvonne Battle Felton, author of 'Remembered'. Yvonne won the Northern Writer's Fiction Award for this book. It is a beautifully written story set in two different periods of history examining the themes of motherhood, slavery and the bonds that keep people together. A story that will remain with you for some time.

***Tickets are priced £5***

***For Cherry Tree Parents please purchase your tickets through ParentPay.***

***For those outside of school tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite, contact [vardye@gmail.com](mailto:vardye@gmail.com) for details***

***Once registered you will be sent a Zoom link.***



## Forthcoming PTA Events

Event	DATE & TIME	Details
Easter Bingo Party	Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> March	During the school day, details to follow.
Virtual Pet Show	Friday, 30 <sup>th</sup> April	During the school day, details to follow before the Easter break.
Infants PJs and Popcorn Night	Thursday, 13 <sup>th</sup> May	5-7pm Children only.
Junior Fun Night	Wednesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> May	5:30pm to 7pm, for Year 3 to Year 6.
Non-Uniform Day	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Tombola donations please.
Summer Fair	Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Details to follow nearer the time.
Ice-Pop Friday	Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Details to follow nearer the time.

**The next PTA meeting is on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30pm.**

*Everyone is welcome to join our PTA. Please contact our PTA chair, Mark Swettenham if you would like to attend the meeting via [cherrytreePTA@gmail.com](mailto:cherrytreePTA@gmail.com)*

*Zoom links will be sent to everyone who has expressed an interest.*

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## FINALLY

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I hope you all have a lovely restful weekend.

Kindest regards,



Helen Graham  
Head Teacher

**Please feel free to contact me with any queries,  
[CherryTree\\_Primary\\_Head@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:CherryTree_Primary_Head@warrington.gov.uk)**