



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 34- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Message from Mr Appleton:

Welcome back to school everyone and Happy New Year! I hope that during the break, you made the most of the opportunities to rest, enjoyed each other's company and dare I say it? Ate lots!

As we head into the New Year, I would like to thank you all for your commitment in supporting your child with reading, homework, attendance behaviour and uniform. The Autumn term saw an improvement in all of these areas across the school, and it is with optimism that I look forward to the Spring.

2026 is the National Year of Reading, and we will be getting involved in this throughout the year. Reading isn't just a hobby. It's linked to a range of benefits including stronger writing skills, improved wellbeing and confidence, and even higher future earnings, with new data showing those proficient in reading and writing in primary school earn £65,000 more over their lifetime. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) to keep up to date with what your children are up to!

I want to thank many of you who signed up to the [Smartphone Free Childhood Pact](#). The Smartphone Free Childhood Parent Pact is a way for parents to band together to agree to delay giving their child a smartphone until at least 14 and social media until 16. It's all about strength in numbers – if your child knows that others in their class won't be getting a smartphone for a few years either, the peer pressure instantly dissolves. It takes 30 seconds to sign the Parent Pact, and the more who do, the quicker we'll change the social norm. 'Child-friendly' phones are available [here](#).

And finally, places are filling up fast for Reception (September 2026). If you know anyone who has not yet applied, please encourage them to do so by clicking [here](#). The closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> January.

Likewise, if you know of anyone who needs a Nursery Place for September 2026, they can find out how to apply by e-mailing us at [admin@cherrytreehill.odysseyct.org.uk](mailto:admin@cherrytreehill.odysseyct.org.uk)

Wishing you all a fantastic start to 2026!



## A Note about Fidget Toys:

We kindly ask that children do not bring fidget toys into school unless this has been specifically agreed with our Inclusion Team. This helps us ensure that these items are used appropriately and prevents them from getting lost or causing distractions in class. Thank you for your support in keeping our learning environment focused and calm.

## Online Safety Support #wakeupwednesday:

Please [click here](#) for this week's online safety advice and guidance poster for parents/carers about essential online safety.

## Things to do outside school:

Please [click here](#) to take a look at our things to do outside of school page, we keep this up to date please take a look to find out what clubs are going on in the local area over the Christmas Holidays.

## Support for Parents:

Please [click here](#) to our support for parents page. This gets updated regularly with different free parenting clinics , online safety advise and articles to support you.



## Lots for Tots Award:

We have been nominated for a Lots for Tots award in the category Primary Age Education Provider of the Year.

Please vote for Cherry Tree by clicking [here](#).

Voting closes on 21<sup>st</sup> January! Thank you in advance for your support.

## After School Clubs this term:

We have lots of After School Clubs starting after the Christmas Holidays.

### Mondays:

Street Dance with RLDA (Years 1-6)

Spaghetti Maths (Years 1-6)

### Tuesdays:

Thai Kickboxing and Muai Thai (Years 1- 6)

### Wednesdays:

Jam Coding Stop Animation (Years 1-6)

### Thursdays:

Craft Club (Years 2-6)

Jam Coding Cartoon Coding (Years 1- 6)

### Friday:

Jam Coding Games Design (Years 1-6)

Please [click here](#) for more information and the links to book.



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