

FEDERATION NEWS

Autumn Term 1 2022

Peter Pan & Cherry Trees Nursery Schools



Dear Parents

Throughout the first half term of the new school year, it has been wonderful to see the children at both Nursery Schools settling into the routines and engaged in their learning with such enthusiasm and energy. It has been a pleasure to greet you all at the gates and I hope that I have managed to speak to you all throughout the term. Suzie, the Deputy Head Teacher, or myself are always at Peter Pan or Cherry Trees so please ask to speak to us if you need to.

This term we focus on settling in to nursery. For a lot of the children this is the first time that they will have been away from their home environment without you. It can take time, so please do not worry if your child seems to take a little longer to settle than some of the others. It is perfectly natural and considering that families have been through a global pandemic, extremely understandable.

We are looking forward to being able to invite parents back into school for concerts and celebrations this year and the dates of the Autumn celebrations are included in this newsletter.

I hope your time with us at Bedford Nursery Schools is a happy one, but please do come and talk to me if you have any concerns.

Julie Smith
Executive Head Teacher

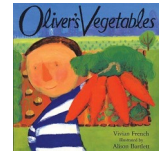
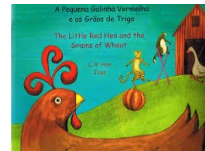
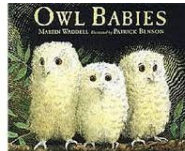


Our learning this term

To support the settling process we read the following books: 'Owl Babies', 'Ravi's Roar' and 'Ruby's Worry'. These books focus on feelings and sometimes when we don't know the words to use we can show how we are feeling in different ways. The story of 'Owl Babies' is about relationships and being part of a family, giving the message that Mummy or Daddy always comes to collect us from Nursery.

As we learn about Harvest time we will read 'Oliver's Vegetables', 'The Enormous Turnip' and 'The Little Red Hen'. The Little Red Hen highlights the importance of helping each other and being kind. We will be making some bread rolls and using a pestle and mortar. We have started to go for Autumn walks in the garden, encouraging the children to notice and comment on what they see. The Enormous Turnip allows us to explore the concepts of pushing and pulling as the children work together as a team. We will also read 'Oliver's Vegetables' and cook the vegetables to try at Nursery.

If any parents or grandparents are keen gardeners or have an allotment, and are able to spare a few hours to help us with our gardens, please let us know as we would really like to develop the children's learning using your knowledge and expertise.



If you would like more information about our curriculum at Bedford Nursery Schools please visit the curriculum page on our website, where you will find the details of the Early Years Foundation Stage and how we support your child's education and development.

[Peter Pan](#)

[Cherry Trees](#)

We are also planning to hold some parent information sessions about the curriculum and how you can support your child at home.....more details to follow.

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 1:	7th September to 21st October 2022
HALF TERM HOLIDAY:	24th October to 28th October 2022
Autumn Term 2:	31st October to 16th December 2022
Spring Term 1:	5th January 2023 to 10th February 2023
HALF TERM HOLIDAY:	13th February 2023 to 17th February 2023

SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES:

To ensure the safety of all our children at school we would like to remind you about the importance we place on Safeguarding.

- Please ensure that you close all doors and gates behind you as you arrive and leave nursery.
- Please do not let other adults into the building – always ask a member of staff to answer the door.
- If your child needs to use the toilet before their session starts please use the visitors toilet – we ask that parents do not enter the children's toilets.
- Please DO NOT use your mobile phone whilst in the nursery classrooms or gardens.
- If you are not going to be the person collecting your child from school, please let us know in advance – we will not allow any child to leave with an adult we do not know.
- If you are running late to collect your child for any reason please ring the school office to let us know.

If you see or hear anything whilst you are in nursery that concerns you, please ask to speak to Julie or Suzie.

Snack Donation

Please remember your £1 weekly donation to cover the cost of the snack. If each family donates this we would have at least £100 per week for each school. This means that we are able to provide a wider range of snack for the children.



Contact Details

Do we have your up to date contact details? Please make sure that we have the correct phone numbers in the office so that we can contact you in case of an emergency. Please also check that you are receiving emails from the school office as we will be emailing letters to reduce the amount of paper that we use.

Spare Clothes

Please send in a change of clothes in a bag for your child to leave at nursery. Please name your clothes so that if we have to change your child we know who they belong to. This is particularly useful for jumpers, coats, hats and scarves as these are the items the children take off themselves.

Parent Hub

Please sign up to our Parent Hub app. This is the way we will be sending newsletters and other information home to you going forward. You can download the app from the google store or Apple store, create an account and search for @PeterPan, for Peter Pan and @CherryTrees for Cherry Trees. Please remember to verify your account.



Sickness

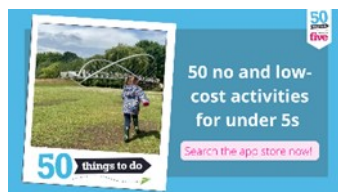
It is quite common for children to get ill during their first few weeks of school. For some of them this will be the first time they have been in a large group and they pick up things like colds, coughs and sickness bugs. It is perfectly normal and could just be down to the fact that they are mixing with new people. Please keep your child at home if they are unwell and contact the school office to let us know.

If they have an upset tummy, sickness and/or diarrhoea then they must stay at home for at least **48 hours after the last incident**, so that we can be assured they are clear from the bug.

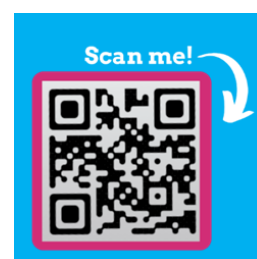
If you are unsure please ring the office and ask for advice.



Get access to 50 fantastic things for you and your child to experience together within Bedford.



Download the free '50 things to do before you're five' app and get access to 50 no-cost or low-cost local activities for under-fives.



Find out more: <https://bedfordshire.50thingstodo.org>

Time for you

Your needs are just as important as your child, taking time out to care for yourself is really important as it will help to reduce stress and will promote rest, relaxation and a positive mind set.

Clare Oliver, our Family Support Worker is available for an informal chat or support and can signpost you to other services if needed.



Dates for your Diary

We have started our '**Harvest Collection**' for the local food bank, if you would like to donate a tin or packet of food to support our local food bank, please send this in with your child to place in the basket before half term.

Autumn Sing-along

Thursday 20th October at 11:30am or 3pm @ Peter Pan and Cherry Trees)

School Photographs

Wednesday 2nd November at Peter Pan
Tuesday 8th November at Cherry Trees

Diwali 'Stay and Play' and Concert

Thursday 3rd November at Cherry Trees
Friday 4th November at Peter Pan.

Book Exchange

Please feel free to borrow a book to read from the 'Book Exchange' located at in the entrance areas of each school.

If you have a book at home that you could donate to the book exchange please bring it in and leave it on the shelf for someone else to enjoy.

We welcome donations of:
Children's books; fiction and non fiction
Adult books; fiction and non fiction
Text books
Books in all languages