Friday 25th April 2025

Cherrywood News

Message from Mrs Lewis

Welcome back to our last term of the year. This first half is very short—only 5 weeks long—but as always we are fitting a lot into it. I am in the process of making final confirmations of dates regarding assemblies, workshops etc. so these will be added to the dates page in next week's newsletter.

It has been lovely to see a bit of sunshine although it has been chilly at times. Children are more than welcome to wear their summer school uniform if they wish; we have seen children in smart shorts as well as summer dresses. If you are unsure of expectations regarding summer school uniform please pop in to see Mrs Gabbott who will be able to point you in the right direction.

As always if you have any suggestions of what you would like us to include in our newsletter please do let me know.

Best Wishes

Attendance

These attendance figures are for the last week of the spring term.

Well done to Ash Class!

Hopefully with nice weather and fresh air circulating through the school there will be less germs spreading around.

Let's see if we can get every class with greater than 95% attendance.

Data for 31st March to the 4th April	
Ash	96.07%
Chestnut	91.48%
Elm	93.1%
Larch	92.27%
Oak	94.4%
Pine	88.6%
Sycamore	93.7%

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 28th April—Year 6 (Sycamore) Thinksafe 2025
- 29th April—Drama Workshop at Edgeborough School—invited children—CANCELLED
- 30th April—Farnborough Hill Visit to Year 6 (Sycamore) - Introduction to Empower Event
- 1st May—Year 5 (Pine) Matilda the Musical performance at Farnborough Hill
- 7 May—Year 2 (Elm) Moon Landing Coding Adventure—Online Workshop
- Change of Date—7th May —Information Evening for New Year R Parents—5pm—6.30pm
- 22nd May—Year 2 (Elm) Caterpillar Champions Science Project Day 1
- **Change of Date—23rd May—Reception (Ash) Farm Trip**
- 23rd May—Year 1 (Chestnut) Farm Trip

Half Term Monday 26th—Friday 30th May

- 3rd June—Year 3 (Larch) trip to Hatchlands with Edgeborough School
- 4th June—Year 1 (Chestnut) Manta Ray Expert visiting class
- 5th June—Year 2 (Elm) Caterpillar Champions Science Project Day 2
- **10th June—Class Photos**
- **23rd June INSET DAY**
- 24th June—Year 4 (Oak) Empower Event at Farnborough Hill School
- 26th June—Year 6 (Sycamore) trip to Edgeborough School
- 1st July —Year 2 (Elm) Caterpillar Champions Science Day 3
- 8th July—Raising Aspirations Day

- **22nd July—Last Day of Term—we will be finishing at the normal time but there won't be any afterschool child care. Please get in touch if this causes you difficulties.**

Celebrations —

We are pleased to announce this week's -

	Value Ambassadors	Stars of the Week
Ash Class	Bhaanvi	Klana
Chestnut Class	Kelyn	Jayden
Elm Class	Oliver	Harry
Larch Class	Shanaya	Leah
Oak Class	Yancey	Kristian
Pine Class	Tanashe	Roshni
Sycamore Class	Nothando	Karson

Play Leader Awards — **Key Stage 1**

Georgiana

Our Value Ambassadors—recognised for showing great resilience



Stars of the Week — recognised for their efforts this week



Play Leader Awards for children demonstrating the school values in their play



PE Days Week Commencing 28th April 2025

Ash—Monday

Chestnut—Wednesday & Friday

Elm—Thursday & Friday

Larch—Monday & Wednesday

Oak—Tuesday & Thursday

Pine—Tuesday & Thursday

Sycamore—Tuesday & Thursday

Young Writers & Young Artists

Some pupils from Year 2 and Cherry Blossoms (Cherrywood Afterschool Childcare) wrote poems and drew pictures for Young Writers and Young Artists. Their work has been chosen to be printed in the Young Artists book 'Mythical Madness' and the Young Writers book 'Monster Acrostics—Awesome Creatures'. Well done everyone who took part and who will be published!





Food Waste Recycling—School Council



This week our School Council were speaking to parents about the new UK legislation regarding food waste recycling, which came into effect on 1st April 2025. The legislation states that in Hampshire schools, like other non-domestic premises, food waste must be placed in a specific food waste container and collected separately from general waste bins.

As this is a new initiative please can you speak to your children about the importance of separating their food waste from normal rubbish when they have finished eating their school dinner. We have a specific food waste bin in the hall for the children and they can always ask a lunch time supervisor if they are unsure in which bin to put their waste.



With home packed lunches please can you ask your children to put any wrappers and uneaten food back in their lunchboxes / lunch bags to take home with them.

We will also be having an assembly at school to give the children more information.

Waste Minimisation

Recycling our rubbish is fantastic and means we can save loads of energy and natural materials, but can we do anything else?

Is everything that goes into the bin (whether the recycling bin or the rubbish bin) ready to go into the bin? Could you have used it again? Did you need to buy it in the first place? Waste Minimisation is all about reducing the amount of rubbish we produce and thinking about the things we buy, use and throw away.

There are plenty of ways to minimise waste from choosing waste free products in the supermarket, like loose fruit and veg rather than their pre packed equivalents, to shopping in charity shops or over the internet and buying second hand goods. After all, one person's rubbish can be another's treasure!

Year 5 Astronomy Workshop

Pine class had a stellar time during our astronomy workshop! This included an informative session all about our solar system, where we explored planets, examined stunning space images, and had lively discussions about meteoroids and asteroids: even learning their various names. We also discovered what comets are and created beautiful mosaic artwork using tiles to represent a comet in flight. Sarah, our workshop leader, was so impressed that she said we were one of the best classes she's worked with, for our excellent knowledge of space and astronomy. It was a fun, fact–filled morning full of excitement, learning, and cosmic creativity!











The Nook Revamped!

The last few weeks have been very busy in The Nook. The Nook is a room in school which is used to support children to regulate, for interventions between groups of children and as a general calming space for any child who is finding things a little tricky throughout the school day. One of our parents very kindly offered to help Mrs Hills in this project. They found an amazing charity, Chaotic, that supports families and SEN communities, who donated lots of wonderful items to make this space more inviting and a more sensory appealing place to be. We would like to thank Chaotic and the wonderful parent who has helped us make this happen. The children are already loving the new space!

After



Before









Years 2 to 6 Author Visit

As part of our focus on developing a love for reading, we are excited to tell you that years 2, 3 4, 5 and 6 will be visited by the Author, Isabella Harcourt on **Friday 9th May 2025.**

Isabella has published a series of books about a girl called Flora Stormer, an unusual heroine who always finds herself in the midst of adventure, magic and danger! Like Isabella, Flora also has Tourettes Syndrome. In advance of the visit, children can pre-order 2 books from the series which Isabella will bring and sign on the day. Attached is a poster providing details of the books and you can choose to buy one or both, making payment on Arbor in the 'Trips'.

Advance orders and payment must be received **no later than Friday 2nd May 2025** as there will no opportunity to buy books on the day.

We are really looking forward to welcoming Isabella to Cherrywood!





Books will be available at the discounted price of £7 or both titles for £13.

Books will be signed.

Please pre-order your books by Thursday 1st May via Arbor.



Rosemary Hill Books

Safeguarding—Internet Safety

TikTok

Parent / Carer Advice



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What is TikTok?

TikTok is a social media app where users share short video clips of 15 seconds duration. It started out as an app named 'Musically' and was used to share videos of dancing and lip-syncing to music. Much of the content on TikTok still reflects these origins, but popular videos now also include pets, makeup, magic tricks, fashion, art, people reacting to situations, etc. According to OSA research, TikTok is now as widely used by 11-14 year olds as SnapChat and Instagram.

Safety Tips

- **As with all Internet activity, talk to your child about how they use TikTok and any issues they have encountered.**
- **Discuss whether it would be best to change your child's account to private to avoid interactions with non-friends. If you agree to keep the account public you should discuss strategies for coping with negative feedback and for blocking users.**
- **Help your child to spring clean their account from time to time by removing videos you agree to be inappropriate.**
- **Ensure your child knows not to post videos in their school uniform. Also discuss how recording videos at school might break school rules and what the consequences could be.**
- **The TikTok settings allow you to set a time limit for how long each day you want your child to be able to use the app. This can be password protected to ensure they stick to the limit.**



Reasons for concern

- TikTok has a minimum age rating of 13 and anybody under 18 should have parental permission to use the app. However, new users simply enter a date of birth to indicate their age and there are no verification steps. As such, children of any age can create an account by using a false date of birth.
- New users will be shown a range of video clips the app feels may be of interest. Many of these will quickly expose users to offensive language which will be inappropriate for children.
- The clothing worn and the type of dancing in some videos could be deemed sexualised and therefore something that might be inappropriate for younger users to be exposed to.
- The default privacy settings in the app are concerning. Although only friends can send users direct messages, the videos posted by users can be seen by anybody and anybody can like / comment on the videos. New users are also available for anybody to perform a musical duet with. Such default settings can leave children vulnerable to unwanted communication from others.
- Many children in the UK are posting videos to TikTok where they are wearing their school uniform, making it possible for strangers to identify their location.
- The nature of videos children are posting to TikTok (singing, dancing, etc) can leave them vulnerable to receiving negative comments which can have an impact on mental health.
- The company that owns TikTok is facing legal issues and stands accused of illegally collectirg data on children (when it was Musically) and the app has been deemed a 'potential security risk by the FBI'.

OSA
Online Safety Alliance

www.onlinesafetyalliance.org
Online safety education for school staff, pupils and parents

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CERTIFICATE

OF ACHIEVEMENT

Proudly Present to

Cherrywood Community Primary School

For achieving Bronze level

Stuart Heaton

Stuart Heaton
Managing
Director