



# Autumn Term Newsletter

## Open Air Pre-school

*"The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence"*  
Maria Montessori

Hello to all our wonderful Jelly Beans families and a very warm welcome to our new families. We wish you all a very happy time with us.

Already the feel of Autumn is with us, big walks in the woods and long shadows are here. We have started the term off with some fantastic weather which has meant we have been making as much use of our outdoors as possible. Being outside also helps to keep us healthy hopefully meaning that COVID won't get a chance to get in the way of our Autumn plans for our Jelly Beans! We continue to carry out regular cleaning procedures throughout the day in order to keep everyone safe and staff take a lateral flow test twice weekly so that we can catch anything early on.

I know Miss Grace and the Open Air team have lots planned for the term ahead to entertain and expand all children's learning experiences. The new EYFS Framework, which came into effect in September, gives your child's key person the opportunity to spend more time teaching and playing with your child/ren instead of writing up lengthy observations. The learning and fun still continues but less paperwork, thankfully.

Look out for our parent survey which will be making it's way to you soon. Your input and feedback is valuable to us, we do listen and action wherever possible.

Wishing you all a fantastic Autumn at Jelly Beans :))

Sarah Drummond

### In October we are celebrating...

★ **Black History Month 1st—31st**

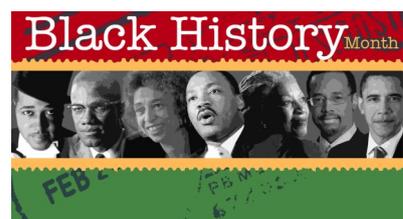
We will be looking at and discussing historic figures, inventors and innovators within the black community. Miss Brooke will be bringing in traditional South African items to show, that her family own to celebrate their South African heritage. If you have anything you would like to share or celebrate with us, please talk to Miss Brooke.

★ **Harvest Festival 8th—15th**

We will be looking at items and foods that the land gives us during the Autumn period. We would like to encourage everyone to donate something towards a collection for those in need in our local community by handing it in at nursery. Dried/tinned items are best. Our staff will deliver your kind donations.

★ **Halloween 31st**

The last week of October we will be having lots of fun with Halloween crafts, games, stories, role play & dressing up. Your child can dress up for the entire week!



### Children's Lunches

In line with our curriculum, we always aim to demonstrate and deliver healthy eating opportunities and exploration, especially around our snack times, meal times and topic discussions.

As a child-care facility in England, we have a duty of care to encourage healthy meal options. We would like to share the link below, that is an excellent resource to support families in providing balanced and nutritious foods for children. The government initiative is called Change-4-life:

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

The NHS also has a guide: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/the-eatwell-guide/> that shows the right balanced portions for each of the 5 food groups to achieve a general balanced diet.

### Garden Play

Please always provide your child with a pod, wellies and lots of spare changes of clothes including underwear. The garden will continue to get muddier along with the wetter season ahead.



### Blossom Observations

For our new families at Jelly Beans and those who have continued on with us this school year, we hope you have been enjoying seeing your children's 'Golden Moments' appear on your parent Blossom app. Your child's key worker will be closely monitoring their progress and sharing their accomplishments and play with you weekly. You should expect to see 1 detailed observation per week as well as 1-2 "snapshot" moments of your child engaged each week. This all links to your child's on-going progress alongside our Montessori and Early Years curriculum. If you have any fun moments at home, trips to the park/library/holidays etc or learning achievements outside of nursery, parents can upload photos with a comment to the Blossom parent app too. This is called a 'home observation'. This will be sent to your child's key worker and they will add it to their on-going learning journey. It is a great opportunity for your child and their key worker to talk and share their thoughts, opinions and feelings and helps us to engage the child's community.

To Our Jelly Beans families,

We are really enjoying getting to know all your children and finding out about their interests, family and friends.

You might have seen a newsletter last month about bringing family photos in from trips, holidays or anything at all! We are still encouraging this as we want to make a JB family photo album that the children can access at all times.

This is a great tool for children to share and discuss their own community and experiences.

As always, thank you for all your support and communication and have a very Happy Autumn!

Best wishes, Miss Grace x

### Names please.....

Please can we ask that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name, especially coats, jumpers, bags, wellies, drink bottles and lunch boxes. Lots of children have the SAME items and therefore we need help differentiating between them.



*Thank you for your ongoing support*

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