

### *Message from the Executive Principal*

*I have enjoyed spending more time at Cherry Orchard over the last few weeks covering Mrs Forsythe whilst she is unwell. It has been great to get to know the children more and to see them so engaged and happy in their learning. I will continue to share my time between Dartford Primary and Cherry Orchard until Mrs Forsythe's return.*

### *Parents' Survey 2018*

Our Parents' Survey has now closed. We are currently in the process of compiling results and these will be shared with parents in the next few weeks.

Our grateful thanks to those parents who have responded and to those who have kindly added their comments .

Our [Nursery Survey](#) link is open for Parents with children accessing this provision; this will be open until **Friday 18 January** to gather opinions on our Nursery provision. Once the link has closed and information has been analysed, results will be shared with Nursery Parents.

### *Sea Life Centre Trip for Years 1 –3*

Permission Slips for the forthcoming trip on **Thursday 7th February** are due now. No child will be able to attend the Trip without returning a completed permission slip. Please contact the office if you require a duplicate.

Children should wear school uniform on the trip but will also wear their House Colour Caps for identification purposes. In addition, all children will be provided with a yellow hi-vis jacket and a paper identification wristband, with the school telephone number and contact numbers for group leaders on the day.

Children will require a packed lunch - provided either from home or by school if requested. All children in Years 1 & 2 are entitled to universal free school meals so packed lunches can be provided by school, but Olive Dining require notice to ensure numbers are correct. Year 3 parents can also purchase a packed lunch at cost. Slips must be returned to school if lunches are required no later than Monday 28.01.19.

*Contributions towards the cost of this trip are voluntary and no child can be excluded if this contribution is not met. However, if insufficient funds are received, this trip may have to be cancelled. If any parent is experiencing difficulty meeting this contribution, please contact the Family Liaison Officer who may be able to assist. This will be treated in the strictest confidence.*

### *Book Fair 19th to 26th March*

A Book Fair will be held in school during this week giving children and parents opportunities to purchase books for all ages.

Each book purchased will earn commission for the school, which will be used to purchase books for the School Library. Further details will follow.



### *World Book Day – 7th March*

**At Cherry Orchard we will be celebrating everything to do with books!**

Children will take part in a range of book related activities throughout the day. As last year (*but hopefully minus the snow*) children will be able to dress up as their favourite book character - but they should bring in the book in which their character features. Winners from each year group will be chosen for 'best dressed costume'. We especially love seeing homemade costumes. We will send a reminder out about this nearer the time.

### *February Holiday Club*

A quick reminder to parents wishing to book Holiday Club places, our early bird booking offer for 20% discount ends today!

**Friday 18 January.  
Book your place now!**

### *Walk in Wednesdays - 3:15 –3:45*

With effect from 30.01.19, we will be introducing class drop-in sessions on the last Wednesday of every month. This will give your child the opportunity to share their work and show you what they have been learning. Although teachers will be around during this time, should you wish to discuss a specific issue, an appointment through the office should be made in the usual manner.

## Parents' Workshops & drop-in sessions

Parents 'drop in' sessions will now move to the last Wednesday in the month from 08:45 to 9:30 commencing **Wednesday 30th January** and will allow parents to meet various guest speakers from outside the community as well as the class teachers and members of the Leadership Team.

This session will feature Miss Sherress who will address Reception parents on the various aspects of the EYFS Curriculum.

## COpta Elections Nominations

Elections for the 2019 Cherry Orchard Parent Teacher Association (COPTA) will take place this term.

An initial letter will be sent out early next week inviting nominees for the various committee and supporting roles. If these could please be returned to the PTA box at the Office by 30.01.19; nominations requiring a vote will then be distributed by 6.2.19 enabling the new PTA to be established before the end of the Term.

Please contact Louise Pullen or Pat De Ste Croix if you wish to be involved.

## IT Day

During ICT day children programmed their own Sphero to follow an algorithm; explored computers and computing through history; navigated their friends around an obstacle course blindfolded to understand the importance of precise instructions when creating an algorithm; and debugged a set of instructions for making a sandwich in order to create the perfect tasty snack! Fun was had by all!



## Website Information Request to Parents

If you find an anomaly or you believe there is a mistake on the website, please notify the office to give us the opportunity to rectify this at the earliest opportunity

## Family Fitness & Nutrition Workshop

Commencing Tuesday 22nd January and run by The Gr@nd - this workshop is aimed at families and will involve a mixture of 'Can't Sit / Get Fit' exercises and activities aimed at keeping healthy. They will also speak about Nutrition.

This will run for six weeks until March 5th from 3:15 until 4:15

Please come along and join in - siblings and other family members are welcome! A sign up letter will be sent out via your child's class.

## BetterPoints App Reminder

Just to remind Parents about the BetterPoints free phone App that has been launched; once downloaded, this will earn rewards for School and Parents, simply by keeping fit and active. The app tracks walking, running and cycling.

Distances are then converted into points which can be exchanged for retail vouchers or donated to organisations such as schools. Please see [letter](#) for more details.

## Painting Overalls



We have had some response to our appeal for oversized shirts to cover uniforms for arts & crafts.

Please could parents send in any old shirts that can be used for this purpose.

Thank-you!

## Reminders and dates for your diary 2019

- ◆ **Trip to SeaWorld:** Years 1, 2 & 3 only - Thursday 7th February (permission slips required)
- ◆ **Olive Dining American Day:** 17.01.19 (see [Olive Dining Tab](#) for further details)
- ◆ **Walk in Wednesday:** 30.01.19
- ◆ **Golden Afternoon:** Thursday 14th February
- ◆ **End of Term 3:** 14.02.19
- ◆ **INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSED:** 15.02.19
- ◆ **Start of Term 4:** 25.02.19
- ◆ **Parents Consultation Evenings:** 27.02.19 & 28.02.19
- ◆ **Olive Dining St. Patrick's Day:** 17.03.19 (see [Olive Dining](#) for menu)
- ◆ **Book Fayre:** w/b 19 to 26 March. Further details to follow
- ◆ **World Book Day:** Thursday 7th March. Further details to follow
- ◆ **Easter Assembly:** 02.04.18. Parents invited to attend
- ◆ **Olive Dining St. George's Day:** 23rd April (see [Olive Dining](#) for menu)
- ◆ **Provision Dates for Sports Day:** Friday 5th July (AM for EYFS) (PM for KS1/2) Reserve Day 12.07.19

