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Dear Parents

Welcome to the second half of the Autumn Term and a new look to our regular newsletters.

We hope you enjoyed your half term break with your family.

We want to thank you for all your support and co-operation last term whilst we settled into new routines.

As you will have heard we are entering another period of lockdown from 5th November until the 2nd December at least. We will remain open as normal during this time and will continue with all the controls we have in place. We do just ask that you all continue to follow the systems and to let us know immediately if you or a member of your family show any signs or symptoms of the virus. It is important that we control the spread as much as we can. If you are choosing to keep your child at home please do let the school office know.

If you have any questions or concerns please do contact us at school.



Julie Peter Pan



Lesley Cherry Trees

Our learning

We began to think about Harvest and read 'The Little Red Hen' which led us to talk about helping each other and being kind. In session time we made some bread rolls, which were delicious. Some of us explored wheat using a pestle and mortar and experimented with planting it. We have gone for Autumn walks in the garden, encouraging children to notice and comment on what they see. Some of us have read the Enormous Turnip and have explored the concepts of pushing and pulling.

We also read 'Oliver's Vegetables' and cooked the vegetables to try. To support our new children to settle we read 'Owl Babies' which talks about family and relationships and the fact that our mummies and daddies always come and get us from nursery.

We have been encouraging the children to talk about their feelings through looking at the book The Colour Monster; specifically, the feelings of 'happy', 'sad', 'worried', 'scared' and most importantly 'being loved'. The children have read a range of stories including Elisabetti's Doll, Grandma's Saturday Soup, and I Love My Hair as an age-appropriate way to introduce Black History Month and celebrate ethnic diversity. The children did self-portraits to promote a positive self-image and to notice similarities and differences in people.

This half term we will think about Fireworks, Remembrance and Diwali. We will be learning about why we wear poppies for Remembrance and drawing and painting firework pictures. We are going to learn the Diwali story and sing the traditional Diwali songs. You can find all our songs in the Autumn Songbooks.



Home Learning

If you are unable to bring your child to school for any reason, we have lots of activities available on our home learning page of the website.

We would love to see what you have been doing at home at any time and you can email us photos and short videos at:

homelearning@bedfordnurseryschools.com



TERM DATES

Autumn Term:	2nd November to 18th December 2020
Spring Term 1:	7th January 2021 to 12th February 2021
HALF TERM HOLIDAY:	15th February to 19th February
Spring Term 2:	22nd February to 26th March 2021
EASTER HOLIDAYS:	29th March to 14th April 2021
Summer Term 1:	15th April to 28th May 2021
HALF TERM HOLIDAY:	31st May to 4th June 2021
Summer Term 2:	7th June to 22nd July 2021

Farewell to Lesley

It is with much sadness that Lesley will be leaving us at the end of this term. Lesley has been with the Federation for the last 12 years, starting at Peter Pan, as the SENCO and then Deputy Head and finally as Interim Head Teacher at Cherry Trees.

Lesley leaves us to take up the position of Senior Lecturer in Early Years Education at the University of Hertfordshire and we wish her the very best of luck in her new role.

We have placed an advert for a new Executive Head Teacher and in the meantime Julie Smith will become Interim Executive Head Teacher and will split her time between Peter Pan and Cherry Trees Nursery Schools. If you need to contact Julie you can do so through one of the school offices.

NOTICES

Mobile phones



No mobile phones

Please remember that we do not allow mobile phones to be used whilst on the nursery site. This also applies in the gardens when you are dropping off and picking up your children.

Drop off and pick up times

A reminder that we now start at 8.45am in the morning and the session ends at 11.45am. Please be on time to collect your child. The staff only have 15 minutes to clean the classrooms for the afternoon session.

****Cherry Trees Green Room please collect at 12.00pm as normal****

Junk modelling boxes

If you have any small boxes, cardboard tubes from kitchen rolls, bottle tops or small plastic trays please could you donate them to the school for the children's junk modelling table. They love to make things and we are quickly running out!

School Fund

We ask each family for £1 donation per week to support us providing snack for the children. Now more than ever we are especially grateful for your donations as we find ourselves with additional costs for cleaning materials. Your donations make a massive difference to us.



Diwali and Christmas Celebrations

Sadly we will not be able to celebrate Diwali and Christmas in our usual way this term; by inviting you in to join us to hear the children sing and watch them perform the stories. We are really saddened by this as this is the first time ever that we have been unable to celebrate with you all. We hope to film the children during the school day performing in their own bubbles and we will publish these on our closed facebook page. Full details of how you will be able to access these will be available nearer the time.

If you do not want your child filmed please ensure that you let the office or their keyworker know well in advance so that they are not included.

COVID signs and symptoms and what to do.

If you, or any member of your household are displaying any of the following symptoms please let us know as soon as possible and follow the government guidelines strictly.

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.

You and anyone you live with should stay at home and not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone in your support bubble should also stay at home if you have been in close contact with them since your symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started.

Please let us know the result of the test as soon as you have it.

Parent Hub

Please remember to 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 or @CherryTrees.



Once you create an account you will receive all updates about what is going on within the Federation.