



# St. Peter's Nursery Unit

## October 2021



### Our Themes

During the month of October we will be learning about 'Investigating Autumn', Halloween, fruit & vegetable. The colours which we will be looking for are orange and brown.

You can support your child by helping them do the colour activity on seesaw.

We will have an autumn table during October; children can bring in items such as leaves, acorns and conker for the table. Our shape of the month is a square.

### Dinner Time

Children will be starting dinners on 4th October. **For the first two week the children will be going home at 12.30pm.** From the 18th October children will go home at **1.00 to 1.15pm.** The reason for this staggered home time is so that 27 children are not going home at the same time. The dinner menu will be on the seesaw app at the beginning of each month.



Please pay dinner and snack money on a Monday morning.



### Halloween

We will be very busy preparing for Halloween during the next few weeks. We will be creating masks, ghosts and making chocolate witch apples and getting the nursery ready for Halloween.

### Coats

As the weather is getting colder, please make sure your child brings a warm, zip-up coat every day. The children will be outside most days in the cold and sometimes in the rain. The child's name should be written on his/her coat and you should encourage your child to put it on themselves. As much of our play takes place on the grass, please make sure that your child wears waterproof footwear or they can leave wellie boots in the nursey - canvas shoes do not keep the water out.

### Optician

We would encourage you to book a sight test for your child. All children under 16 (including pre-school) are entitled to free NHS sight checks. Children might not know if their eyesight isn't perfect, but you might notice them sitting closer to the TV, rubbing their eyes or blinking a lot, or holding objects close up to their face. Regular sight checks will monitor both their vision and eye health, and should be carried out at least every 2 years. The earlier a problem is picked up, the better the outcome - why not book a test today?!

### October 2021

#### Songs and rhymes

Five Little Leaves  
Conkers, conkers  
Oh I love to jump in the leaves  
Flutter, flutter  
Here is a tree  
I Have A Little Spider  
Halloween  
There's A Wide Eyed Owl  
Would You a Slice of My Apple Tart?  
Incy wincy spider  
Here is a witch  
Harry the Hedgehog



## Language Development

We are encouraging the children to "use their words" when they need help from an adult. We are also working on "good looking" at the child or adult who is speaking. Please encourage your children to "listen" to an instruction and then to follow it. These skills are essential for children to develop in their learning.

## Soothers / dummies

Children of nursery age no longer need to use a dummy or bottle. Continued use will result in unclear speech and misaligned teeth.

## Early Intervention and Transformation Programme

Research shows that 3-4 years old is an important stage in a child's development and learning. Early identification of needs is important. As part of the 'Educare' process, the 3+ Health Review involves parents / carers in completing a questionnaire and then to attend a short interview with the Health Visitor. These meetings will be held in St Peter's Nursery Unit (dates to be confirmed). You will receive the questionnaire in February.

## Spare Clothes

***We would like to remind parents that all children should have a spare change of clothes in their bag each day. Please ensure that every item***

## Happy Birthday

We would like to wish the boys and girls a very happy birthday  
We hope you have a brilliant day.



## Curriculum Information — October 2021

### Autumn Colours

Animals - Squirrels, Hedgehogs

Plants/Flowers - Autumn Leaves, Autumn fruit & vegetables, Pumpkins

This is a busy month, as now that the intake is complete, we begin to get the children involved in our monthly themes. Throughout October we will be exploring what the season 'Autumn' means to them by decorating our school for Autumn and encouraging children to bring leaves, chestnuts and Autumn flowers in from home.

Through creative opportunities, the children will be encouraged to explore colour, and handle craft materials with increasing control and handle tools safely.

Staff will encourage children to discuss the changes that they are seeing in Autumn and encourage new vocabulary when joining in with rhymes and songs in a settled way. Children will be encouraged to talk about mixing Autumn coloured paints and will also go on an Autumn walk and look for Autumn colours.

Children will have the opportunity to recognise and learn about squirrels, foxes, rabbits, mice and rats as they use puppets / soft toys alongside their building and creative work. Staff will be encouraging descriptive language such as soft, furry, spiky, scratchy and hairy, and

encouraging children to become involved in talking about caring for animals.

The language of Autumn will be a focus as will the start of our rhymes and songs linked to the theme.

We are also using October to support children to be 'engaged with their learning'. This means we want to see them busy and involved with their play. We will also be playing closely with your child in preparation for our meeting with you in October.

September has been a challenging month for children and staff with most children now

playing in a settled and appropriate way. We will be introducing the School 'Golden Rules' with other strategies to encourage children to move around all the zones and to play with purpose.

Independence is very important, so as you will be aware children are encouraged to hang up their own coats and make their choice of where to play as soon as they come in to school. They are self-registering well and becoming more independent at snack time. Children who are very capable will be encouraged to help others who are still struggling to put their own coats on, or to help them put away their paintings.

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