



Pickles Pre-School.

The Community Room, Cherry Tree Primary School,
Berry Avenue, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD24 6ST
February 2019.



We hope you enjoyed the half term break and are now looking forward to the warmer weather and the lighter evenings of Spring.

This is our half termly newsletter which we email or give out to Parent/Carers, display in our cloakroom 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.

25th Feb – 8th March : **The Very Hungry Caterpillar (by Eric Carle)**. Our activities will include – talk about healthy eating and treats - Listening to the story on the iPod and our bi-lingual editions and re-enacting it with the story sack and props. Our Home Corner will become a Hairdressers so the children can role play with money - We will also focus on “Air” (how a butterfly flies, the use to hair driers - bubble blowing - paint blow art - straws will be used at snack time - ping pong ball blowing around playdough obstacles etc).



11th – 22nd March : **Fruit and Vegetables** - Drawing fruit and watching it decay — making and enjoying fruit kebabs at the snack table – Enjoying the books “Oliver’s Fruit Salad” and “Oliver’s vegetables” by Vivian French – growing and tasting cress – learning how to tend to fruit and vegetables and the work of farmers.

25th March – 5th April : **Easter**. We will match patterns, colours and numbers in our Easter egg hunts, talk about Spring and what the Easter story means to families who celebrate it and learn Easter songs and poems to perform in our Easter Bonnet Parades.

Carpet Time Talking week by week.

Week Commencing	Letter	Number	Shape	Colour	Makaton Sign	Language of the Week
25 th Feb	u	9	square	green	butterfly	Albanian - “Ckemi”
4 th March	v	10	rectangle	red	apple	Italian - “Ciao”
11 th March	w	0	circle	orange	orange	Urdu - “Assalam-o-Alekum”
18 th March	x	1	star	brown	potato	Romanian – “Buna”
25 th March	y	2	triangle	yellow	chicken	Gujarti – “Kem cho”
1 st April	z	3	oval	white	egg	English – “Hello”

Dates for your diary

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March. To celebrate our love of books the children can come to Pre-School with their favourite book (named) and dressed as their favourite book character. Children can also dress up on Wednesday 6th and Friday 8th if they wish so they can all take part and share their favourite book characters.



Easter Parades

Wednesday 3rd April at 11:30am and again at 14:30pm

Thursday 4th April at 11:30am.

Children to make Easter Bonnets with their grown ups at home and bring them in for the parades. Parents arrive, children show and wear their bonnets, prizes given out and songs sung to celebrate Easter.



Nearly all of our children attend one of these sessions however if your child is one of those who does not then you are more than welcome to come along with them to any of the parades.

End of Term – Friday 5th April. The Afternoon Session will finish at 15:05pm as normal
The Summer term will start on Wednesday 24th April 2019.

Thursday 25th April 2019 - Parent Consultation in the Summer Term – 4:00pm – 6pm in the Cherry Tree School Hall. This is the last Parent's evening of this school year and replaces the one we used to have at the end of the Summer Term. You will be allocated a time to meet with your child's Key Person in due course. Additionally a time can be booked for you to meet with our Pre-School Manager and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo), Sarah Wickham, if you wish.

What's New?

Staying at Pickles Pre-School in Autumn Term 2019, or moving on – Due to the demand for places at Pickles Pre-School I have already started to ask parent/carers whether they wish for their child to stay with us in the 2019/20 academic year, or whether they are applying to a Nursery/another setting. Moreover if your child is staying with us next academic year please confirm with Lynsey, as soon as possible, as to the sessions you wish for your child to attend. Existing children have a priority on sessions and so I wish to confirm the hours existing children will attend before I allocate places to new children on our lengthy waiting list.

30 hours Free Childcare for 3 and 4 year olds – Please can I remind parent/cares who have a 30 hours funding eligibility code to ensure that the code is reactivated every 3 months when required. If the code is not reactivated then the parent/carers will need to fund the hours a child is on the register over 15 hours a week for that term.



Parents whose children are staying with us in 2019/2020 can visit the HMRC website to see if they are eligible for 30 hours Free Childcare in the Summer Term 2019 and receive an eligibility code (that you need to inform us of) that can be used to fund additional hours in the Autumn 2019 Term.

Makaton Signs we will learn and use:



BUTTERFLY



Flutter hands and move them slightly upwards



APPLE



Take apple to mouth and mime biting it



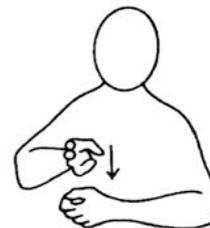
RABBIT



Waggle fingers slightly



EGG



Small quick downward movement of middle + index fingers. Stop movements just above other fist, without touching

Nursery Rhyme/Song of the Month:

*“Peter Rabbit has a fly upon his nose, Peter Rabbit has a fly upon his nose
Peter Rabbit has a fly upon his nose so he flipped it and he flopped it and the fly flew away”.*



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,

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Staff Team – Sarah, Kaneez, Dawn, Beverley, Barbara, Dimple, Jenni, Sam and Jushna
Volunteer – Masooma