



Autumn 2 update

Dear parents, I thought I would write to give you an update on a few things.

Thank you for those of you who have taken the time to complete the survey. It is very helpful to gain your perspective and ideas. We were particularly pleased with the positive feedback and praise, thank you! If you haven't already completed the survey, please do!

We are delighted that some parents have said they can help with organising a PTA. This would help immensely with the much needed fundraising. We will set up a meeting to get us going in the Spring Term. The PTA will also be helpful in keeping parents up to date with things that are happening in the background, e.g. improvements to the buildings/resources and also help getting things/people organised for the improvements in the outside areas. Thank you to those of you who have said you can offer some time to help. Some of the things that have already happened this term are:

- * display boards have been replaced with hessian on top of paper. These look smart, will last for years and the materials help with the acoustics in such a large room
- * several deep cleans have taken place, including every cupboard, drawer, nook and cranny. We should have got a larger skip!
- * the fixed sandpit has been replaced and the playhouse has been removed in the main garden
- * the fixed sandpit in the smaller garden has been removed
- * plans have been acquired to develop the outdoor learning space. This includes equipment for each area of the EYFS
- * plans have been acquired to create a sensory outdoor learning area/ garden in the smaller garden
- * new sleep mats, sheets, blankets purchased
- * security camera doorbell purchased and installed (we're experiencing difficulties with the Wi-Fi, but this should be resolved soon)

Over the coming few months we have plans including:

- * completing the garden renovations (fundraising dependant)
- * new flooring being laid in the caterpillar room and the office
- * repainting the caterpillar room and the butterfly room.

(We are also hoping to replace the blinds in the butterfly room with curtains, to create a more cozy feel and to help with acoustics, but we are waiting permission for this.)

To address some other points that were identified in the surveys that have been completed; we are planning to have an information evening in the new year to explain the Montessori principles. We are also planning on some afternoon drop in sessions much like the stay and play sessions we ran previously. Details of these will follow.

The staff will all be meeting soon to discuss how we can keep you informed of what the children have been doing more regularly. The observations on Tapestry are very detailed and informative and therefore take time to complete, get checked by the room leaders and uploaded. We want staff having quality interactions with the children, as opposed to being on the iPads when the children are present. I will update you on this after the meeting.

Lastly, we have had some exciting news this week that we would like to share with you. We have got the go ahead from Ofsted to expand our provision and take children from 0 years to the term after their 5th birthday. There is much to do before this can happen, but we are hoping that it will be sometime this academic year. If you know of anyone needing childcare for an under 2, please spread the word. Also, if you have any items that we could make use of, e.g. highchairs, cots, baby toys, please let us know. We will keep you posted with the progress of this.

Best wishes Hayley Wade