



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 42- Friday 13th March 2026

Message from Mr Appleton- Red/Blue:

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may have heard about a recent "red vs blue" trend being shared on social media. Some posts online suggest that children should "pick a side" or attend meet-ups after school. We know this has raised questions for a few families, so we wanted to offer some clear reassurance.

There is no organised event linked to these posts, and we are not seeing any problems in school. Local authorities are aware of the online activity and are keeping an eye on it, but there is little evidence of anything serious or planned. Like many online fads, this trend seems to have started with anonymous accounts posting rumours or screenshots. These kinds of things can spread quickly on apps such as TikTok, Instagram or Snapchat, which can make them seem bigger or more important than they really are. Older children and teenagers can sometimes feel pressure to join in because they believe others are doing so — even when that isn't the case.

Schools across the region are simply reminding parents to be aware of:

- rumours spreading quickly between children
- group chats encouraging children to copy online behaviour
- the idea of meet-ups happening outside school without adult supervision
- children sharing or seeing upsetting or dramatic content online

Again, we want to reassure you that we are not expecting any disruption in school.

A calm chat can go a long way. You might like to:

ask your child what they've seen or heard
reassure them that much of what appears online isn't real
remind them that they should never go anywhere after school without an adult
encourage them to talk to you or a trusted adult if something online worries them

Keeping to normal routines

The best way to help children feel safe and settled is through calm, predictable routines. Simple things like getting uniform ready the night before, following usual routes to school and keeping to daily habits all help children feel grounded. Wearing the correct school uniform each day also helps reinforce a sense of belonging and provides structure — especially when online trends may feel confusing or dramatic to younger children.

Thank you for your continued support. These online trends can feel dramatic in the moment, especially when they spread quickly, but they often disappear just as fast. By staying calm, keeping routines steady and talking openly with our children, we can help them feel safe, confident and focused on the things that really matter.

Mr Appleton.

Message from Mr Appleton:

Miss Barber's Upcoming Maternity Leave

We would like to let you know that Miss Barber will begin her maternity leave on 24th April, which will be her final day in school. I am sure you will join us in wishing her all the very best as she prepares for this exciting new chapter.

Parents' Evening will take place before Miss Barber's leave begins. This will give you the opportunity to discuss your child's progress directly with her. Following this, Miss Barber will be passing on detailed notes and information to the new teachers to ensure a smooth and well-informed handover. From 24th April, the Squirrels class will be taught by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Hopkins.

Mrs Thomas, who many families already know, will be returning from her own maternity leave. She is an experienced and highly regarded teacher, and we are delighted to welcome her back to a Year Group she knows very well.

Mrs Hopkins will be sharing her time between her current Year 2 class (Rabbits) and Squirrels, bringing her skill, consistency, and warm relationships to both groups.

We are very fortunate to have such experienced teachers working with the Squirrels, and we are confident that the children will continue to thrive.

Good luck Miss Barber with your new adventure!



Things to do outside school:

Please [click here](#) to see our things to do outside school page. We have started to add posters for clubs and activities going ahead in the Easter Holidays.

Support for Parents:

Please [click here](#) for our Support for Parents page. You may also find our SEND Padlet useful please [click here](#) to view.

Parents Evening- Next Week!:

Parents evening is taking place on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th March for all children from Nursery to Year 5. Pumas class Parents Evenings is Wednesday 18th.

There are still parents who have not yet booked. Please use the below link to book or call the office if you need any help.

Please [click here](#) to access the parent guide, this will show you how to book an appointment, it also contains the booking link which you will find right at the top of the page.

Menu W/C 16th March:

The menu for W/C 16th March is Week 3. Please [click here](#) to view.

Online Safety Support #wakeupwednesday:

Please [click here](#) for this week's online safety advice and guidance poster with what parents need to know Fostering a sense of belonging.

Air Ambulance- Go Yellow Together Day :

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Go Yellow Together Day for Air Ambulance we raised an incredible £527.52!

Lollipops in school:

Lots of children love to bring in sweets and treats for their classmates on their birthdays which is great. Please can we remind parents not to include lollipops, this is school policy due to the choking risk they can cause.

Upcoming Dates at Cherry Tree Hill:

Wednesday 18th March: Parents Evening

Thursday 19th March: Parents Evening

Friday 20th March: Red Nose Day- Non Uniform (£1 Donation)

Tuesday 24th March: Coffee Morning -Compass Changing Lives

Friday 27th March: Easter Bonnet Parade

Please [click here](#) for the diary dates for the rest of this year.



Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is Back- Starting Monday!

We have some exciting news for you! We are taking part in the 16th year celebration of Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 16th to 27th March. It's free to take part and we would love everyone to be involved. At Cherry Tree Hill, we will be taking part each day, during the two weeks. We'd love to get a clear picture of how our children journey to school.

What do you need to do?

Encourage your child(ren) to walk, use a wheelchair, scoot or cycle to school during these days. If you drive to school, could you walk on these days or park a little further away from school so that you could include a walk too? Please park respectfully.

Including everyone

We want to make sure that everyone can get involved in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel.

We know there may be things which make it more difficult for some pupils to take part than others. If you want to discuss more about your child(ren)'s specific needs, please contact Mr Banks and we will make sure that there is a way for your child to take part.

Why we are taking part

Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing.

Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. A 2021 YouGov study showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school. And that children thought active travel was the best way to bring down these pollution levels.

Plus there are some great prizes to be won every day if we get enough children taking part!

Useful resources To help you prepare, Walk Wheel Cycle Trust has developed a handy Parent/ Caregiver page on the challenge website. It is packed with advice to help you have a hassle-free journey to school. For more information about the event go to www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk.

Cycling Ideas for Big Walk and Wheel!

Dear Parents,

With the Big Walk and Wheel event coming up, (16th to 27th March) we hope that many of you may be thinking about how to encourage your children to cycle, scoot, skate or walk more during those two weeks. Obviously, anything that you can do along these lines will help the environment, help us all to be more physically active and assist our local community.

In order to help you do this, Cycle Derby have provided us with some maps and an electronic link to these maps, which highlight the safer cycle routes around our school and in Derby. Please do have a look at these, to help you to participate on the safest routes to school. <https://www.cyclederby.co.uk/pages/cycle-routes-maps> If you would like a paper copy of the map (we have been gifted a box of maps by Cycle Derby) then please collect one from our School Office.

Thank you for supporting our school in taking part.

Mr Banks



**PLACES
AVAILABLE
SEPT 2026**



CHERRY TREE HILL PRIMARY NURSERY

Discover a world of wonder and learning at our award nominated Nursery setting in Chaddesden!

- Flexible hours for three and four year olds
- Kids club on site from 7.30 - 18.00
- Excellent transition to Reception
- Active learning, both inside and outside
- Dedicated and skilled staff

COMPLETE AN INTEREST FORM ON OUR
WEBSITE:
WWW.CHERRYTREEHILLPRIMARY.CO.UK



Cherry Tree Hill Primary School
01332 673520



Apply to our Nursery now:

Please [click here](#) to complete a Nursery Interest form or pop into the office and we can print one off for you.

Coffee Morning with Compass Changing Lives:

We are excited to invite you to our Coffee Morning with Compass Changing lives on Tuesday 24th March, please see the poster below for full details.



PARENT/CARER COFFEE MORNING

with **Compass Changing Lives - Mental Health
Support Team**

Pop in for a cuppa & refreshments with us, learn about what support Compass can offer you as parents/carers and your children.



**Taking place at:
Cherry Tree Hill
Primary School**

**Tuesday 24th
March 2026
09:00am -
10:00am**



☎ 01332 315569
✉ changinglives@compass-uk.org
📱 @compassclmhst



t: 01332 673520

e: admin@cherrytreehill.odysseyct.org.uk

w: <https://www.cherrytreehillprimary.co.uk/>

