

Cherry Class 2024/2025



Hello and welcome to Cherry class,

I am Miss Johnson, and I will be your teacher next year. You are also very lucky to have Mrs Martin and Mrs Mahony as your teaching assistants. As you will be in Cherry class you will also have Honey, our dog mentor, in class with us. In year 5, you will help Honey in different ways, such as reading her a story, teaching her new tricks and walking her.

I am so pleased that we are going to be taking the exciting step from Lower Key Stage two to Upper Key Stage Two together. We have lots to look forward to this year including exciting trips and topics!

PE sessions will take place on a Thursday afternoon so please come to school in our PE kit for this. On a Tuesday afternoon we will have Mrs Martin covering the class. Our class story in Term 1 will be The Arrival by Shaun Tan.

In September, you will receive your new year pack which will include our class timetable, our Term 1 MTP and class letter. It will also include your SeeSaw code – so that you can see all of your amazing work throughout year 5 next year. Please sign up, as we will regularly communicate important information, photos, videos and reminders via SeeSaw.

Have a great summer break and we look forward to seeing you all for the start of the new school year.

Best wishes,

Miss Johnson, Mrs Martin, Mrs Mahony and Honey



Year 5 (Cherry Class) Parent Letter **2024-2025**

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a great summer holiday. Please read the information in the letter below which you may find useful for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Horton Kirby CE Primary School is incredibly passionate about ensuring that our children have opportunities to develop their curiosity through an aspirational and diverse curriculum which has been developed and adapted to meet the needs of all of our children and community. We provide a rich, broad and balanced curriculum that celebrates individuality, diversity and builds procedural knowledge to nurture talent and prepare children for the challenges and rewards of life and the wider world. Our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Reflection are embedded into our curriculum.

Within your 2024-2025 school year pack you will find:

- A key dates letter: A list of the main key dates for the 2024-2025 academic year. The dates and times listed are subject to change and some dates may only be relevant for specific year groups. If any other events or school trips are organised during the course of the school year then you will be informed of these via a letter, Arbor or SeeSaw.
- A long-term plan: This outlines the learning that will take place for your child within every subject for each term across the academic year.
- A medium-term plan (for term 1): This gives a more detailed overview of the lessons that will take place each week for every subject. A medium-term plan will be sent out and posted on Seesaw at the start of each term so that you and your child know exactly what they will be learning about.
- Class timetable: A timetable showing when each subject will be taught throughout the week. Some subjects will be taught every other term. In the case of special events at school, experiences or opportunities for cultural capital (learning opportunities which link to the children's learning) children will be off timetable.
- A Parent SeeSaw QR Code: Seesaw is the main way that I will communicate messages and reminders to parents. Please can **ALL** parents sign up to Cherry class as soon as possible by scanning the QR code and following the steps. SeeSaw is also a great opportunity for children to share their work and learning with you. Once you have signed up, if you do have any questions or need to inform me of anything you can do so by sending a message via SeeSaw. I will aim to reply to you between 8.30-18.00 Monday-Friday. Alternatively, feel free speak to me on the playground after school if needed.

PE Days:

Willow class's PE / Games lessons will take place on a Thursday afternoon. On these days could children please come to school wearing their full PE / Games kit for the day. Children wearing the correct PE kit has greatly improved in recent times and is just as important as wearing the correct school uniform – thank you. To ensure that this continues, children's kit should include:

- A plain t-shirt corresponding to your child's house group.
- Black / blue shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms.
- Trainers.
- A lightweight waterproof top, jacket (weather dependant).
- A plain jumper or hoody corresponding to your child's house group (weather dependant).

If children are wearing the incorrect PE kit a 'correct' school uniform slip may be sent home. If your child is unable to participate or please write a note for that day or send a message via SeeSaw. If this is a long-term reason, a doctor's note would be useful.

Swimming:

Cherry class's swimming sessions will take place in term 1 & 2 on a Monday afternoon at Whiteoak leisure centre on the following dates:

- **Monday 18th November**
- **Monday 25th November**
- **Monday 2nd December**
- **Monday 9th December**
- **Monday 16th December**
- **Monday 13th January**
- **Monday 20th January**
- **Monday 27th January**
- **Monday 3rd February**

Swimming kit will be required on these dates and should be brought in a bag. Swimming kit should include: a swimming costume / shorts, a towel, goggles (optional). Children may bring a hairbrush (if needed). Deodorant / hair products **MUST NOT** be brought in with their kit. If year 6 children are unable to swim 25 metres unaided by the end of these sessions, they may be asked to attend further sessions with other classes – this would be funded by the school.

Cultural capital opportunities (trips):

Cherry class will have the opportunity to take part in the following during their time in year 5/6, these opportunities link to the Year 5/6 Horton Kirby curriculum:

- Playground Structures Investigation (Term 2 Design & Technology – Darenth Heathside)
- Fieldwork Opportunities (Terms 2, 4, 6 Geography)
- World War 2 Trip (Term 3 History - WW2)
- Hindu Temple Visit (Term 5 RE)
- Shakespeare's Globe Theatre Workshop & Tour (Term 5-6 English - Macbeth)

*Children will also have a range of other experiences throughout the year – a full list can be found on the school website: www.hortonkirby.kent.sch.uk/

Homework:

Reading:

Throughout the year, children should choose **reading books** within their accelerated reader ZPD band that they will be reading both in school and at home. This book can be one from school or one that they have at home and would like to read (ideally a book that is on the Accelerated reader). This can be checked on: <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/default.aspx> .

Reading books should come home on a daily basis and children should read each night. As a school, we are always trying to improve parental engagement with reading, therefore where and when possible, we would encourage you to hear your child read aloud. If you do get the chance to do this with your child then please sign and date their reading record with the page that they have read up to each time that they have read. Every time your child reads with an adult they can colour in a star on their reading chart (stuck within their reading record) to work towards a bronze, silver or gold reading award.

When reading with your child, please ask questions about the text and discuss vocabulary with them - this is very useful as is encouraging your child to record new vocabulary with the meaning so that they can use this within their own writing where possible.

Once your child has finished a reading book they should take an 'accelerated reader' quiz about the book they have just read. If your child scores 100% on the quiz their name will go onto the 100% board and they will have the chance of winning a prize at the end of the term. If children are reading larger books, it may be a case that it takes them the entire term to read their book which is fine. All children in year 6 should be aiming to read a minimum of 1 large book per term or at least 3-4 medium sized / smaller books. *Children can take AR quizzes at home by following the following link and using their normal AR login details:* <https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/welcomeportal/2240683>

Homework Folder:

- **Comprehension & Maths** – Year 5/6 homework will be sent home with the children each Friday in their homework folder. Children must complete one comprehension sheet and one Maths sheet per week then self-mark it at home (with a parent) using the answers provided within the folder. Children will need to bring their homework folder into school by Friday each week so that I can check that all homework has been completed and identify any areas of difficulty. Please note that at the start of the school year there may be questions that the children have difficulty with as these skills may not have been covered in class yet – if this is the case children can either attempt it or leave it. Children's homework scores should progressively improve as more objectives are covered within lessons as the year progresses.
- **Spellings** – Spellings will be set each Friday on 'Spelling Shed' and will expire 6 days later. Children should log in using their given username and password (these are stuck into their reading diaries) and practise their spellings at least 5 times each week. They will be quizzed on a selection of these spellings as a dictation task every week.
- **Times Tables Rockstars:** All children must complete a minimum of 5 studio games on TTRS each week. These games will be set each Friday and expire 6 days later. The children's usernames and passwords are stuck in their reading diaries.

**Any homework that is not completed may need completing in school during break time – if there is an issue with your child completing or keeping up to date with their homework then please contact me via SeeSaw or speak to me on the playground after school.*

**Unfinished work within class could be sent home for completion.*

Other information:

- Children do not need to bring pencil cases into school – all equipment that the children need will be provided in school.
- Year 5/6 children walking to or from school are allowed to bring in mobile phones on the days that they are walking. They **MUST** be kept in the office throughout the day.
- Could all children please make sure that they bring a water bottle in with them each day.
- When the weather is wet/cold, could all children please make sure that they have a warm, waterproof coat.

I hope that you have found these notes helpful but please do not hesitate to speak to me should you have any questions or concerns. Before school is always an extremely busy time and I would therefore appreciate questions to be raised after school or via SeeSaw where possible.

Kind regards,
Miss Johnson