

Happy Friday Cherry Tree!

Here are some reasons to be positive right now:

1. The weather is getting better - make sure you get outside to enjoy some of the sunshine.
2. Playgrounds are coming soon - new play facilities are coming to the school and will be built in the week before half-term!
3. Attendance improvements - you are doing a great job of ensuring your children are in school, on time, everyday! Our attendance has made some massive gains in a short space of time
4. Outcomes - we are looking like we will have the best set of outcomes in the national, statutory checks that the school has had in a long time.
5. Future planned works - there are some more works planned for the school for the summer holidays, ready for your children for September. More information will follow.

Curriculum - our topics are going well, as are our 'hook' days and core texts. We are investing large sums of money into books to ensure your children can follow along with a copy of the text themselves, whilst being read to by the teacher

If you saw the fire engine on Thursday, this was because a large log / tree stump was on fire. The fire was small and the log was smouldering, but I called the fire brigade to put it out so it did not spread. Please remind your children about fire safety and that they need to call the emergency services (if possible) or tell an adult immediately so that swift action can be taken to prevent the further spread.

I have seen a big transformation in the school in my time here so far, and the progress will not be stopping. We are aiming to become the best school we can be, so that your children get the best start in life with us, which they deserve. Your children's outcomes and futures remain at the heart of everything we do and every decision we make. Cherry Tree is such a warm, calm and pleasant place to be and that is largely down to the children here



This week, the nursery children enjoyed sharing the story Dear Zoo, which supported our maths investigations into size and space. The children built different-sized boxes using a range of construction materials to 'send the animals back', ensuring each box was tall enough, strong enough and big enough for the zoo animals to fit. We explored patterns together, with the children confidently making comparisons such as spotty and stripy, and describing textures as rough and smooth. The children also enjoyed creative activities, exploring textures while creating lion manes and experimenting with printing materials to make spotty giraffes. In phonics, the children showed excellent listening skills as they identified jungle animals by the sounds they heard. It has been a fantastic week of learning, and we are very proud of the children's enthusiasm, creativity, and growing confidence.

This week, year 1 created their own animals and wrote a non-chronological report about them. In Maths, we have been exploring multiplication and multiplying by 2,5,10s. In Geography, we have identified the continents of the world on a map and in art we have been making our own sculptures by shaping paper in different ways. In science, we have been identifying the parts of a plant and their jobs and in computing we have been collecting data and using I pads to show this.

This week in Sunshine Cafe we have been exploring our story of the week "Sharing a Shell" we have decorated paper plate crabs, water colour painting of shells and exploring our outdoor environment with our 'self-made rock pool' using our outdoor tuff tray. A big well done this week to Alyssia B for her first couple of days settling into our provision!

This week, Year 5 have been finishing their information texts about Camp Green Lake, ready to publish them next week. In Maths, they have started their topic on angles and were able to describe their properties and use this to classify them. The children also enjoyed participating in a Science experiment to investigate the impact that surface area has on water resistance.

This week Year 6 have been working extremely hard on our reasoning practice papers, particularly looking at working out the mean of a group of numbers. In English, we have been writing a narrative from different characters' perspectives, based upon the book "Pig Heart Boy". In Computing, we have been developing our computer skills in preparation for secondary school, by creating PowerPoints all about ourselves. We have learnt how to change the theme of our slides, insert images from the internet, and add transitions and animations to them.

This week Reception have enjoyed exploring the story Handa's Surprise. We used maps to find out where Africa is and talked about all the animals which live there. We compared the locality to Basildon, thinking about how they are the same and how they are different. We created some beautiful sunset pictures using our mixing and printing skills. In maths we have explored numbers beyond 20 and looked carefully for number patterns.

This week Year 4 finished writing their story about the Amazon River. Ask us what our main character got up to. We included a lot of features to make our writing exciting and we even learnt how to use personification. In Geography we learnt about the world's longest rivers, we can name them and the continent they are in too. We also took part in an experiment where we learnt about water being a solid, liquid and gas depending on if it is heated or cooled. We looked after an ice pet I bet you can guess what happened to them!

Year 2, this week in computing, the children really enjoyed planning their ideas to create animations using stop motion. In English, the children gathered facts about coasts in preparation for writing a leaflet next week. They used their knowledge from this week's geography lessons, where they explored different physical features of a coast. In art, the children created beautiful beach tiles inspired by Rachel Whiteread. They focused on using negative space to develop thoughtful and creative designs.

This week year three have been conducting two science experiments. We have looked at what happens if you reduce the air that a plant gets and we have looked at water transportation. In maths, we have been consolidating our learning and revisiting addition and subtraction. Children are practicing for our production as often as possible and well done for all the effort being put in at home learning all their lines.

Have a lovely weekend. Please remember that it is bank holiday on Monday (like you needed reminding!) and school will reopen on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

Mr Davie  
Head of School



## Nursery

For children aged 3 before 31st August 2026

Limited spaces available for our nursery in September 2026

15/30 hour funded

Additional 15 hours can be paid for if funding not available

Application forms available in the school office or  
email [admissions@cherrytee-pri.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@cherrytee-pri.essex.sch.uk)

### Important information - Term time holidays

Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Where families choose to take a family holiday during term time, this can detrimentally impact a pupil's progress and can prevent them from fulfilling their true academic potential. Our school attendance policy, available via our school website, clearly sets out the process that parents should follow if they wish to apply for leave during term time. Please note that applications should only be made, if you feel that there are exceptional circumstances which mean that the leave cannot be taken during the school holidays. We would ask all parents to note that, where families choose to go on holiday during term time and the absences are coded as unauthorised, Essex County Council may not issue penalty notices and may instead proceed straight to prosecution and place the case directly before the Magistrates for their consideration in court. If found guilty by the Magistrates, parents could face a fine of up to £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

## School Dinner Menu - Week Two

20th—24th April

Monday

Sweet and Sour Chicken

Sweet and Sour Quorn

Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans/Tuna Mayo

Cheese or Tuna Mayo Wrap

Mini Pancakes with Syrup

Tuesday

Beef Chilli

Quorn Beef Chilli

Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans/Tuna Mayo

Cheese or Ham Sandwich

Arctic Roll

Wednesday

Roast Chicken

Quorn Roast

Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans/Tuna

Cheese or Egg Mayo Wrap

Fresh Fruit Salad

Thursday

Penne Pasta with a Rustic Tomato Sauce

Penne pasta with a Rustic Tomato Sauce

Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans/Tuna Mayo

Cheese or Tuna Mayo Sandwich

Jelly and Cream

Friday

Chicken Nuggets

Beyond Chicken Nuggets

Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans/Tuna Mayo

Cheese or Ham Wrap

Ice Lolly

## School Money

Please ensure you keep your School Money account in credit to cover any dinners booked for your child.

If your account accrues arrears of two meals (£4.80) or more your child **WILL NOT** be able to book any further school dinners and you **MUST** provide them with a packed lunch until the arrears are cleared.



## Cherry Tree Weekly Attendance Table

<b>Butterflies</b>	<b>98.9%</b>
Ladybirds	91.1%
Hedgehogs	97.0%
Rabbits	96.1%
Owls	95.2%
Squirrels	92.5%
Year 3 Blue	92.7%
Year 3 Green	96.0%
Year 4 Blue	92.2%
<b>Year 4 Green</b>	<b>97.4%</b>
Year 5 Blue	92.9%
Year 5 Green	96.2%
Year 6 Blue	88.6%
Year 6 Green	95.2%

The highest class in Key Stage 1 this week was Butterflies—well done.

In Key Stage 2 it was back to Year 4 Green with 97.4%

Whole school attendance was down a little this week at 94.4% - let's get it back up next week!



## Parent Coffee Morning: Understanding Anxiety

Please join us for a coffee and a parent workshop on

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – 9.00am to 10.15am**

**Cherry Tree Primary School**

Delivered by **Mikaela Sengendo**

**MHST Senior Clinician**

There is no need to book. Please just turn up on the day

If you do have any questions, please speak to

Mrs Cory AHT: Inclusion



# Value Awards



Butterflies

Ziggy S

For being ambitious. Ziggy reads every night at home and his reflects in the fantastic progress that he has made this year. He has tried very hard with all his learning this year across all areas of the curriculum.

Ladybirds

George H

For his honesty. George is always honest about situations that arise, including when he is finding something a little tricky or if he has made a poor choice and is then seeking support.

Hedgehogs

Leo B

For showing ambition by taking feedback about his writing on board and working hard to improve.

Rabbits

Xenah A

For showing kindness to everyone in the class and being a good friend.

Owls

Connor F

For showing ambition by trying his best in all his work, especially in maths and reading.

Squirrels

Joshua W

Has shown great ambition in his learning, consistently working hard and aiming to produce his very best work. He listens carefully to feedback and thoughtfully makes improvements, showing a strong commitment to developing his skills. His positive attitude and determination helps him to achieve high standards across his work.

Year 3 Blue

Eidenas G

Eidenas has shown excellent honesty and enthusiasm with his learning. He was able to show excellent attitude to learning and after making a small mistake in number sense this week, he was able to bounce back with his learning.

Year 3 Green

Raheem I

For showing respect for the success criteria and producing excellent pieces of work this week.

Year 4 Blue

Victoria E

For always showing kindness to everybody around her and being willing to help others when they are struggling with tasks in and out of class.

Year 4 Green

Evie-Rose W

For showing our value of honesty when completing her times table booklet and recognising when she needs help which shows a positive attitude towards her learning.

Year 5 Blue

Francesco D

For always showing ambition to succeed in his learning, even when tasks are particularly tricky. Well done!

Year 5 Green

Ella-Mai N

For demonstrating honesty when acknowledging her mistakes, using them as opportunities to learn and striving to improve.

Year 6 Blue

Jayna J-A

For showing compassion to her peers in the classroom and also the younger children in the dinner hall demonstrating our value of kindness.

Year 6 Green

Kacey S

For showing ambition in all of her work preparing for her SATs,.

## Dates for your Diary 2026

### Monday 4th May

May bank Holiday—no school

### Tuesday 5th May

Bikeability—Year 5

### Wednesday 20th May

9.15 am Sunflower in my Supper (Year 4)

2.15pm Sunflower in my Supper (Year 4)

Healthy family Drop in 9-10am

### Friday 22nd May

Last day of Term

### Monday 1st June

Return to school

Night Owls visiting the whole school

### Tuesday 2nd June

9-10.15am Parent Coffee morning—understanding anxiety

Year 5 trip to Barleylands

### Tuesday 16th June

Happy Days—Individual Photos

### Thursday 2nd July

Sports day—Reception to Year 6

### Friday 17th July

Last day of Summer Term

## School Aged Healthy Family Drop-in sessions

These sessions previously took place at various sites across the local area. They will now be held within schools, once per term, and we will hold ours here at **Cherry Tree** on the following date:

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May – 9.00am to 10.00am**

You will have the opportunity to speak to a **Healthy Family Support Practitioner** about any aspect of your child's health (see below)

This is a **drop-in clinic** and there is no need to book.

If you do have any questions, please speak to

Mrs Cory, AHT: Inclusion

The School Age team at Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Services will now be providing drops ins for parents/carers at your child's primary school. The drops ins are available for all parents/carers of primary aged children.

For more information  
Tel-0300 247 0013- (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)

The Team can offer support around.

- Emotional health and wellbeing
- Improving sleep
- Nutrition support
- Physical health
- Personal hygiene
- Managing health conditions
- Signposting, advice and support

Service commissioned by



### BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

BERLESDUNA – GOVERNOR/TRUSTEE closing date 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026  
CHERRY TREE – SEMH ASSISTANT closing date 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
MERRYLANDS – HLTA closing date 10<sup>th</sup> May  
MERRYLANDS – PART TIME EYF5 TEACHER closing date 10<sup>th</sup> May  
MERRYLANDS – AUTISM SUPPORT CENTRE LEAD TEACHER closing date 15<sup>th</sup> May  
WHITMORE – FIXED TERM CLASS TEACHER closing date 1<sup>st</sup> May

For more information and to apply for any of these exciting opportunities, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies - Berlesduna Academy Trust](#)

## MAY HALF TERM FOOTBALL CAMPS

📍 CHERRY TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL  
26<sup>TH</sup> & 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY

FULL DAY: 9AM – 3PM  
HALF DAY: 9AM – 12PM

**EARLY BIRD** (BOOK BEFORE 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY)

Full Day: **£20**  
Half Day: **£10**

AFTER 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY

Full Day: **£25**  
Half Day: **£15**

- 👤 Boys & Girls Welcome
- 👶 Ages 5 – 14
- 👤 All Abilities Welcome
- 👤 DBS Checked • First Aid Trained • FA Qualified

**BOOK NOW – LIMITED SPACES**

- ✉ [parrysgoalgetters@hotmail.com](mailto:parrysgoalgetters@hotmail.com)
- ☎ 07715847311 – Liam



## **School Newsletter: Make Brushing Fun!**

We're excited to share a fun and simple way to help children build healthy brushing habits at home!

Good oral hygiene is an important part of your child's overall health. To support this, we've created a **colourful tooth brushing reward chart** to make brushing twice a day both enjoyable and motivating.

### **How It Works**

- Download and print the brushing chart
- Display it somewhere visible (bathroom or fridge works well!)
- Each time your child brushes their teeth (morning and night), they colour in one tooth
- The goal is to complete all 14 teeth—representing a full week of brushing twice daily
- Start fresh each week with a new chart

### **Tips for Parents**

- Let your child choose their favourite colours or crayons
- Brush together to model good habits
- Celebrate when a full chart is completed
- Take photos to track progress over time
- Focus on praising effort as well as results

### **Make It Fun!**

Turn brushing into an enjoyable daily activity:

- Play a two-minute song while brushing
- Create a fun "brushing dance"
- Tell stories about "fighting sugar monsters"
- Let your child pick their own toothbrush

### **Extra Support**

If your child finds brushing challenging, you could try:

- Starting with a smaller goal (e.g. half a chart)
- Using stickers instead of colouring
- Creating a simple visual guide for brushing steps
- Trying different toothbrushes or toothpaste flavour

Your child can use the chart included with this newsletter. Additional copies can be printed each week to keep the routine going strong.

**Smile Dental Centre**  
438 Whitmore Way, Basildon SS14 2EZ  
Phone: [01268 520555](tel:01268520555)  
Email [whitmorewaydentalcentre@gmail.com](mailto:whitmorewaydentalcentre@gmail.com)

**CHARTS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL  
OFFICE TO MONITOR BRUSHING HABITS**