

SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER 9

Friday, 3rd
March 2023

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

*Please remember to refer to our app for all our calendar dates: PA Connect / Content / Events
We have also sent home a calendar of events for March on ParentApp.*

KEY DATES:

Event or reminder	Date / time / deadline	Any action needed
Taekwondo Lessons with Mr Starr	Weekly on Thursdays	Children in Year F, 1, 2 and 3 will have a weekly Taekwondo lesson for the remainder of the half term.
Warrington Athletics Cross Country Event at Walton Gardens	Saturday, 4th March (morning)	This re-scheduled cross-country event will conclude the Warrington Athletics 2022-23 series. Our children have achieved amazing results in the previous two events; we wish them lots of luck on their final run and are keeping fingers crossed for some top place medals!
 BOOK FAIR	Monday, 6th March to Friday, 10th March (Opening times 3:15-4:15pm)	A chance to purchase a book for your child whilst also raising commission for the school to purchase new books. Volunteers needed, please contact school.
IMPORTANT Maths Workshop	Tuesday, 7th March at 2:30pm	Come along and find out how we teach the four main operations in Maths (+, -, X and ÷) plus ways in which you can support at home. There will be a live demonstration with some of our Y6 children too!
Year 6 Gymnastic Competition	Tuesday, 7th March	A small group of children who already take gymnastics lessons, have been selected to represent Cherry Tree. We wish them lots of luck!
PTA Book Club	Thursday, 9th March	See flier attached below.
Parr Hall Dance Competition – Year 6	Thursday, 9th March	Dance teacher Aimee who runs our extra-curricular dance club, has supported a group of Y6 children in preparation for this competition. Good luck everyone! Further details have been sent to the children involved.
KS2 Workshop with Children's Author and Illustrator	Tuesday, 14th March afternoon	One of our parents, Marie-Louise Gregory is a published children's author (Sophia Slewfoot History's Mysteries series). Marie along with illustrator Nicky Brooks, who was a TA at Cherry Tree, will deliver a workshop to our KS2 children. More details to follow on a flier.

Headlines

World Book Day 2023 / Cherry Tree Book Character Day

It never ceases to amaze me how creative and supportive our school community is. Every time we hold a Book Character Day, children arrive wearing new and original book character ideas. 2023 has surpassed all of our expectations! The atmosphere in school was fantastic and the children enjoyed taking part in book and reading themed activities during the day. A winning costume has been chosen from each class, the winners are as follows:



Book Character Winners 2023

Class F	Madeline – The Ladybird
Class 1	Grace – Winnie the Witch
Class 2	Hugo – Dobby
Class 3	Verity – Amelia Fang
Class 4	Eleanor – Jemima
Class 5	James – Wayne Barnes
Class 6	Mimi – A Dictionary

Reading Challenge

A reminder that on Monday we set a Reading Challenge Homework for all children- posted on ParentApp on Monday. The deadline for Bookmark Competition entries is Monday, 6th March.



CHERRY BLOSSOM PRESCHOOL

We have enjoyed welcoming some new children to our preschool recently. Cherry Blossom is now full for most sessions but we do have spaces available. In a recent external audit our preschool setting was given high praise by an external consultant. The experienced and dedicated staff skilfully meet all the children's needs and help those who are 3+ to become school ready. Please contact school if you are looking for a place for your child.

Staffing Update

Jenny Roberts, our school cook, will be leaving us soon for a promotion. Jenny is sorry to say goodbye to our lovely school but is leaving to take on an exciting new challenge; she has been appointed as the school cook at Chaigley School. Not only will Jenny provide meals for the students and staff but she will also teach the students how to shop for and make meals in preparation for adult life. We are sorry to see Jenny leave us, her vivacious personality and sense of fun will be missed; today she is dressed as a Hungry Caterpillar! Good luck in your new endeavours Jenny! 😊



Homework

Homework is an important way of helping children to develop positive learning habits, self-discipline and independent learning. It also reinforces and helps children retain information taught in the classroom. Please encourage your child to complete their homework to a high standard. The class or classes with the highest completion rate will be given a special mention in our praise assembly.

IMPORTANT: Mobile Phone Policy

We have recently had our Safeguarding Procedures reviewed by an external consultant and are taking their recommendations on board. We will be implementing some additional measures to ensure the safety of all our children and the security of the school site.

In order to safeguard all of our children, **visitors are not permitted to use mobile phones, including to take photographs when in school.** Some families do not consent to their child being featured in photographs on social media etc. We manage this by taking photographs of children where consent HAS been given and sharing these via 'SeeSaw' or on our website, where permission has been granted.

Visitors are asked to keep their phone switched off and in their bag/pocket whilst on the school premises. If visitors feel they may need to be contacted urgently, they are welcome to pass on the school telephone number: 01925 755885 to anyone who may need to contact them.

Please support us by adhering to this policy and asking wider family members who attend school events to do the same.

School Website www.cherrytreeschool.co.uk

Our school website is our 'shop window' or the 'guidebook' for our school. This is the place where we celebrate the strengths of our lovely school and post statutory documents and key information. Our website can be accessed readily by anyone who is interested in Cherry Tree School, without the need for a login or password. It has a different purpose to Parent App which is our communication portal, used only by our current families, who are given login details.

I felt it was worth highlighting the range of useful information on our website, which is regularly updated. Here is a brief summary of our headline tabs and the information contained within each:

www.cherrytreeschool.co.uk	
Home	<i>Our Core Values and latest news</i>
About Us	<i>Information about the school; how to apply for a school place; any job vacancies; statutory information such as SATs results and statutory policies; safeguarding information; a list of staff and governors who are part of the team; SEND information; more details about our Values and Mission Statement.</i>
Parents	<i>How to report an absence; how to access Early Help for families experiencing any form of challenge or difficulty; Extra-Curricular Clubs on offer; GDPR Privacy information; Out of School Club – childcare provision; Parents evening information; Parent Forum agendas and minutes; PTA information; an in depth look at the meals provision; what to do in terms of sickness; Term Dates; Uniform requirements and provider details.</i>
Our Classes	<i>Detailed information about each class including a photo of the class teacher; who the class governor is; the overview of what is being taught for each half term; homework pattern; reading information; how parents can support learning at home.</i>
Curriculum	<i>An overview of our whole school curriculum including long and medium term overviews of what is being covered in each class, each half term; the National Curriculum; specific information about handwriting, reading, spelling, writing, maths and our allotment; PowerPoint presentations from parent workshops that have taken place.</i>
Newsletters	<i>Current and past newsletters are kept under this tab.</i>
NEW: Mental Health	<i>Here you will find links to local services that are available in support of mental health & wellbeing.</i>
Contact Us	<i>Contact details and details of the senior leadership team.</i>

Attendance

Since the pandemic, school attendance has dipped nationally. As a result, new measures have been brought into place, including an attendance officer assigned to every school. Good attendance is classed as above 95%, which equates to less than ten days off school over the course of a full school year (Approx. three days off per term). Attendance that falls below this, for whatever reason (including illness), triggers a red flag when we complete the termly census.

At Cherry Tree, attendance always has been a strength and still is above national figures; However, we have also seen a decline in our overall figures since the pandemic. The number of families taking holidays during term time has also increased.

Our attendance target is 97%, which is in line with previous years. Currently, whole school attendance as of 3rd March 2023, is at 95.16%.

We are tightening up on our procedures and want to make you aware that if your child's attendance hits one of the triggers; meaning that it is becoming a concern, you will be notified using the following steps:

1. A message via ParentApp to alert parents that attendance has hit a trigger and is a concern
2. A letter to explain that attendance has not improved and is being closely monitored and the offer of support to improve the matter
3. If attendance has still not improved, a letter will be sent to invite parents to a meeting to discuss attendance

Our full Attendance Policy can be found on the website under the 'About Us' tab.

Class Assemblies	Date <i>(all start at 9:15am)</i>
<i>Parents and grandparents are welcome to join our assemblies. Enter via the playground hall door; the door will open once hall is set up and ready at approx. 9:05am. A fire register will be taken.</i>	
Class 2	Friday, 31 st March
Class 4	Friday, 21 st April
Class 5	Friday, 28 th April
Class F	Friday, 26 th May
Class 6- Leavers Assembly	Friday, 21 st July

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Please do not use mobile phones or take photographs whilst in the school building. Phones should be **switched off** and kept in bags.

PTA NEWS

Review of PTA Events

Last half term our Quiz Night was well-attended by a great group of parents and friends of the school. Sadly, the staff team did not win... 😞 😊 But congratulations to the winning team: 'Five Gold Rings'!

Yesterday, we held our PJ and Popcorn event where the children watched Matilda, to fit in with the theme of World Book Day. 150 children joined us at this event; their behaviour was exceptional and everyone seemed to enjoy the film. A big thank you to our PTA organisers and helpers!

Please find below the calendar of PTA events that we have planned for the coming year.

NON-UNIFORM DAY	FRIDAY 24TH MARCH
CHOCOLATE BINGO	THURSDAY 30TH MARCH
JUNIOR FUN NIGHT	WEDNESDAY 17TH MAY
BREAK THE RULES DAY	FRIDAY 16TH JUNE
SUMMER FAIR	SATURDAY 1ST JULY
Full details of each event to be sent out nearer the time	
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1019937	

Cherry Tree PTA presents
a Book Club with a difference

Book Club with the Author

Thursday 9th March, 8pm on Zoom

Paterson D. Joseph on his book

'The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho'



Paterson D. Joseph is a British actor. He appeared in the Royal Shakespeare Company productions of King Lear and Love's Labour's Lost in 1990. He is a television and film actor.

The secret diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho is his debut novel and was discussed by him in the TV series Between the Covers

It is a lush and immersive tale of adventure, artistry, romance, and freedom set in eighteenth-century London and inspired by a true story. This is the story of how a black man born into slavery came to be a leading figure in the abolitionist movement.

Tickets £5 (£5.85 via Eventbrite)

For Cherry Tree Parents please purchase your tickets through ParentPay.

For those outside of school tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite, at <https://tinyurl.com/ys4yak8w>

Registered Charity Number 1019937

FINALLY

Wishing everyone a lovely, relaxing weekend,



Helen Graham
Head Teacher

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Head Teacher email: CherryTree_Primary_Head@sch.warrington.gov.uk