

FEDERATION NEWS

November 2021

Peter Pan & Cherry Trees Nursery Schools



Dear Parents

I hope you all had a lovely half term break and welcome back to school for an enjoyable half term leading up to Christmas. This is always one of my favourite terms, as the children are now settled and have many learning opportunities to experience.

We had a lovely week last week celebrating Diwali with the children. It was a pleasure to hear them singing the songs and to see them enjoying all the creative activities that went with Diwali.

Thank you for sending in your photos from home to share your family festivals and celebrations. Please keep sending these photos in to the school offices so that we can talk about these special times with the children at school.

The children will be bringing home a library book to share and read at home. These can be returned to school and changed each week so that you have a new book to share.

Our value this term is 'Happiness' and we have been thinking about how we can promote and spread happiness within our school community.

Suzie and I continue to be at each school on alternate weeks and we always look forward to talking to you at the gates for drop off and collection times.

Best wishes to you all,

Julie Smith
Executive Head
Teacher



Our learning this term

Autumn has arrived and the children have been noticing the seasonal changes in the natural world around them, as the leaves change colour and the weather changes.

We are enjoying learning about different Autumn festivals this term. The children made diya candle holders and enjoyed the pakoras they helped the staff to cook, as they learnt about Diwali and read the story of Rama and Sita.

We are also learning about Bonfire night and light and dark. The children have been experimenting with paints to create firework pictures and learning 'The Firework Shop' song.



This week we will be learning about Remembrance Day and why we wear poppies. The children make poppies and then turn them into wreaths for our special group time where we make links to the past, light candles and talk about the significance of poppies in remembrance of those who fought in World War One.

As December approaches, we will begin our Christmas preparations. This is another special time for the children to learn about. We will be taking part in the Bedford Christmas Tree Festival this year and the children will be making decorations for our trees at St Paul's Church in Bedford.



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 details of the Early Years Foundation Stage and how we support your child's education and development.

[Peter Pan](#)

[Cherry Trees](#)

All the children's learning is linked to our curricular intentions which can be found on our websites.

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2:	1st November to 17th December 2021
Spring Term 1:	7th January 2022 to 11th February 2022
HALF TERM:	14th to 18th February 2022
Spring Term 2:	21st February 2011 to 31st March 2022
Easter Holiday:	1st April 2022 to 21st April 2022

Christmas Celebrations.

We are once again taking part in the Bedford Christmas Tree Festival at St Paul's Church in the town centre. We have two trees that the children will be making decorations for and we will take some of the children to the church to decorate the trees.

The festival is open to the public from 1st to 5th December and all the details can be found on their [facebook page](#).

Christmas Songs at Group time - Friday 10th December

We will be singing our Christmas songs at group time; 11.00am in the morning and 2.30pm in the afternoon. If the weather is being kind we would love you to come and join us in the garden for some singing.

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 £150 per week. This means that we are able to provide a wider range of snack for the children .



Harvest Donations.

Thank you so much for all your donations to our Harvest collection. Your generosity means that we are able to send lots to the Bedford Foodbank to support families who are maybe struggling a little bit more than usual.



Diwali Celebrations

The children enjoyed celebrating Diwali last week. They sang a variety of songs, cooked and made diva lights.



Absence from school

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason please let us know. You can let their key person know if it is a planned absence or let the office know if they are off due to illness.

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.

COVID

As you are aware numbers of positive cases of COVID being reported in Bedford has increased again. In order to keep everyone at school as safe as possible we are asking parents to wear a mask if you come into the school building for any reason and to social distance when you are in the playground please.

We will be continuing to practice increased cleaning and handwashing at school and keeping our classrooms as ventilated as possible.

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.

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.

Junk Modelling

If you have any items at home that the children can use for making models at school, please bring it to the office. We are always in need of cardboard boxes -large and small, cardboard tubes, milk bottle tops, yoghurt pots. If you also have any out of date dry pasta, rice or lentils we would also be grateful for this for the collage table .