



FEDERATION NEWS



December 2024

Peter Pan & Cherry Trees Nursery Schools

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of the Autumn Term, I would like to thank you for supporting your children to develop positive routines in their attendance, as well as a love of learning.

Last week, we had a two-day visit from OFSTED to carry out an inspection at Cherry Trees Nursery School. I am grateful to the parents who took the time to complete the parent survey and also the staff team who demonstrated best practice throughout the inspection. The children shared their learning with the inspector who recognised the children's positive interactions with each other. I look forward to sharing the report with you all in January 2025.

On Tuesday, I was fortunate to take eight children with some staff and parent helpers to St Paul's Church to decorate our Christmas trees for 'The Christmas Tree Festival'. The children have worked hard to create many magical decorations. You can visit St Paul's Church from Wednesday 4th December through to Sunday 8th December to see all of the decorated trees on display. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to develop their understanding of the wider world by recognising that they are part of the community of Bedford, as well as learning about different festivals and celebrations. Remember to vote for your favourite Christmas Tree.

I look forward to seeing you at Cherry Trees or Peter Pan over the next two weeks at either our Stay and Play or Christmas Concert.

Warm Wishes



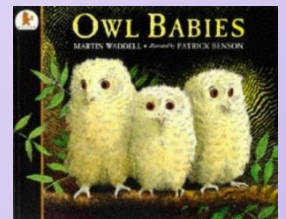
Julie Smith
Executive
Head
Teacher

Diwali

One of our curricular intentions is that the children understand that they are part of a diverse community. The children were excited to share the traditional story of 'Rama and Sita' and to learn about how Diwali is celebrated. Through our special Diwali stay and play day children and their families and carers had the chance to participate in a range of creative activities linked to this cultural event. The day was full of bright colours, special food and songs that the children had learnt about the story of Rama and Sita. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their time together on this special day.

Owl Babies

Noticing the darker winter evenings was a great starting point for exploring the story of 'Owl Babies' which takes place in dark woods. The children created clay owls, drew owls with oil pastels and learnt facts about them. We used the three main characters as a starting point for talking about what we notice about the quantity of three using our subitising skills. The children also explored how heat melts chocolate when making chocolate nests. The highlight of this learning was a visit to nursery from real owls. All children showed courage and high levels of involvement for the visiting owls and the falconer who brought them in commented on the children's positive learning behaviours. They planned questions they wanted to ask about the owls and communicated these confidently to find out new and exciting facts. It truly brought their learning to life.



Our trees currently displayed at the Bedford Christmas Tree Festival (see overleaf for details)



TERM DATES

Last day of the Autumn Term: Friday 20th December (no tea club)

Nursery reopens: Wednesday 8th January

Half-term: Monday 17th February—Friday 21st February

Last day of Spring term: Friday 4th April (no tea club)

Nursery reopens: Thursday 24th April



UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 11th December
Christmas Stay & Play
Join us anytime between 9-11am and 12.30-2.30pm

Tuesday 17th December
Christmas Concert at 11.15am or 2.45pm

Thursday 19th December
Christmas Party & visit from Father Christmas

Bob Sleigh and Santa

2 December
Riverfield Drive

3 December
Great Denham

4 December
Biggleswade
(Kings Reach)

5 December
Wixams
(Brooklands Ave)

6 December
Wixams
(Willow Grove)

9 December
Markham Rise
and Maskall Drive

10 December
Great Barford

11 December
Shortstown

12 December
Wilstead

13 December
New Cardington



Text 'MERRY' to
70580 to donate £3

Texts cost £3 plus one standard
rate message

keech.org.uk/bobsleigh

BEDFORD CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2024

Over 65 trees decorated in the theme of...



On:

Wed 4 Dec to Sat 7 Dec - 10am till 5pm
Sun 8 Dec - 12 noon till 4pm

Venue:

St Paul's Church, Bedford, MK40 1SQ

Admission:

£3 (children under 16 free)

Find out more:

Bedford Christmas Tree Festival
E: treefestival@stpaulschurchbedford.org.uk
T: 01234 340163

Festival
Concert:
7.30pm
Friday 6
December

In aid of:



Daily music &
performances by
community groups,
refreshments,
competitions and raffle.

Sponsored by:



Starting School September 2025

Children born between 1 September 2020
and
31 August 2021

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 2025*, which explains how they process
your application for a school place.

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.

