CHERRY TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER - 08 (23.10.26)

Happy Friday parents.

We made it through the first half-term back. I wanted to say a huge thank you to the children for showing how brilliant they are: returning from the summer is never easy but they have slotted back into school life exceptionally well.

A reminder that the lost property box outside the main office is full to the brim of items - please take a look to see if any of them belong to you.

Next half-term is when the weather really turns. Please make sure your child has adequate winter clothing and it is all labelled.

Our attendance for the year and week are listed below. We have made a good start, but we still have a way to go to reach our target of 96%





You may have noticed the building works happening outside the Sunshine Cafe. These will be finished over the half-term break and we look forward to opening them when we return. This will provide space for lots of children to use in all weathers.

I would like to say a huge congratulations to Miss Dean and Mrs Green, who start their maternity leave today. The Sunshine Cafe is left in the capable hands of Miss Foster, supported by Miss Lewis and a new addition, Mrs Franks, who joins us when we return.
Thank you to you both for all your hard work, and enjoy this special time with the little ones!

Have a lovely, safe and restful week off - and we will see you all back on **Tuesday 3rd November** for the start of the next half-term.



In Nursery, we shared the fun seasonal story Big Pumpkin, which inspired lots of our learning this week. The children have enjoyed painting and decorating pumpkins, as well as scooping them out and filling them with gloop! These experiences provided wonderful opportunities for colour mixing and sensory exploration as the children investigated different textures and smells, encouraging lots of new and descriptive language. We have been developing our fine motor skills through threading, stretching and pegging activities. Using the natural materials within our provision, the children have also practised their early maths skills through careful counting, recognising numerals, matching amounts, and comparing different sizes



This week in Reception we have read the stories Three Little Wolves, Billy Goats Gruff and Coming to England. To support our work during 'Black History Month' we learnt about the life of Floella Benjamin. In maths we explored numbers to five, adding one more and one less using a five frame. We explored chalks to create pictures of trolls from one of our stories. The children have had a fantastic first half term in Reception. Please remember to keep reading daily with your child over the school holidays.

Year 5 have had a great week writing poetry inspired by mountain landscapes. In Geography, they have compared Basildon with a town in the Alps, exploring their physical and human features, climate and way of life. In Art, they have designed and created printing plates inspired by their own memories and used these to make and evaluate their own prints.

Year 2 have had a busy week finishing off their learning and celebrating all they have discovered! In Art, we used our drawing skills to create self-portraits that showed different emotions, carefully thinking about how facial expressions can communicate feelings. We also enjoyed meeting with Year 5 to share our learning about Nelson Mandela and Bessie Coleman. In return, Year 5 told us all about Serena Williams and George Washington Carver. It was a fantastic opportunity to share our learning looking at significant historical figures for black history month.

This week in Year 6, we have been writing our newspaper report on the mysterious missing mammals case in Zootopia. We have focused on writing in the passive voice and using both subordinating and relative clauses to provide the reader with more information. In Maths, we have been working on our short multiplication by multiplying numbers by 1-digit. In Computing this week, we developed our research skills by researching Jesse Owens and Walter Tull and creating posters on their amazing achievements! Whilst in PE, we continued our learning about teamwork - understanding what it takes to be part of an effective team and how to communicate to achieve a goal.
This week, year 1 has been very busy with their learning! In maths, we have been using part whole models to complete addition number sentences and finding out that we can put our parts in different orders. In writing, we have been writing our own 3-part stories and in geography, we identified how we would like to improve our school playground and drew our own maps of what this would look like. In Music, we listened to different pieces of music and identified the beat and in RE, we learnt about the humanist view of creation and about the 'Big Bang'. Finally, in PSHE, we learnt all about how different situations can make us feel 'big' and 'small' emotions and how people respond to these differently.

This week Year 4 have written non-chronological reports all about orangutans. We focused on conjunctions and different sentence starters. We have also been continuing to practice using column addition and subtraction in maths, we are making sure we need to exchange if we need to. We completed our art work where we had to draw our collage and we made sure to focus on tone, texture and proportion. We enjoyed taking part in an internet safety assembly so we know how to stay safe online. We have had a great half term and look forward to starting all our new topics. Please continue to log into TTRS there is a tornament over the break. This week India won the TTRS tournament!

It has been a busy but exciting half term in the Sunshine Cafe, full of new routines, experiences and changes as we continue to establish a consistent daily structure for the children. This is an ongoing process, and we look forward to building on the progress we have made as we move into the next half term. As many of you will have noticed, our new garden is currently under construction, and the children have been fascinated by the diggers and all the activity taking place outside! We are very excited to see this space develop and look forward to the wonderful opportunities it will provide for outdoor learning and play.

Miss Foster will be stepping into Miss Dean's role to cover her maternity leave. We are delighted to have Miss Foster taking on this position and look forward to supporting her as she settles into her new role. We hope you have a lovely half term and look forward to welcoming our children back on Tuesday 3rd November.



Year 3 had an amazing time on our trip to Hyde Hall! We took part in lots of exciting, hands-on activities, including sieving soil to uncover hidden objects, making our own biodegradable plant pots and filling them with soil and seeds, and exploring beautiful geodes before drawing them. We also became rock detectives, investigating igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks, and had fun creating rubbings of fossils. As well as all our fantastic activities, we enjoyed a tour of Hyde Hall and even got to explore their very own pumpkin patch! We were amazed to meet Agnes, a gigantic pumpkin weighing an incredible 115kg! We had the best day filled with discovery, exploration and lots of exciting learning.

Happy Holidays

Mr Davie

Head of School

Attendance for this Half Term

1st	Year 5 Egypt	97.9%
2nd	Year 2 Norway	96.9%
3rd	Year 2 Finland	96.7%
Joint 4th	Year 4 India	96.2%
Joint 4th	Year 4 Japan	96.2%
6th	Year 6 Brazil	95.6%
7th	Year 1 Croatia	94.6%
8th	Year 3 Cyprus	94.5%
9th	Year 1 Estonia	94.4%
10th	Year 3 Jordan	94.3%
11th	Year 5 Morocco	93.5%
12th	Year 6 Mexico	92.6%
13th	Reception Spain	91.0%
14th	Reception France	90.7%





Value Awards





Reception Spain	Harry	Respect—Harry has been trying hard to follow instructions, sitting with crossed legs and listening to his learning.
Reception France	Trilby C	Kindness—whilst learning about the life of Floella Benjamin , she recognised that children were being unkind because of the colour of her skin, showing great empathy and kindness.
Year 1 Croatia	Donzel M	Ambition—for always pushing himself in maths and completing tricky challenges!
Year 1 Estonia	Reggie T	Honesty—by working hard to segment words and write them by himself.
Year 2 Finland	FINLAND	To the whole class for the way the children have embraced hard work, built on their life skills and for the parents' contributions to learning and fun throughout our first half term! Thank you and WELL DONE!
Year 2 Norway	Abhay	Ambition—shown ambition by working hard across all areas of his learning and always striving to do his best. He particularly impressed us when sharing his knowledge about Nelson Mandela and apartheid, confidently articulating is idea and demonstrating a fantastic understanding of this important period in history.
Year 3 Jordan	Willow W	Kindness—Willow is always happy to help children that are struggling with their work. Willow is kind to everyone in Jordan class. Thank yu Willow for always being a kind friend.
Year 3 Cyprus	Isla	Ambition—Isla has shown great perseverance in completing tasks more independently, particularly in writing.
Year 4 India	Lola R	Respect—by always being kind and polite to her peers and adults in the classroom, she consistently uses her manners and is always listening during her lessons.
Year 4 Japan	Loki	Ambition—Loki has tried really hard in all subjects this week, especially maths, even when he has struggled at times he has continued to give 100%. Well done Loki keep up the good work!
Year 5 Morocco	Riley	Honesty—For showing improved attitude in his learning and showing honesty when he needs support.
Year 5 Egypt	Jensen N	Ambition—Jensen has been working hard in writing by using resources like word banks to improve the vocabulary he uses.
Year 6 Brazil	Dion	Ambition—for trying hard this week to follow the ideas generated in English lessons. Well done!
Year 6 Mexico	Gabriel	Ambition—Gabriel has shown a dedication to the presentation of his learning this week. Putting his all into every piece of work, particularly in writing, ensuring his work is neat, presentable and to the high standard he sets himself.

Free Breakfast Club

From 8.10am till 8.40am every morning Breakfast Club is FREE to all children in Reception to Year 6. This is a government incentive to give children a softer start to the school day. In order that we can ensure we have enough food to feed everyone and enough staff to keep everyone safe, all we ask is that you register in advance. This will be on School Money (just to book there is no charge) but at the moment there is a technical hitch with it so can you please message on Studybugs or call the School Office.

If you need your child to come into school earlier, this will fall into our Wraparound Care package.

Wraparound Care

Breakfast Club

A paid element of Breakfast Club runs from 7.40am till 8.10am. This is a paid element as it is for childcare purposes. The charge is £2 per session and you need to complete a registration form for this. This will then be payable and bookable on School Money—at the moment please advise us via Studybugs or calling the School Office.

After School Club

We are very proud to be able to offer our own in-house After School Club. This is being run by two members of our school staff, Mrs Gwanzura and Miss Kotze. This can be booked ad hoc and last minute if needed.

FROM 3RD NOVEMBER WE WILL BE RUNNING SLIGHTLY DIFFERENTLY:



3.15 - 4.15 - includes a snack (£4.50)

3.15 - 5.15 - includes snack and dinner (£9.00)

3.15 - 6.00 - includes snack, dinner and dessert (£12.50)

We have responded to your feedback and hope this will prove more beneficial to more of you.

Fun, Friendship and Fantastic Fun at Wrap-Around Care!

Looking for a fun-filled end to your child's school day? Our Wrap-Around Care After-School Club is packed with exciting activities, creativity and plenty of smiles!

From competitive games of table football and testing their scientific skills with our fascinating Hot Wires game, to plenty of giggles playing Twister, there is always something to keep everyone entertained!

With Halloween approaching, our little creatives have been busy transforming the hall with spooky decorations , bringing a touch of Halloween magic to our school! To round off the fun, the children enjoyed a cosy movie session with some delicious food and well-deserved relaxation.

At Wrap-Around Care, we offer more than just childcare — we provide a welcoming, happy environment where children can play, explore, get creative, build friendships and make wonderful memories every day.

Fun after school, friendships that grow and memories to treasure!









A Huge Thank You!

A big thank you to Ivy and her family who has kindly donated games to our Wrap-Around Care Club! Your generosity is very much appreciated and will bring so much fun, laughter and enjoyment to the children. Thank you for your kindness and for helping to make our club an even more exciting and enjoyable place to be!

School Dinner Menu - Week One

2nd—6th November

Monday

NO SCHOOL

INSET DAY

Tuesday

Hunters Chicken

Vegetarian Hunters 'Chicken'

Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans/Tuna Mayo

Cheese or Ham Sandwich

Berry Tiramisu (no coffee)

Wednesday

Roast Gammon

Quorn Roast

Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans/Tuna Mayo

Cheese or Egg Mayo Wrap

Fresh Fruit Salad

Thursday

Spaghetti Bolognaise (beef)

Lentil/Veggie Mince Bolognaise

Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans/Tuna Mayo

Cheese or Tuna Mayo Sandwich

Brownie

Friday

Fish Fingers

Vegetable Goujons

Jacket Potato with Cheese/Beans/Tuna Mayo

Cheese or Ham Wrap

Cookie



Cherry Tree Weekly Attendance Table

The whole school total for this week was 93.6%- it has dropped for the last few weeks—let's get it back up above 96% next half term!

Reception France	78.7%
Reception Spain	80.9%
Year 1 Croatia	95.8%
Year 1 Estonia	95.6%
Year 2 Finland	92.1%
Year 2 Norway	**98.6%**
Year 3 Cyprus	90.5%
Year 3 Jordan	91.6%
Year 4 India	**96.3%**
Year 4 Japan	95.2%
Year 5 Egypt	95.6%
Year 5 Morocco	91.1%
Year 6 Brazil	96.2%
Year 6 Mexico	**96.3%**

Highest in Key Stage 1 was Year 2 Norway

Highest in Key Stage 2 was a tie with Year 4 India and Year 6 Mexico



Dates for your Diary 2026

Monday 26th—Friday 30th October

HALF TERM

Saturday 31st October

YEAR 7 APPLICATIONS CLOSE

Monday 2nd November

INSET DAY—NON PUPIL DAY

Tuesday 3rd November

Return to School

Wednesday 4th November

Happy Days Individual Photos

Reception 2027 Open Evening

Monday 9th November

Reception 2027 applications open

Thursday 12th November

3.30pm PTA AGM—all welcome Main School Hall

Friday 13th November

EYFS dress up as a nursery rhyme character

Thursday 17th December

9.30am Rocksteady concert (for parents of children that are in Rocksteady)

Friday 18th December

Last Day of Term

Monday 4th January

Return to School for Spring Term



smile DENTAL CENTRE

NHS

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Email: whitmorewaydentalcentre@gmail.com



We believe school uniform should be responsibly sourced, affordable and easy to buy.
That means partnering with ethical suppliers, offering great value for families and making the whole process as straightforward as possible, so getting the uniform they need is one less thing to worry about.

Clothing

School Uniform

You can buy uniform with our logo on from My Clothing online as well as the uniform shop.
The link for My Clothing is:

https://myclothing.com

Essex Fire Museum

Halloween Open Day

2026








25th and 27th of October

10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS

Book Now

Free Entry

Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk