



# FEDERATION NEWS



## Summer Term 1 – May 2025

Peter Pan & Cherry Trees Nursery Schools  
Bedford Nursery Schools Federation

Dear Parents and Carers

We welcome our new parents who joined our Federation family at the start of this half term and hope that they are now happily settled into the Nursery routines.

It has been a very short half term with many enjoyable learning experiences for the children, including the visit from Ark Farm and the arrival of new resources to explore in the indoor and outdoor learning environments. Please talk to your children about our value of 'Respect' so these resources are taken of.

We have also started our transition work with the Primary Schools for our older children. Teachers from the Primary Schools will be visiting both Nursery Schools and there are lots of things that you can support with at home too., through 'Mouse Club'. This provides a link between home, Nursery School and Primary School.....more details to follow after half term.

I hope that you all enjoy the half term break, we have included some local activities which may be of interest to you. Other useful websites can be found on the Cherry Trees and Peter Pan websites.

Warmest wishes

Julie Smith  
Executive  
Head Teacher



*'Celebrating and  
Strengthening our  
Communities Together'*

### Our learning this half-term....

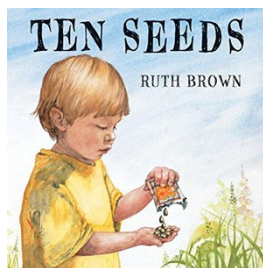
During this short half term the children have fully engaged in learning about the natural world as summer approaches. They have benefited from playing with a number of new resources both outside and inside. Alongside skillful adults these resources have added further challenge and interest to the children's explorative play.

#### Life Cycles

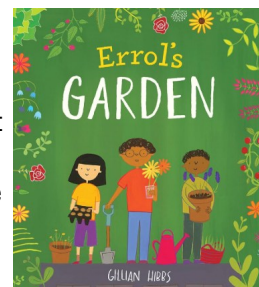
We have looked at various spring life cycles. After reading 'Down in the Cool of the Pool', we focused on the life cycle of a frog. The children were fascinated to learn about how they change over time and enjoyed learning new vocabulary such as 'froglet'. There were lots of counting opportunities and the children enjoyed acting out 5 little speckled frogs by jumping into an imaginary pool!



#### Planting and Growing



The traditional story 'Jack and the Beanstalk' captured the children's imaginations and they talked about the beans growing into a ginormous beanstalk. There was much excitement and opportunities for talk when a beanstalk appeared in the nursery! This led onto us investigating real beans. Children placed a bean in a clear bag so we can observe them as their roots and shoots appear. We read '10 Little Seeds' and learnt about how seeds are spread in nature. We then read 'Errol's Garden' and begun to think about what the children might choose to plant in a garden. The children have created their own plans and designs for an imaginary garden.



#### Ark Farm

One of the highlights of the half term was the annual visit from Arc Farm. The children were able to meet and pet a number of farm animals including a donkey, goats, a pig, lambs and a dog. The children enjoyed the exciting experience of being close to these animals and learnt about respecting and caring for them. Some children had very little previous experience of interacting with animals and were nervous around them. They were gently supported in small groups by adults and given time and encouragement to gently touch the animals. This experience will have developed children's confidence and resilience. It also provided an unforgettable new life experience.



### TERM DATES

Half term: Monday 26th May — Friday 30th May

Last day of Summer term: Friday 18th July (no tea club)

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First day of Autumn Term: Thursday 4th September

## 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.



## WARM WEATHER

With the weather finally turning warmer, please ensure that you send a named hat to school with your child.



Please also ensure that they have suncream applied before they come to school and if they stay all day, that they bring a named bottle of suncream into school.

It is advisable that they wear something light that covers their shoulders.

Please do NOT send drinks in, we have water available at all times.

## 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.

## SUITABLE FOOTWEAR

Please ensure that your child wears suitable fitted footwear to school so that they can run, climb and play safely.

Do not bring your child in wearing flipflops, open toed sandals or crocs.

Thank you



## UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Date tbc**

Parent workshop—Maths

**Date tbc**

Physical Development Stay and Play

Join us anytime between 9-11am and 12.30—2.30pm

**Friday 4th July**

Summer Picnic

**Friday 11th July**

Carnival Day Stay and Play

**16th July**

Leavers Celebration Concert

## COLLECTION OF CHILDREN

Could we request that if you need to collect your child early from Nursery that you do so at **2.45pm** so that the children's learning during group time is not interrupted. **This must be agreed in advance with the Head Teacher.**

## APPOINTMENTS

If your child has an appointment that requires collection during their session please email a copy of the medical appointment to :

cherrytrees@bedfordnurseryschools.com or  
peterpan@bedfordnurseryschools.com

## 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.





# Food etc.

For more recipes to make with your child, visit the Food etc website: <https://foodetc.org.uk/>

## Salmon, spinach and feta fishcakes

Makes 8 fishcakes



### Ingredients

- 2 tins of salmon, drained
- 1 cup fresh spinach, finely chopped
- ½ cup feta cheese, crumbled
- ¼ cup chickpea flour (or all-purpose flour)
- ¼ cup red onion, finely chopped
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 1 tablespoon fresh dill, chopped (or 1 teaspoon dried dill)
- 1 tablespoon fresh parsley (or 1 teaspoon dried)
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- Salt and black pepper, to taste
- Olive oil for frying

To make the fishcakes, put all the ingredients in a bowl and mix gently until all the ingredients are evenly combined (be careful not to overmix). Heat some oil in a skillet over medium heat until hot, but not smoking. Cook the salmon cakes for 3-4 minutes per side, until golden brown and crispy.



There are lots of activities for children at The Higgins museum over the holidays.

For more details:  
[https://www.thehigginsbedford.org.uk/whats\\_on/family\\_events.aspx](https://www.thehigginsbedford.org.uk/whats_on/family_events.aspx)

## Festival of Inclusion

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May**  
**11am to 3pm**  
**Russell Park, Bedford**

**Lots of Fun Activities including**  
Inflatables • Face Painting • Bubbles • Sensory Circuits

For more information, please visit:  
<https://localoffer.bedford.gov.uk/kb5/bedford/directory/site.page?id=613H1vvsSsk>  
or scan the QR code.



SCAN ME!



## ACTIVITIES OVER THE HOLIDAYS AT BEDFORD & KEMPSTON LIBRARIES

### Saturday Story

11am every Saturday at Kempston Library

3.15pm every Saturday at Bedford Library

If you're choosing some books or at the library for Lego Club, join us in the Children's Library for a quick picture book story. All welcome, and no need to book.