

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1, SEPTEMBER 2018



## Message from the Principal

Welcome back to Cherry Orchard and a big welcome to all our new children and families, I look forward to getting to know you all. I hope you all enjoyed a fabulous summer with lots of time for some rest and exciting adventures. It has been a busy start to the year with over double the number of children at Cherry Orchard compared to this time last year. It's great to see a few more of our classrooms in use, more smiley faces to greet each morning and lots more names to learn!

### Car Parking



The car park outside the school is owned by a private company and is not exclusively for school use, it is also for the community centre, shops and health centre that will be coming. Please can we remind you that the car park is **ONE WAY** and that entry is via the top and exit via the bottom of the car park and parking is only permitted in bays marked by the silver spacers. Several near misses, as well as one minor incident, have been witnessed and with the growth of the area we need to all make sure that we apply common sense and courtesy when using the car park to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all. Extra parking, for short periods of time, at drop off and pick up, is available in the surrounding roads. Please only use the marked disabled bays if you are a blue badge holder, as it is against the law to park here unless displaying a blue badge.

If you live locally we would very much appreciate it if you could make your journey to school on foot or bikes. There is a secure bike shelter on the playground where bikes can be stored during the day, however if using this please provide your own lock.

### School Uniform

School uniform is available online from Brigade. We require all children (apart from Nursery) to wear a white shirt, clip on tie and jumper/cardigan with the school logo on. We have had some enquiries as to the price of the jumpers and these are more expensive due to the colour piping and logo. However, shirts, trousers can be purchased relatively cheaply from Asda etc. We have now adopted high speed station names for our houses and going forwards, PE T-shirts and baseball caps should be purchased in your child's house colour (again available from Brigade), there is no need to purchase these now, wait until a new T-shirt is required. Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly named.

Can we remind all that **NO** jewellery, apart from stud earrings, is permitted in school but they will need to be covered or removed for PE (this must be done by the child and micropore to cover the earrings must be provided).

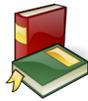
### School Dinners



School meals are provided by Olive Dining and are charged at a cost of £2.30/day. For those in Year R-2 these are provided by the Government as universal free school meals (however, if you think you are eligible for free school meals, even though your child receives universal free school meals, please still apply via <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>, as if you are eligible the school will receive funding which will help with your child's education). Payment for school meals for nursery and year 3 must be made in advance and envelopes for payments are available at reception, either by cash or cheques made payable to Olive Dining. Olive Dining have the right to refuse meals if an account is in arrears.

Winter menus are available on our website or on the noticeboards in the main playground and on the walkway to nursery and reception classes.

## Book Plea



Although our library is up and running and well used by all children in the school we would love to expand it with more books as the school continues to grow. If you have any books, in good condition, that your children no longer want we would be happy to accept them.

Many thanks.

## Snacks

A piece of fruit is provided for snack, from the government, for every child until the end of year 2. From year 3 children need to bring a snack into school and we would encourage that this is a piece of fruit. Children are not allowed sweets, crisps, cake or chocolate for snack. Please could we also remind you of the fact that we operate a **NO NUT** policy due to allergies within the school. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Extended Schools

All clubs for term 1 are now full, with the exception of a few spaces left in rugby and music. Breakfast club and after school provision are proving very popular and are nearly at capacity for term 1. Bookings for term 2 for all extended school activities will open on line the week before half term and will close before the start of the new term (exact dates will be given nearer the time). Unfortunately we cannot guarantee places at any of the extended provisions, especially if requests are made after online booking has closed. Apologies for the delay in invoicing for clubs in term 1, this was due to an IT technical issue which has now been resolved and invoices are due to be issued imminently. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Any enquiries for extended schools should be e mailed to [extendedschools@cherryorchardprimary.org.uk](mailto:extendedschools@cherryorchardprimary.org.uk) and these will be answered as soon as possible, however Miss Bill only works at extended schools from 3.30-5pm daily.

## Holiday Club

We are continuing our attempts to establish a Cherry Orchard Holiday Club provision for working parents but this is very much dependent on receiving sufficient interest from parents in plenty of time to make arrangements with staff and outside provision. Our [October Holiday Club interest form](#) has been on the website for some weeks now but we have only received a couple of completed ones. We have taken on board comments about pricing and we will be looking into this again before official forms are put out. Please contact Miss Bill at extended schools for further information or ring between the hours of 3.30pm and 5pm. Please contact us quickly if you require holiday provision; we will make an announcement on Friday 28th September to allow our working parents to make alternative arrangements if necessary.

## PTA

Thank you to all those parents who managed to make it to the PTA information meetings on Thursday this week; it was lovely to meet some new parents as well as welcome back existing ones. Positive contributions were made by those present and sign-up slips for Committee posts will be available at the office and on the website for those who were not able to attend. The closing date for nominations/sign-up is Monday 1st October and if there is more than one nominee for any post this can be put to a vote. Once we have established a team of volunteers who are interested we will e mail out a list of contact details, having first obtained permission. The work the PTA do is incredibly important to us and it makes a huge difference to the enrichment opportunities your children access and provides a wealth of additional resources to the school that might otherwise not be available. Our thanks to everyone who works on fundraising opportunities for our children.

## Breakfast Drop In

As some of you may be aware, our school hall is open to parents every Thursday morning for coffee and a chat but on the FIRST Thursday of every month we hold a breakfast drop-in session which provides an opportunity to sample Olive Dining's full cooked English breakfast or a lighter option—or just a hot drink and a chat. At each of our breakfast drop-in sessions we try to arrange a guest speak, either from the School itself or outside in the community, to speak on a given topic. The next drop-in session is Thursday October 4th and this will feature Miss Featherstone, our KS1 Lead and Year 1 teacher. Miss Featherstone will address parents on homework and reading books and available to answer any questions you might have in regard to KS1 generally. Please sign up on the Breakfast [Booking form](#) to enable Cook to prepare in advance, by the previous Tuesday.

Look forward to seeing you there!