



Peartree Way Pre-School and Nursery Newsletter Autumn Term 2023 (2)

Welcome from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term seems to have flown by and this week has reminded us that Winter is on the way.

The children are happy and very settled in their groups and making the most of their environments. The areas have been enhanced by a number of new resources which have been funded through our 'Fun Day' last July – we have bought barrels, new brooms and have just ordered new play houses for Pre-School and 15 hours gardens.

Sian and I have visited Next Page Books in Hitchin and purchased a range of titles to reflect our diverse community at Peartree Way. We used our grant from Stevenage Community Trust to pay for these and will be introducing them after half term into our library and school provision.

I hope you have a lovely half term break and look forward to seeing you on 30th October when there are lots of Autumn activities planned for our first week back.

Thank you for your support,

Deborah Willcox

Headteacher

head@peartreeway.herts.sch.uk



Deb – Headteacher



Sian - Teacher

Book Borrowers Library

We hope that your child is enjoying bringing books home to share with you. We are planning a parent workshop on the afternoon of the 24th November to celebrate reading for pleasure with your children (further details to follow). Children are welcome to attend and there will be a free book for you to take home. Please contact Mrs Endersby by email on admin@peartreeway.herts.sch.uk if you would like to attend. We are looking forward to having a new reading library built in our buggy area so we can share small group stories and rhymes as part of the session. Children will still have their library day but this will be in an exciting new venue. We will keep you posted with timings!

School Visits

Do you have a skill or a resource which you think might interest our children? We would love to welcome anyone who could share what they do for their job, a musical talent or a religious celebration. This will enable our children to experience the world around them in a more real and exciting way.

We would also like to invite you in to tell a story as part of our 'Secret Storyteller' initiative. Please contact Deb (Headteacher) if you would like to arrange a visit.

Children in Need

On Friday 17th November, we will be supporting Children in Need. Children are welcome to come to school in something spotty or of their own choice. We will be making 'spotty' biscuits to enjoy for our snack. A donation tub will be available if you would like to contribute.



Safari Stu

Safari Stu is coming to visit the Nursery on Friday 17th November. The visit has been arranged and paid for by Rachel, whose son Tommy attends Nursery. It is to celebrate Tommy's 4th birthday. Happy Birthday Tommy and thank you for choosing to celebrate your special day with your friends!



It's half term holiday next week!

We will be returning to school on Monday 30th October but there are lots of activities in the area to support your children over the half-term break. Storytime continues to run at the library and timetable information for the Stevenage Family Centre is on Facebook. Hopefully the weather will be good so you can visit local parks or find ideas on the '50 things to do before you're 5!' app which is free to download from your app store.

We Need Your Help



We are looking for a parent to join our Governing Board. You don't need to have any previous governor experience. The only requirement is that you are over 18, enthusiastic and have a capacity for working with other people. In fact, the wider the variety of backgrounds and experiences the better! We meet every half term and governors visit the school to ensure the children are learning in a safe and nurturing environment.

Please telephone or email Deb for a chat if you are interested and would like to find out more.

Christmas Plans



7th December – Christmas Jumper Day (Pre-School & Nursery)

Children can wear whatever they wish today

18th or 19th or 20th December – Christmas Parties & Father Christmas (Pre-School)

Pre-school children have their parties on different days – further details to follow by email

19th December – Christmas Stay & Play & Father Christmas (Nursery)

Parents can join their child's session for a stay and play

- Parents of children who attend on a 15 hours placement can join us at 10am
- Parents of children who attend on a 30/35 placement hours can join us at 1:30pm

20th December – ALL SESSIONS FINISH AT 11:30AM - no lunch or afternoon sessions

Nursery children will have their parties during the morning session

If you have any questions please email Mrs Endersby at admin@peartreeway.herts.sch.uk or pop into the office

Dates for your Diary

A list of IMPORTANT DATES are detailed on our website www.peartreeway.herts.sch.uk but don't forget . . .

We will be **CLOSED** on the following dates:

Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October for half term

Friday 1st December – INSET Day – Staff Training

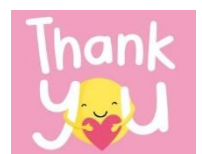
Monday 4th December - Occasional Day

Wednesday 20th December – last day of term (no lunch club or afternoon/after school sessions)

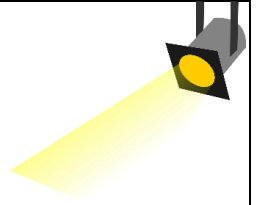


Contribution Envelopes

Your contributions help towards so many activities at Pre-School and Nursery, including buying snack, ingredients for baking and playdough, a gift for every child from Father Christmas and the Easter Bunny to name but a few – thank you so much for your support.



Spotlight onCovid-19



We are all getting to grips with accepting Covid-19 as an everyday illness. However, with a new variant emerging these are the symptoms to look out for:

- a high temperature or shivering (chills) – a high temperature 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
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
- shortness of breath
- feeling tired or exhausted
- an aching body
- a headache
- a sore throat
- a blocked or runny nose
- loss of appetite
- diarrhoea
- feeling sick or being sick

There are so many illnesses with the same symptoms but please take care. It is best for your child to be at home if they are feeling poorly and to return to school when they feel better.

Just the flu?

Flu can be a nasty illness for children, leading to serious problems such as bronchitis and pneumonia; they can spread it easily to others who are at risk too.

Flu is also a serious illness for pregnant mums, as pregnancy naturally weakens the body's immune system, making them more susceptible to flu.

That is why children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2023, all primary school-aged children and eligible 11–16-year-olds are being offered a free flu nasal spray, which is safe, effective and can help protect them and the people they meet. Pregnant women can get a free flu vaccine at any stage of pregnancy, it is the safest way to help protect them and their unborn baby against flu.

This winter, with COVID-19 circulating at the same time, it is more important than ever that we boost our immunity and protect ourselves and our loved ones by making sure we have had our vaccines.

Visit www.nhs.uk/flu vaccine for more information.