

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5 - NOVEMBER 2018



Message from the Principal

As the Festive Season fast approaches, we have a busy end of term of Christmas arrangements to look forward to. These are highlighted below but a more detailed letter will be issued shortly. Our new IB curriculum is now being delivered in the classrooms and I am confident this will enhance the children's learning over the next few terms.

Children in Need

A massive thank-you to all parents who helped the children raise funds towards this very worthy cause either by purchasing your Pudsey merchandise from us or by your generous donations to cover our giant Pudsey in coins or purchasing Pudsey biscuits!

Cherry Orchard managed to raise nearly £550 in revenue to send in to the Charity. There are some photos of Spotacular Day on the website!

Messy Craftwork

It would be very helpful and practical if the children could bring in an oversized shirt to cover their very expensive uniforms during times of painting, sticking and other messy arts and crafts.

Any old shirt will do just so it covers jumpers and prevents expensive school jumpers and ties from getting messy.

Parental Concerns

We recognise, from time to time, parents will have concerns or issues with aspects of their child's day, whether it be learning or social. We encourage parents to share their concerns in the first instance with the child's class teacher, as sometimes they may not be aware of the issue.

Teachers operate an open door policy at the end of the day to discuss immediate or quick issues but you can always make an appointment with your child's class teacher via the school office - either by email or telephone.

Once the teacher has been given the opportunity to look into your concern and has put measures in place to address these issues they will feed back to you after an agreed time with any outcome. If you are unsatisfied with the outcome of the situation, you should contact the Academy Family Liaison Officer, Mrs. Williams who will be happy to talk through any issues with you and help if she can.

In some instances, you may feel your concerns have not been addressed sufficiently by either of these avenues and you might feel you wish to speak with the Principal directly. In this circumstance, you can make an appointment via the School Office but please be aware the Principal is often involved with meetings. If after meeting with all three members of the Cherry Orchard staff you are still unhappy with an outcome you can then make an official complaint in writing to The Principal through the School Office or contact The Leigh Academies Trust directly.

Attendance

The aim at Cherry Orchard is that all children achieve at least 95% attendance and arrive at school on time. Where this attendance figure drops below 95% , the Trust's expectation is that a letter of concern will be sent to parents highlighting the attendance figure and asking for this to be addressed. We are sure you will appreciate that regular school attendance is crucial in order to make progress and achieve educational success.

The Academy's Attendance Policy (revised March 2018) confirms that:

- ◆ The Academy may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are very exceptional circumstances.
- ◆ Applications for leave of absence must be made in writing to the Principal of the Academy prior to intended period of absence
- ◆ Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each child and the amount of the penalty will be £120 to be paid within 28 days, reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days. Failure to pay the penalty in full at the end of the 28 day period may result in prosecution by the Attendance Service.
- ◆ The Academy celebrates 100% attendance with a termly certificate and class attendance pup
- ◆ These are the official guidelines of the trust. Please refer to the website for advance [holiday dates](#).
- ◆ You can download a *Parents' Guide to Attendance* and further information on leave during term time [here](#)

Christmas Disco & Sing-a-long

There will be a Christmas Karaoke Disco on Wednesday 12th December from 3:15pm until 4.30pm for Years R—3, to include a visit from Father Christmas and a Christmas selection box. Tickets will be on sale next week for £3, but children already attending the Party Dance and Dance clubs will not need to pay again. This will be followed by a invitation to all parents and children to come in for a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie to join in the Christmas sing-a-long around the COPA Christmas Tree. A small selection of craft stalls will also be in the foyer selling all things Christmassy! *Further details in our Christmas Arrangements letter.*

Pantomime

On **Tuesday 11th December**, the children will be given the the opportunity to watch **The Wizard of Oz in Pantomime** at school.

A contribution of £2.50 per child will include a Christmas Popcorn Cup. More details to follow by separate letter..

Please send Money in a named envelope marked 'Panto'

Further details in our Christmas Arrangements

Key Stage XMAS Productions

As the School expands, Christmas productions will evolve - this year because we only have one Junior class, Year 3 will join with KS1 to support their Christmas Production with Early Years (Reception and Nursery) having their own Winter Production.

In future years, Early Years will have their own production, as will KS1 and the plan will be for KS2 to put on a Christmas Concert once we have an established Year 4.

Funds raised from all concerts and performances will always be used to enrich the children's curriculum or towards the purchase of additional resources. *Further details to follow in a separate letter*

Reminders and dates for your diary

- ◆ Christmas Pantomime 'The Wizard of Oz' in School - Tuesday 11th December
- ◆ Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Productions—Tuesday 11th December
- ◆ Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch : Wednesday 12th December
- ◆ Christmas Karaoke Disco & Christmas Carol Singing Round the Tree on Wednesday 12th December
- ◆ EYFS Christmas Production: Monday 17 December @ 9:00 am and Tuesday 18 December @ 2:15 pm
- ◆ EYFS and KS1/2 Christmas Productions: Monday 17 December @ 2:15 pm and Tuesday 18 December @ 9:00 am