



Curriculum Newsletter

Spring 2024

Year
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Welcome to a new school term at Cherry Orchard Primary School. We are very excited to share with you what your child will be learning at school this term. If you have any questions or would like additional information please do not hesitate to contact us. office-CO@riverscofe.co.uk



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Spring Term topics – ‘Healthy Heroes’ and ‘Roots, Shoots and Muddy Boots!’ We will be learning through a play-based curriculum. We call Continuous Provision activities COOL time – Choosing Our Own Learning.




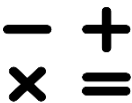




If you, or a family member, works as a doctor, nurse, dentist (aka one of our healthy heroes!) and would be willing to come and chat to us about keeping healthy please get in touch!







- Websites to help your child:**
www.phonicsplay.co.uk - click on 'free' and select phase 2 games
<http://www.primaryresources.co.uk>
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk>
[Home - BBC Bitesize](#)
[Oxford Owl for School and Home](#) - Read Write Inc ebooks available
[Parents - Ruth Miskin Literacy](#) – Read Write Inc information for parents
<http://ictgames.com>
White Rose Maths - 1 Minute Maths app (free to download)



Communication and Language

We will be using an exploratory approach led by ‘big questions’ to help us embed our thinking about our health and the health of others. We will be understanding ‘why’ questions and learn to express a point of view and debate when we disagree with an adult or friend using words as well as actions. From this we will develop our knowledge and understanding and be able to articulate how we can keep our bodies healthy in practical ways that impact upon our future health. We will also be discussing where our food comes from and what jobs need to be done on different farms.

	Physical Development		We will be exploring the importance of physical exercise and the role this plays in keeping us fit and healthy. We will be looking closely at the effect exercise has on our body. We will be continuing to develop our small motor skills so we can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. We will also be developing and refining our gross motor skills through building obstacle courses, yoga and using our wheely bikes. We will be developing our dance and ball skills in PE lessons.
	Personal, Social, Emotional Development		We will be exploring mindfulness and discussing ways to help our mental wellbeing through mindfulness sessions. We will be learning about our different emotions and to help us know that how we feel is important. We will be learning how to make choices about food, drink, activity and toothbrushing to help us understand, and talk about, the different factors that support our overall health and wellbeing. We will also be following the Jigsaw mindful approach to Personal, Social and Health Education. 'Dreams and Goals' and 'Healthy Me.' Please see PSHE including Relationship and Sex Education Cherry Orchard Primary School (cherryorchard-pri.worcs.sch.uk) for further information.
	Literacy	<p><u>Please read with your child every night.</u></p> <p><u>RWI books should be returned in the wallets on a Thursday.</u></p> <p><u>Thank you!</u></p>	We are starting with the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' to introduce the concept of healthy and unhealthy foods. We will use our knowledge of story maps and storytelling to help retell the story through our play and help develop our comprehension linked to the text. We will also look at other texts including 'Handa's Surprise' and 'Oliver's Vegetables' to explore a variety of produce and where our food comes from. After half term we will focus on life down on the farm using books such as 'Farmer Duck' and 'The Scarecrow's Wedding.' We will continue to learn our sounds through the Read, Write, Inc approach to Phonics, blending these sounds to read words and sentences fluently. We will be using our phonic knowledge to help us write labels, captions and sentences.
	Maths		This term we will be embedding our knowledge of numbers, looking at composition and comparison. We will explore equal and unequal groups and continue to embed our subitising skills - looking at a set and knowing how many there are straight away without counting! We will also be looking at capacity through measuring, exploring full and empty and measuring ingredients.
	Understanding the World	Science	We will be learning about where our food comes from and looking at how fruits and vegetables grow. We will be experimenting with growing seeds in different conditions and understanding how to care and nurture growing plants. We will learn about life on a farm, particularly what happens in Spring time, and exploring the lifecycles of both plants and animals.
		History	When we learn about keeping our minds and bodies healthy we will be looking at the history of mindfulness and how different cultures value its importance. We will also be looking at farming in the past and comparing it to the present.
		Geography	We will be exploring different cultures through our text 'Handa's Surprise'. We will be learning about life in Africa and looking at different environments to make comparisons to our own. Towards Easter time we will have fun answering the question 'Does chocolate grow on trees?'
		RE	We will be looking at special places and special books. We will explore stories from different religions and discuss why these are special to people. We will discuss what we can learn from these stories. We will learn about the first Easter and why it is important to Christians.

	Expressive arts and design	Design Technology	As we explore healthy eating we will get the opportunity to try new and different fruits and vegetables. We will design and make our own fruit salad using the fruit we have learnt about, and a variety of tools. We will be using a variety of construction kits to 'plan, design and make' alongside our themes.
		Art	We will be learning to create collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills. During the term we will have the opportunity to try printing with fruit and vegetables, designing and creating collages, making pictures using dried food and creating observational drawings of fruit. We will also look at African art.
		Music	We will continue our knowledge and enjoyment of singing Nursery Rhymes. We will also explore different types of music and the effect it has on our wellbeing and emotions. We will be learning to listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing our feelings and responses. We will also compose our own music using percussion instruments and have fun playing the African drums!
	Computing		We will continue to build up our confidence when using technology. We will use this within our provision to enrich our curriculum through online learning, games and iPad programmes. We will also explore algorithms by using Beebots.
	Forest School <u>Please remember to send in Forest School kit in each Tuesday.</u>		We will continue to go to Forest School every week on a Tuesday where we will be observing signs of Winter and Spring as the seasons change. We will also be visiting our pond area. Most of us worked really hard to become independent with putting our Forest School clothing on; please help us continue this by practising at home. Now the weather is colder please ensure there is warm as well as waterproof clothing in your child's Forest School bag. We do get quite muddy at times so please check kits are clean before sending them in the next week!
	Diary Dates		Friday Feb 23 rd – visit to Little Owl Farm Park – please pay via Parentpay and order a free packed lunch through Dolce. Parents Evenings – March 20 th and 21 st .