# Cherry: Upper School Team Newsletter Autumn 1



#### Key dates

Parent partnership meetings — w/b 25th September Welcome back to Cherry Class. What a glorious week of sun! Such a shame it was so shy during August, hey? There has been a lot of change in Cherry Class this term, welcoming learners from Maple into our Upper School. We are all really excited to get to know one another. However, transitions like this can be difficult for some of our learners so we have a real focus on getting to know one another and developing strategies to help us deal with change. Please use the home / school book to give us any feedback about how your children are doing. I am looking forward to getting to know you too, via our Parent Partnership meetings and during the Annual Reviews.

Best wishes, Rachel and the team —Matt, Kerri, Tatianne, Sarah Jane and Michelle.

#### Maths

Our three core areas of maths are:

- Number
- Measure, Shape and Space
- Data handling

This term our core focus is Number. We will be developing our skills in place value, and recognising and understanding the numbers all around us. All learning is linked to practical life skills. We will also develop our understanding of common measure in real life contexts, including weight, volume & temperature. We will also be data handling, practicing PINS, passwords and telephone numbers.

### English

All of our learners have a reading book that they read regularly with an adult. As usual we are exploring a range of fiction and non fiction texts to support our Love of Reading.

We will also be looking at a range of

We will also be looking at a range of non-fiction texts supporting our Independent Living and Life skills work; exploring recipes, menus and invitations in particular in preparation for opening our Doubletrees Café. We will be setting this up over the next few weeks, experimenting with recipes and menus for staff. Parents / carers, expect your invitations after half term.

#### PSHE / RSE

Our PSHE unit for this half term is **Diver**sity: rights and responsibilities.

We will be developing our knowledge and skills in the following areas:

- Our rights and responsibilities
- Human similarities and differences

This work helps us to appreciate how to appreciate rules and set appropriate boundaries with others.

Topics are always taught sensitively and according to the conceptual understanding and next steps aspirations of our learners.

#### Physical Education

This half term we are developing our skills in yoga to build our core strength & resilience; helping us manage stress and deal with change. We will focus on our bodies: warming up, cooling down and breathing.

#### Outdoor Learning:

Learners will be out and about in our natural working on their horticulture skills and their horticulture skills, nurturing the plants we have growing in the Polytunnel and around school.

#### Expressive Arts:

We will use art, drama and song to support our learning across the curriculum.

**Religious Education**— we are learning about how different religions worship, shared attitudes to forgiveness and some festivals happening this term.

Active Citizenship — Learners play an active role engaging with others and helping out around school. Some will have more formal work experience with the extended school team.



PE is on Tuesday afternoon and Swimming on Wednesday afternoon — please remember to send in suitable PE and swimming kit. We will be changing for PE as an Independent Living life skill. We also need everyone to bring in a full wash kit, as Personal Care is a big part of our curriculum. This will remain in school and used regularly. Furthermore, please top up parent pay with DT / creativity money before Friday 18th. We suggest £5 per learner. We will be using this to practice developing and tasting recipes for our Doubletrees Café.

# **Elm and Cherry**



Rachel Facey Teacher



Matt Nott HLTA



Tatianne Ivgin TA



Kerri Coleman TA



Sarah Jane Walters TA (shared with Elm)



Michelle Bird MDS

#### Class Fund

Thank you to all of you who contribute to our half-termly class fund, this supports us in our Cooking/ Design and Technology and Sensory Exploration lessons. If you are able to contribute please do so through Parent Pay the first / last week of half term. Donations of £5 per half term are much appreciated and help enrich learning.

#### Swimming / PE

Swimming: Wednesday pm / PE: Tuesday pm

Please remember to send in kit. Swimming is dependent on the PH levels of the pool being right and the water clean. When this is not the case we may be able to make use of other time slots.

# Personal Development

Learners continue to develop valuable life skills around personal care, preparing drinks and snacks and looking after the environment through our Active Citizenship provision. They are also encouraged to develop skills in engaging socially with their peers and unfamiliar others.

All learners in Cherry Class are also engaged in weekly outdoor learning and Forest School opportunities.

If there is a skill you would like us to support your child with please let us know via the home school book.

# Personal Learning Goals (PLGs)

PLGs will continue to be developed with our learners this half term with work on these prioritised towards Education, Health and Care Plan outcomes.

For updates, curriculum information and useful contacts, please check our school website and Facebook pages.

www.doubletrees.org.uk