



Pickles Pre-School.

The Community Room, Cherry Tree Primary School,
Berry Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD24 6ST
November 2015.

We hope you all had a wonderful half term, kicking the Autumn leaves, collecting conkers and perhaps enjoying a little Halloween fun with your children. The Autumn term started very well and we are looking forward to all the fun and learning we will have in the lead up to the Christmas festivities and holiday. This is our half termly newsletter which we email or give out to Parent/Carers and upload onto our website – www.picklespreschool.co.uk

For this half term we have chosen the following themes as a focus for our learning and play.

Week commencing

2nd Nov – 6th Nov : **Diwali** – Coloured rice, chalk picture, Decorating hands, using Diwali character masks to re-enact the story, creating Rangoli patterns, dancing and singing to Diwali music and enjoying the story “Lighting the Lamp” by Jonny Zucker.

9 Nov – 20th Nov – **The Three Little Pigs** – Making a house of bricks, creating with Lego, Hay, Lollipop sticks, building strength in our hands playing with pink playdough, making pig noses and curly tails and learning the classic lines from this much-loved tale. “I’ll huff and I’ll puff.....”

Friday 13th Nov - **Children in Need Day** - Children can wear their PJ’s to raise some funds for the cause, we will talk about children less fortunate and enjoy some Pugsey Bear activities and fun.

23rd Nov – 27th Nov - **Road Safety Week** – a local Lollipop Lady will visit on Tuesday 24th November to talk to the children, Role Safety role play outside with our traffic lights, zebra crossing, yellow jackets and Police Officer uniforms, identifying the colours of the traffic lights and knowing what they mean and carpet times chats about keeping safe.

30th Nov – end of term – **Christmas** – making Christmas cards and decorations and decorating our Christmas tree. Talking about Advent and the story of Christmas, learning Christmas songs and dances for our Christmas Songs Show and the fun and games of Christmas Party Week.

Carpet Time Talking week by week.

Week Commencing	Letter	Number	Shape	Colour	Language of the Week
2 nd November	h	8	square	orange	Akan “Twi” – “ete-sen”
9 th November	i	9	oval	brown (bricks, muddy pigs, wood)	Albanian – “ckemi” pronounced “chkehmee”
16 th November	j	10	triangle	pink (for pigs)	Czech – “ahoj”
23 rd November	k	1	circle	red (stop on the traffic lights!)	Gujarti – “kem cho”
30 th November	l	2	rectangle	yellow	Polish – “cześć”
7 th December	m	3	diamond	green (for Christmas trees)	Punjabi – “as-salaam-al-ai-kum”
14 th December	n	4	star	red (Father Christmas’ outfit)	Sinhala, Sri Lanka – “aybowan”

What’s NEW?

Children’s Attendance day for Spring Term 2016 – Before Half term I gave all Parent/Carers a letter with the days allocated for their children in the Spring 2015 term. If you wish to change or amend the days/times your child is with please let me know by Friday 6th November. After this date I will allocate any spaces we have to new children who will start with us in January 2016.

Outside Covered Area - Over the half term holiday we have had a gate fitted on the fence in our garden to provide us with a sheltered classroom area outside. This will mean that rain, snow or shine our children will now be able to learn and play outside in the fresh air.

Name water bottles and ALL clothing items – As the days get colder please can we remind Parent/Carers to name all the clothes children brings to Pre-School – Hats, mittens, shoes, jumpers, coat etc. Also please name your child's water bottle so returning them all to children at the end of each session is easier for the staff team.

Attendance – We monitor and record when children are absent from Pre-School and the reason for such. If your child is ill or unable to attend Pre-School please call or text Lynsey (07870 628045) with the reason for their absence. We contact parents when children are unexpectedly absent.

Nappy Sacks and plastic bags – As plastic bags are now charged for in shops, please can you include nappy sacks and plastic bags for wet/soiled clothes in your child's bag so we can dispose of nappies and bag clothes for you for cleaning.

Early Years Quality Measure – As a setting we are working towards the Gold Award, a process that recognises our ability to reflect and improve as Practitioners and as a setting. We have had a couple of very positive assessments, there are plans for future development and ideas for an ICT (Information Communication Technology) project so the children can learn with modern technology!

Dates for your diary

Children in Need Pyjama Day – Friday 13th November. Children can wear their PJ's/Onesie to Pre-School and parent/carers can donate to the charity in our collection bucket. We will be doing some Pugsey Bear activities and talking about the charity and children less fortunate.

Christmas Songs Show – Date and time to be confirmed.....!

Christmas Party Week – week commencing 14/12/15. The children can dress up as they wish all week. We are hoping parents can contribute **£5.00** towards the cost of Party Week which will cover the cost of a gift from Father Christmas, the prizes and party fun activities.



End of Term No Lunch Club – There will be no Lunch Club on Friday 18th December. Invoices have already been adjusted so to omit this fee.

Parent Consultation in the Spring Term – Tuesday 12th January 2016, 4.15pm – 6pm in the Cherry Tree School Hall. Please arrive via the Berry Avenue main entrance to the school. You will be allocated a time to chat with your child's Key Person, to look at your child's Learning Journal, share in all they have enjoyed and learnt and discuss their interests and development. Additionally I can book a time for you to meet with our Special Needs Co-ordinator, Dawn Haigh, and/or the Pre-School Manager, Sarah Wickham, if you wish.

Nursery Rhyme/Song of the Month: Christmas Show finale will be – We Wish You a Merry Christmas. We hoped you could practise singing this song with your child and then we'd all be able to sing this to each other at the end of their show.

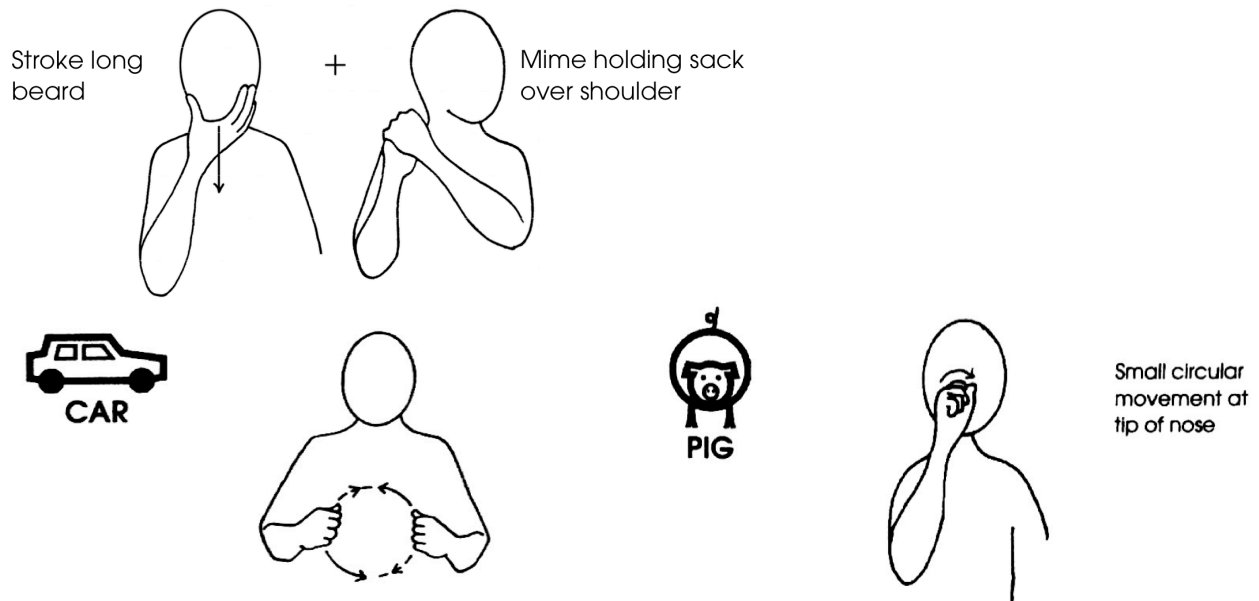
“We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year

Good tidings we bring
to you and your kin
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year”



Makaton Signs we will learn and use:

Father Christmas



Facebook page – “Like” our “Pickles Pre-School” Facebook page so to stay up to date with our news, events and information.

If you have any questions or queries or if we can be of any additional support to you or your child please do not hesitate to ask me or a member of our Pickles Pre-School team.

Kind regards,

Lynsey Pickles – 01923 223538 – Lynsey.preschool@gmail.com - www.picklespreschool.co.uk
Cherry Tree School Office Number – 01923 245490
07870 628045 (Emergency contact number in Pre-School hours)

Staff Team – Sarah, Alessia, Dawn, Kaneez, Beverley & Barbara
Volunteer – Masooma