



#happychildrenlearn

#happystaffthrive

#happypeoplebuildacomunity

OCT 2024

WELCOME

As we draw to the end of the half term, I am very proud to share the exciting news that Cherry Tree School and the Watford Salvation Army have won a prestigious national award for their community allotment project. The Church Times Green Church Awards, supported by major organisations including the Church of England and Methodist Church, recognise outstanding environmental initiatives across the UK and Ireland. Cherry Tree, working alongside Watford Salvation Army, won the Congregation and Community Action category.

The judges particularly praised how our project:

- Provides weekly outdoor learning for over 120 Cherry Tree pupils
- Offers valuable green space access for local families living in flats
- Supports children with additional needs through practical gardening activities
- Uses creative eco-friendly approaches, including recycled materials for planters and a repurposed bathtub as a pond
- Delivers hands-on learning about growing food and caring for nature

This recognition reflects the hard work of our pupils, staff and partners at Watford Salvation Army, who have together created something truly special for our community. Well done to everyone involved - it is an amazing achievement.

In other horticultural news, congratulations to Miss Mortlock and Hugo and Hope, winners of our Trust Sunflower Competition. Thank you to everyone who entered, it was lovely seeing the care and effort you put into nurturing your flowers!

As you know, sustainability is hugely important to our children and staff. I am excited to share that next half term, our Trust Sustainability Team will host their first eco summit, focusing on water usage in our schools and across Watford. Keep an eye out for more information about this exciting initiative.

Have a peaceful and restful half term break - I look forward to seeing you all when we return.

James Roach
@CEOInclusiveMAT



Tweet of the Month





@BFS_Watford @Headbeechfield

HELLO YELLOW DAY!

What a lovely start to the day for our staff on World Mental Health day on 10th October - lovely breakfast treats!

Everyone got involved in school for Hello Yellow day; talking about the very important topic that is Mental Health. Lovely to see all staff dressed in various tones of yellow and children wearing the most amazing yellow accessories.

KS1 presented an assembly for Hello Yellow Day. Mrs Shaw led a wonderful discussion about our "network hand" and the people we trust. The children shared and talked about the important people on their network hand and those they can turn to for support.



SEASONAL ARTWORK

Thank you Clarke in Y3 for this lovely picture of all the seasons at Beechfield.



TEAM PLAYERS

In PSHE Y2 explored qualities that make a good team player - listening, working together and making decisions as a group. Children then got to working in teams to achieve their goal of making a collage. What brilliant team work and what fantastic collages!



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Thank you to all of the parents who walked with us to our harvest celebration and who came to watch the children at the Church. It is always such a wonderful end to the half term. It's lovely for our community to come together and celebrate our values of being kind, working hard and loving learning.

Thank you also for the food donations which will be collected by Watford Foodbank. We know times are hard and appreciate the kindness of our families thinking of others.



**Be Kind, Work Hard,
Love Learning**



@CTS_Watford @Headcherrytree

NEWS FROM THE ALLOTMENT

We have so many exciting things to report from the allotment this month. The Watford Salvation Army allotment project is the proud recipient of the 2024 Church Times award for their work in the local community.

Year 3 and 4 also had an incredibly special Harvest celebration at the allotment, enjoying some delicious homegrown pumpkin soup and apple pie. Afterwards, the children counted their blessings and shared them with each other. A was a wonderful morning.



DLD AWARENESS DAY

On Friday, 18th October, staff at Cherry Tree raised awareness of Developmental Language Disorder (DLD).

DLD affects about 2 children in every average UK classroom and is diagnosed by speech and language therapists. Many people are unaware of its prevalence.



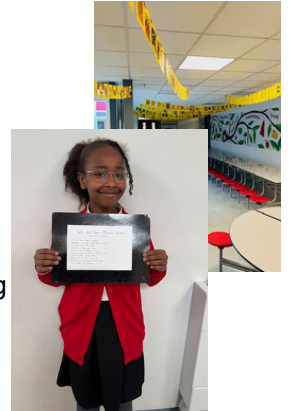
Staff showed their support by wearing purple and yellow, the official colours of DLD. We shared a video titled, [Lily Farrington's Amazing Developmental Language Disorder Animation](#) to educate students about DLD and its effects - please do click the link yourself to learn more about this condition.

Classes also participated in activities to encourage discussions about communication. This initiative aims to create a more inclusive environment for all students.

Thank you for supporting awareness in our school community!

HELLO YELLOW

On 10th October, we celebrated Hello Yellow Day for World Mental Health Day 2024, emphasising that students are not alone in their mental health journeys. Students wore yellow or bright colours to promote hope and positivity. The morning included regular lessons, while the afternoon featured special activities focused on mental health. Some of our students even produced amazing work in their own time, such as Talia, who wrote a beautiful poem - thank you for sharing this with us, Talia.



A highlight was creating yellow bunting with positive affirmations, fostering creativity and important discussions to build emotional resilience which are now displayed in our dining hall for all to see!

**Learning together, learning
for life!**



LAURANCE HAINES
SCHOOL



@LHS_Watford @HeadLHS

BILINGUAL SUCCESS

We were honoured to be filmed by the Bell Foundation last week!

Filming took place as a best practise for bilingual provision using the foundation's great ideas for EAL learners.

We can't wait to see the footage!



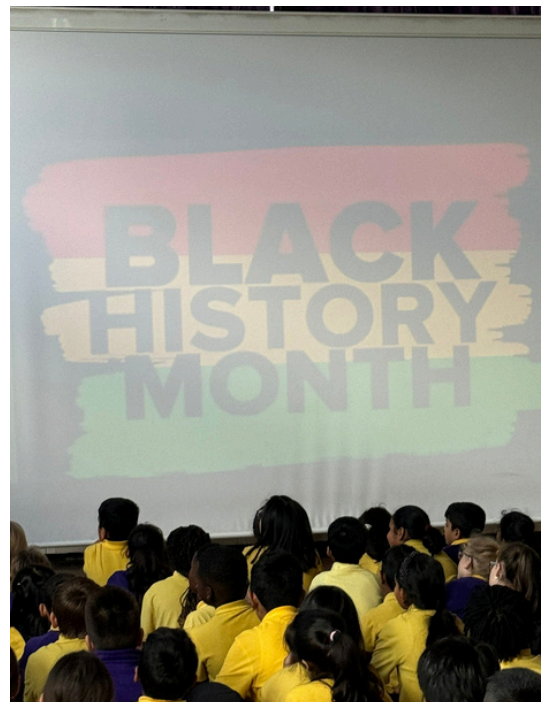
GUINNESS WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT

This month our Key Stage 2 students took part in a Guinness World Record attempt for the title of Largest Poetry Lesson (multiple venues) for National Poetry Day. The children had a fantastic time co-writing a poem alongside poet Laura Mucha and other schools nationally. Good luck on the record attempt!



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

As part of Black History Month, our local race hate crime officer PC Murphy came to school to give our Key Stage 2 students an informative assembly on why we celebrate Black History Month and the importance of doing so.



"You see me. You hear me. I belong"