



4th September 2026

Newsletter No 1

Message from Mr Bullivant

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and were able to enjoy some quality time with family and friends. It has been absolutely fantastic to welcome everyone back to school this week, and I have been incredibly proud of how well the children have settled into the new academic year.

Our first week has focused on establishing routines, revisiting our expectations and giving children the opportunity to get to know their new teachers and classrooms. Our Expectations Week has been a great success, and it has been lovely to see children demonstrating our school rules of Be Safe, Be Ready and Be Respectful throughout the week.

A very warm welcome also goes to all of the new families who have joined our Cherry Tree community this week. We are delighted to have you with us and hope that you already feel part of our school family. A particularly special welcome goes to our new EYFS children, who have had their first exciting week at Cherry Tree. Starting school is such a big milestone, and I have been incredibly impressed with how confidently they have settled into their new surroundings. They have already begun developing friendships, exploring their classrooms and getting to know the adults who will be supporting them throughout their first year at school.

Although it has only been our first week back, it has certainly been a busy one, with lots of exciting learning taking place across the school. It has been wonderful to see children getting stuck into their new topics and learning through practical, creative and collaborative activities.

Using the story of *The Three Little Pigs*, our Year 1 pupils have been investigating the properties of different materials and testing their ideas by building houses using straw and sticks. It has been fantastic to see them making predictions, working together and thinking carefully about which materials would make the strongest structures.

Elsewhere in the school, children have been developing their teamwork and problem-solving skills through a range of challenges. Some pupils have been working together to design and build bridges. There have been some very creative ideas, but more importantly, it has been lovely to see children listening to one another, sharing ideas and persevering.

There has also been plenty of creativity in our classrooms as children have begun exploring their new topics. Our Year 5 pupils have made a fantastic start to their Science learning about Space and our Solar System, creating their own paintings of the planets. Their work has already brought plenty of colour into the classroom and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and curiosity for the topic.

It has been a wonderful first week, and I am already looking forward to everything that the new academic year will bring. There is lots to be excited about at Cherry Tree Academy, and I am confident that we are going to have another fantastic year together.

Warm regards,

Mr Bullivant

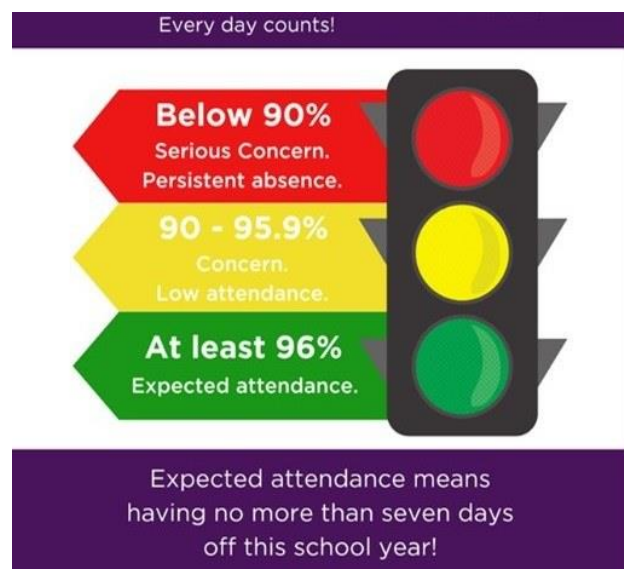
Attendance Matters

Good attendance is essential for children to make the most of their learning and to fully take part in all the experiences school has to offer. Every day in school really does count, and even small amounts of absence can quickly add up to lost learning time.

To help raise the profile of good attendance across the school, we have recently launched an exciting new initiative called **Attendopoly**. Each week, the three classes with the best attendance — particularly those achieving or exceeding our school target of **96%** — earn the opportunity to roll the dice during our **Celebration Assembly**.

Where they land on the board could lead to a range of exciting prizes for the class, making attendance something we can all celebrate together. - last week Year 4 enjoyed hot chocolate with Miss Symonds!

We look forward to seeing which classes make it onto the Attendopoly board next week. Thank you, as always, for your support in ensuring children arrive at school every day, on time, ready to learn.



Attendance figures back next week.

Autumn Term 2026 Dates - coming soon

Achievements Outside of School

We are keen to celebrate the children's achievements outside of school and would love to hear from you if your child has taken part in something special they enjoy. Please send a brief description and a photo if you wish, of your child's achievement to be included in the newsletter.

We are all incredibly proud of Ella-Rose in year 3 who has recently had 12 and a half inches of her hair cut off so that she can donate it to help children with cancer. She is incredibly proud of what she has done as she should be and looks absolutely amazing with her new shorter hair!



Special Award for Writing - back next week!

Times Tables Rock Stars & Numbots Challenge - back next week!



We are trying to increase engagement of the pupils with the excellent Numbots and TTRS programmes.

We will be handing out a certificate for the child, in each class, who has engaged the most with their class TTRS/Numbots on a weekly basis.

Please encourage your child to play at home.

Useful Info

Autism Anglia

We'd like to highlight Autism Anglia's Community Connect — a *free* support service specifically for children with neurodiverse needs and their families.

! No diagnosis needed ! Support available even if your child is just *on a pathway* or you're exploring possible neurodiversity

They can help with: 🌟 Autism-related questions or concerns 🌟 Communication and social interaction 🌟 Emotional regulation 🌟 Sensory needs 🌟 Anxiety or behaviour linked to neurodiversity

Find out more here:  <https://www.autism-anglia.org.uk/our-services/community-connect/>

If you're unsure if this service is for you and you'd like some advice, don't hesitate to ask.

Mrs Donnelly

Cherry Tree Foodbank

At Cherry Tree, we understand that life can sometimes bring unexpected challenges, and there may be times when a little extra support with food is needed. That's why we're launching the **Cherry Tree Foodbank** — a resource available to all our families whenever it's needed.

To help us keep the foodbank stocked, we welcome donations of **long-life food items**, including:

- Cereals
- Long life milk
- Tinned potatoes
- Pasta and rice
- Sauces
- Tinned vegetables
- Baked beans
- Tinned pies
- Tuna and other canned goods

Every contribution, big or small, makes a real difference.

If you'd like support, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can call, email, or drop by to speak with me directly. I'll be happy to put together a food hamper for you, and I can also provide food bank vouchers if needed.

Together, we can support one another and make sure no family goes without.

Warm regards,

Miss Symonds

Communication with school.

When trying to communicate with members of staff at Cherry Tree, please bear in mind that they are working extremely hard with the children.

We aim to acknowledge all parent communication within 48 hours - this includes phone calls and emails.