

## Newsletter - Autumn (2) 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term we are trialling a new way in which we observe the children called “**planning in the moment**”.

### Why are we changing how we do things?

The Early Years Foundation Stage states: “Practitioners must consider the individual needs, interests and stage of development for each child in their care, and MUST use this information to plan challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all areas of learning and development.” This statement fits perfectly with our revised way of planning and teaching. We will treat each child as an individual, working alongside Parents to plan and educate your children to allow them to achieve their best.

### What is “planning in the moment?”

It is a model that allows child initiated learning through play, based on capturing the interests of the children through personalised learning. Key persons will take into consideration your children’s interests to create meaningful educational experiences through providing an enabling environment, using quality interactions and ‘teachable moments’.

The core elements for ‘In the Moment’ planning are;

1. Environment
2. Quality interactions
3. Observation

### What are ‘teachable moments’?

Teachable moments are about recognising that young children often learn in a more informal and creative way. Within this style of teaching, we are looking for opportunities to allow learning to take place through child initiated play alongside providing challenge and open ended questioning when needed.

### What will we do?

We will provide an environment and opportunities that stimulate curiosity and challenge thinking. We will observe and listen closely to the children’s play. We will work alongside our families to create environments that will spark the children’s interest.

**How do we record this learning?**

Every week, your child’s playroom will select 2 – 4 (depending on playroom) ‘focus children’ from the children on role. These children will be observed, assessed and planned for to meet their needs. Each child is a ‘focus child’ each half term, for 2 – 3 days (depending on attendance pattern).

When your child has been chosen you will receive a planning document to fill in with any details you may want to share, e.g. any exciting news, anything happening at home, holidays etc. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions, and send in/add to Tapestry photos of your child at home. Please ensure you return these sheets on the date stated as they are key to documenting your child’s learning and progression.

We will then record all observations and photos/videos and upload to Tapestry. (Please see a member of staff if you are unsure of your login details) for you to view and comment upon. From these observations we will be able to provide a richer learning environment with many opportunities that will continue to support your child’s learning and development.

We are looking forward to trying this new way of learning and seeing your child flourish throughout the year.

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**Building work**

We are aiming to have the portacabins moved in the next two weeks ready for us to start our building work. During this time car parking may be restricted, and we apologise in advance for this inconvenience. Upper Pre-school will have a new entrance from the Car Park area. We will provide Pre-School parents with details of the new entrances at the time.

Initially, before starting to build the three new classrooms, we are required to carry out an archaeological dig as part of our planning application. We do not have a timescale for this work, but will keep you updated as it progresses.

To view the planning application online please go to:  
<https://www.fenland.gov.uk/publicaccess/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=PONUX9HE01U00&activeTab=summary>

Any questions regarding the building work please speak to Barrie Vick.

Thank you for your continued support with the Nursery.

*Barrie, Sarah, Jasmin and Nicola*