



FEDERATION NEWS

Autumn Term 1 - October 2023

Peter Pan & Cherry Trees Nursery Schools Bedford Nursery Schools Federation



Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to welcome our new families to both Peter Pan and Cherry Trees Nursery Schools. It has been lovely to greet you all at the school gates. Settling into the new routine of coming to nursery school can take time, each small step demonstrates progress in your child's self-confidence, independence and sense of belonging.

The children have made a wonderful start to the new academic year. By working with parents to help settle each individual child we develop warm relationships to ensure that children feel safe and happy at Nursery School. When children have high levels of well-being they are able to flourish and learn.

It was a pleasure to welcome you all to our Autumn Concerts last week. We have a concert every term so that the children have the opportunity to develop expressively. They also grow in confidence with each concert and it is a great way for you to join in with your child's learning. All of our songbooks are on the school websites.

We are continuing to collect food items for the local food bank as part of our Harvest Collection. The children have been learning about helping others so please donate a tin or packet of food if you are able to.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the term and if you have any questions or concerns, please do get in touch with myself or Suzie.

Julie Smith
Executive
Head Teacher



*'Celebrating and Strengthening
our Communities Together'*

Our learning this half-term....

Making Friends

There are lots of opportunities in the day to play and interact. Staff skilfully support the children as they make new friends. During group times we encourage children to talk about their own lives and to get to know each other. By reading stories about families such as 'So Much' the children are able to relate to the family members in the story. They feel comforted by talking about their home lives and want to share who is special to them.

Curricular Intention 2: To lay the foundations to become a confident communicator

Routines

We spend time in group sessions explicitly teaching children about routines and expectations. We use puppets, role play and stories about tidying to model how to look after our resources and to share and take turns. The children have had the chance to be the 'tidy up inspector' and they have enjoyed spotting and praising children who are looking after toys. We encourage the children to be proud of their setting and know they feel confident when they understand the routine of the day and what is expected of them.

Curricular Intention 1: To be settled at nursery school and become a confident learner

Curricular Intention 3: To attend to their own self-care needs and understand healthy living

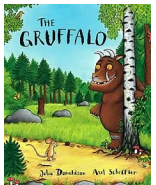
The Gruffalo

The children found reading this story very exciting! We encouraged the children to explore what they knew about the story through their play. The children searched the garden for the characters who were hidden and ticked them off on their clipboard. They also created the characters using playdough. During group times the children talked about the sequence of events in the story and an adult scribed this as a story map. Some children painted or drew pictures from the story and adults scribed their ideas. The children listened to and sang The Gruffalo song whilst adding their own actions. They displayed lots of enthusiasm and energy in the role!

Curricular Intention 4: To lay the foundations to become a confident reader

Curricular Intention 5: To write letters from their name

Curricular Intention 10: To develop skills and processes for self-expression, creating with a purpose in mind



After learning where the characters in 'The Gruffalo' lived the children then had the opportunity to build homes or 'habitats' for toy woodland creatures in the garden. They used logs, leaves, feathers and other natural resources that they could find. They talked about why the animals might need a safe place to hide and the importance of them being warm and dry as autumn begins.

Curricular Intention 6: To take care of their environment and begin to understand changes

Curricular Intention 1: To be settled at nursery school and become a confident learner

Curricular Intention 2: To lay the foundations to become a confident communicator

Harvest

The children are learning about sharing and giving and how we can support others less fortunate by donating food. The children have been practising their harvest songs to perform to their families.

Curricular Intention 7: To understand that they are part of a diverse community within Bedford, England.

Curricular Intention 10: To develop skills and processes for self-expression, creating with a purpose in mind



Autumn

Over the last two weeks before the half term the children will be learning about the Autumn. They will be spending time looking for signs of Autumn in the garden and finding natural resources such as leaves and conkers. We will use these resources for various activities such as art, counting and recognising patterns. We will be reading traditional tales about the Autumn harvest such as 'The Little Red Hen' 'The Enormous Turnip' as well as 'Oliver's Vegetables'. We will talk about healthy food and the children will make and taste soup.

Curricular Intention 10: To develop skills and processes for self-expression, creating with a purpose in mind

Curricular Intention 8: To develop number sense

Curricular Intention 9: To develop a sense of space

Curricular Intention 3: To attend to their own self-care needs and understand healthy living



Music

There is much excitement every week when it is time for our weekly sessions with our music teacher, Jenny, from the Bedford Borough Music Hub. During these group sessions the children sing songs, use percussion instruments and play musical games. These activities develop their understanding of musical elements such as pitch, rhythm and tempo. We have noticed that these sessions are also encouraging the children to listen, pay attention and follow instructions.

Curricular Intention 10: To develop skills and processes for self-expression, creating with a purpose in mind



Please take time to look at the 'Home Learning' and 'Curriculum' pages on our websites:

[Peter Pan Nursery School](#) [Cherry Trees Nursery School](#)

AUTUMN TERM DATES

Last day of this half term:	Friday 20th October
HALF TERM HOLIDAY:	23rd Oct 2023 to 27th Oct 2023
Autumn Term 2:	30th Oct 2023 to 19th Dec 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.
- Always close the main black gate as you arrive and leave the site.
- Alert us if you see someone unfamiliar on the school site.
- Please do not use your mobile phone whilst on the school grounds – keep it in your pocket or bag as soon as you come through the gates on to the school site.
- Ensure that the appropriate age restrictions and parental controls are in place and that you monitor/supervise online content that your child watches at home.
- 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. The person collecting your child must be at least 18 years old.
- 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 while you are in nursery that concerns you please ask to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead, Julie or Suzie.

Mobile Phones

Please remember to put your phone away when you arrive at nursery, from when you enter the gate and whether inside or out.



Name cards

When you drop your child off, please support them to find their name card in the room. By matching their name card, children begin to recognise and form the letters from their name.

School Fund

Please remember to donate your £1 school fund to the school office. This contribution goes towards providing healthy snack for the children throughout the day. If each family donated just £1 per week we would have over £100 per week to spend on the children. Thank you.



Winter Clothes

As the weather starts to change and get colder, please ensure that you send a warm coat, hat and gloves (all named please) to school with your child. All children have access to the outdoor garden throughout the day and it is essential they have a coat to put on to go outside.

Crocs are not suitable footwear to wear to Nursery School.

Upcoming Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 15th November
Diwali Stay & Play

Wednesday 13th December
Christmas Stay & Play

Friday 15th December
Christmas Concert

Chat and Play

Every Tuesday @ Cherry Trees

Every Wednesday @ Peter Pan

8:30am—9:30am

Join Clare and meet other parents from each Nursery School.

Children's Centre Groups

Story Time Fun

Tuesday @ Peter Pan CC and Thursday
@ Cherry Trees CC 9:15am—10:15am

Play and Learn

Friday @ Cherry Trees CC
9:30am—10:30am

<https://padlet.com/katysexton/children-centre-timetable-5u5gfm8hd28xzlaf>



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.

You can download the app from the Google store or Apple store.

Create an account and search for

@PeterPan for Peter Pan

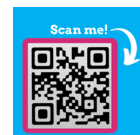
or @CherryTrees for Cherry Trees.

Please remember to verify your account.

Home Learning

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.



Starting School September 2024

Children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020

All the information you need to apply for a school place is available on the website www.bedford.gov.uk/startingschool.

It gives details of all the schools in the area and a PDF copy of the admissions booklet, Starting School 2024, which explains how they process your application for a school place.

Junk Modelling

We are always grateful for yoghurt pots, kitchen roll tubes, milk bottle tops and small boxes that can be used for the children to create models at nursery school.

Please drop any donations into the school office.

