



Elm & Cherry: Post 14 Team Newsletter Autumn 2



Key Events

Mon 5th Dec – St Nicholas Day
Wed 7th Dec – Santa coming to Doubletrees
Thurs 8th Dec – Christmas Fair
Wed 14th Dec Christmas Disco

Welcome back to everyone in Team Elm and Cherry! We hope you have all had a wonderful holiday and are looking forward to the exciting term ahead. This is one of our favourite times of the year as it brings the wonderful seasonal changes from Autumn into Winter, events such as Halloween, Bonfire Night plus other Festivals of Light and then leads up to the special celebrations of Christmas!

The teaching team for Elm and Cherry are as follows. Rachel is the lead for Cherry and Jason the lead for Elm. We also have Jo Conac and Matt Nott working with us. Jo is our Expressive Arts lead and Matt leads on Outdoor Learning. Matt is also working with Cherry Class to deliver Duke of Edinburgh. Cherry Class families will receive more information on this soon. We continue to support Preparation for adulthood with group sessions in our Post 14 flat, learning important life skills related to looking after ourselves, looking after our environment, getting on with others and becoming Active Citizens within our communities.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know via the school book and I will be in touch. Best wishes, Jason and Rachel.

Maths

Our three core areas of maths are:

- Number
- Measure, Shape and Space
- Data handling

This term the focus is Number and Measure. In Number we are working on number systems and calculations and in Measure we will be working on developing skills in money, and time. These are taught according to each learners' Accreditation Pathway.

- Personal Progress ASDAN
- Maths Functional Skills EDEXCEL

English

We are exploring a range of texts to support our *Love of Reading*. We will read and respond to a number of stories from Different Cultures and Religions from around the world. These are linked to our World Topic Germany, and our RE topic about Belonging to Faith Communities.

One of our class chosen stories is the traditional tale of 'The Nutcracker'.

Communication, Reading and Writing skills are taught according to each learners' Accreditation Pathway.

- Personal Progress ASDAN
- Maths Functional Skills EDEXCEL

PSHE / RSE

We continue with learning about Parenthood and human reproduction this half term. We have already explored what makes a good parent and how babies are conceived. This term we will

PSHE: Health and Wellbeing:

- Parenthood
- Different types of families

RSE: Life cycles and changes :

- Fertility
- Protective behaviours

Topics are always taught sensitively and according to the conceptual ability of our learners.

Creative Arts

Jo Conac is working with Cherry Class one day per week. She is our Expressive Arts specialist. Elm and Cherry will work towards a Christmas performance linked to The Nutcracker.

PE

Team games remain a focus this term with a focus on football. We will also continue to develop swimming skills through our weekly sessions.

Outdoor Learning:

We will be harvesting the crops we planted in the Spring (tomatoes, apples etc..) and later in the half term preparing the ground for next year's crops.

RE — This half term we are developing skills related to *Belonging to a Religious Community*.

We will look at several of the Festive Religious events and celebrations that occur at this time of year including Diwali. We will be learning about belonging to the community on the Isle of Iona and the celebration of St Nicholas Day in Germany.

Active Citizenship — All of our learners will have opportunities to engage in Active Citizenship learning, across the school, and / or within Post 14. For some this will come in the form of Work Experience with a variety of school staff.

Swimming is on Monday afternoon and PE on Thursday afternoon — please remember to send in suitable swimming and PE kit/clothing. Please read, sign and return any documents sent home and return them to school in a timely fashion. These documents are vital to the support of your children.

Please top up parent pay with DT / creativity money before Friday 18th. We suggest £5 per learner.



Elm and Cherry



**Rachel
Facey**
Teacher



**Jason
Toy**
Teacher



**Matt
Nott**
HLTA



Jo Conac
Teacher



Chloe James
TA



Zoie Beck
TA



Tumi Kidane
TA



Hannah Toms TA



Gerry Humphries TA



Jo Bolitho MDS



Donna Rogers 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 are much appreciated and help enrich learning.

Swimming / PE

Swimming: Monday pm / PE: Thursday 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. A kit that can be left in school and sent home when used is use-

Life Skills and Independent Living

Learners have daily sessions in The Flat developing their personal skills in a whole range of areas linked to Preparing for Adulthood. This includes personal care, making drinks, preparing simple hot and cold snacks and maintaining the flat environment and getting on with their peers. During the term the majority of our learners also have the opportunity to share a meal with their peers; setting the table, serving each other and clearing away. 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, information and useful contacts, please check our school website and Facebook pages.

www.doubletrees.org.uk