



Welcoming | Involving | Evolving

Oxhey Early Years Centre

Newsletter - 12th September



Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Friends and Families,

We continue to welcome our new starters and settlers and their families this week. This is the time when children get used to leaving you and exploring their environment. Most children become confident in leaving and separating from you, but we understand that for some, this change and separation can be more challenging and upsetting. Your key person will help support your child at this time, and work with you to give them the settling programme they need. Please remember that if you are

settling your child, you must sign in at Reception and wear a lanyard or "Special Guest" sticker during your stay. Please check with Reception staff if you are unsure.

Remember to keep your key person or other member of staff informed of any information that might help us - it could be about a move, a new baby, a family holiday, or just something you need help or advice with. **We are here to help.** Please inform the office of any changes in addresses, email addresses or telephone numbers. This is vital for communication, especially in the event of an emergency. We also want to hear your feedback and comments so that we can continue to listen and make this Centre the best it can be. Look out for the suggestion/comments box coming to the Reception area soon.

Learning Journals

As you are a partner in your child's learning we want to find out about their experiences and learning at home. You can share this with us via the email sharing@oeyc.herts.sch.uk. (see below for more information on Learning Journals and parental contributions).

Parents' Association

Our Parents' Association are holding their first meeting of the academic year this Thursday here in the Rainbow Room. Please come along and support them, you can be part of the amazing work they do raising money for the Centre and for your children. Please see below for more details.

Governors

Thank you to those of you who have already shown interest in becoming a parent or co-opted governor. I will be in touch with each of you this week. Please email me, by Friday 16th September, on head@oeyc.herts.sch.uk if you would like to express an interest. I will then begin an election process if necessary.

Birth Certificates

Please note that we need to take a copy of your child's birth certificate to hold on our records. Please check with the office and bring in an original certificate for us to photocopy, if you have not done so already.

Collecting Children from Blue and Purple Room

If you are collecting at 12pm or 4pm please wait outside the Centre until a member of staff opens the main door. This will allow your child to take part in the end of session routines and be ready for going home.

Our **OEYC Learning Journal** will be emailed separately from this Newsletter. Please read this too as it is essential to help you promote and **support your child's learning at home**, in line with what they are learning here. You can also look up our Learning at Home ideas on the website.

We would like to wish a **Happy Eid Ul Adha (Eid Mubarak)** to those families celebrating today. We are entering a season now during which there will be many celebrations of the different faiths and we always welcome parents coming in and sharing with us the different ways their families celebrate.

Have a good week,
Rachel Fagan
Head of Centre



Dates of forthcoming celebrations and events for your diary:

Eid Ul Adha - Islamic Festival	Mon 12 th Sept
PA Meeting here in Rainbow Room (everyone welcome)	Thurs 15 th Sept
Rosh Hashana - Jewish New Year	Mon 3 rd - Tues 4 th Sept
Deadline for ordering Pantomime tickets	Mon 3 rd Oct
Children's Individual Photos	Wed 19 th & Thurs 20 th Oct
Half-Term for Nursery School (Blue Room CLOSED)	Mon 24 th - Fri 28 th Oct
Half-Term for Term Time only Daycare	Mon 24 th - Fri 28 th Oct
Diwali - Festival of Lights	Sun 30 th Oct -Thurs 3 rd Nov



News from the Parents' Association

The next PA meeting will be here in the **Rainbow Room** this **Thursday 15th September at 7.45 pm**. This will be a very friendly, informal meeting - refreshments provided - so do come along and meet the team and find out what they do and how you may be able to help in any way possible.

The PA does a fantastic job in raising funds for special events (farm visit, cultural days, living eggs) extra resources (bikes, hutches, climbing apparatus) and much more.

Children's Learning Journals (LJs) at OEYC

Learning Journals are a record of your child's achievements and developments while they are with us. This year the children in our main day care provision (**Orange** Room and Time for Twos) will continue to have a book for their LJ in which practitioners will stick photos and observations and make notes on next steps in learning. There will be opportunities throughout the year for you to see these books.

In the School provision (**Purple** Room and **Blue** Room) we are trialling electronic learning journals this year. After a trial of different formats last Summer Term. We have chosen to use Tapestry (<https://tapestry.info/>).

This is a web based e-LJ that many Herts schools are beginning to use. Parents in **Blue** and **Purple** Rooms will receive further information this week on how they will be able to access their child's LJ and the safeguarding and data protection in place to ensure safety for all. You will also receive a consent form to complete and we will plan drop-in sessions to give more information as the use of Tapestry develops.

All parents can still send us photos and comments via our "sharing" email (sharing@oeyc.herts.sch.uk) as last year.

If the trial goes well we may begin using the e-LJs in day care in the new year.





Pantomime Reminder

This year's Oxhey Early Years Centre Trip is to the **Palace Theatre Watford** to see the pantomime **Beauty and the Beast on Friday 2nd December at 2pm.**

Hopefully everyone will by now have received a letter and order form for this event. If you haven't please either ask a member of

staff in your child's room or in the office for one. A letter has also been emailed via parentmail if you wish to print one off at home. Thank you for those of you who have placed your orders already. Please note, we need all **acknowledgements and payments** into the office (cheques to be made payable to **OEYC Ltd**) by **Monday 3rd October**. We do accept debit card payments or cash.

Our annual trip to Watford Palace Theatre is always a huge success with children and families (such high levels of enjoyment!), so please buy some tickets if you can and come and join us.

Many thanks, Jane Raphael & all the staff

Please **do not use** your **mobile phone** or other devices on site. Help us to keep all children safe. Photographs taken on mobile phones could find their way onto the Internet within 20 seconds!

Thank you for your co-operation.



A message from Julie Marsh - Finance Officer

Hello

I would like to welcome all new parents to the Centre. If you have any queries with your invoices please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone 01923 330300 option 2, via email finance@oeyc.herts.sch.uk or alternatively I am in the main office Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9 - 2pm.

I would like to say a big thank you for all the Voluntary Contributions we receive. These go towards paying for the healthy snacks and without these we would be unable to provide some of the extra curricular activities such as yoga bugs and drama. I look forward to receiving this term's contributions at your earliest convenience.

PRICE INCREASES

Please note our annual price increase for fees took effect from 1st September. This increase was just under 2% making the hourly rate £6.25p now. Meal prices have remained the same.

Early Years Club (0-5years old)

Every Friday (term time only) here in the Rainbow Room 9.30 - 11.

Please use the SCC entrance.

Do come along with your baby or child. These are drop in sessions (term time only) and only **£2.50 per family per session**, which includes a healthy snack. Prepared to get messy! Always lots of fun exploratory play - paint, sand, water, soil, pasta.....Great outdoors space too and session finishes with singing and music.

Very friendly group organised by very friendly staff.

For more information call Sara on 01923 482842



Moor Park Junior Fun Run 25th September 2015 at Merchant Taylors' School



This local event has races open to 3-7 year olds (and older children and adults) See posters around the centre or contact the organisers below.

Entry Forms & Information :

www.moorpark10k.org.uk tel: 07779 458285



This event is in aid of the Lynda Jackson MacMillan Centre at Mount Vernon Hospital

Hiring our Rainbow Room - Please come and look around this ideal venue

If you are planning a **children's party** or other **family event** and need to hire a venue, then why not consider our lovely **Rainbow Room**? There is a wonderful outside area included too as well as a small kitchen. This is available at Weekends - both Saturday and Sunday. Alternatively if you or someone you know needs a room for classes such as **Pilates, Yoga, Zumba, Choir, Keep-Fit, Tuition**.....our venue would be ideal. For more information and prices and to book a time to view the facilities **please ring 01923 330300 option 1 or 2 or email at admin@oxheyearlyyearscentre.herts.sch.uk**

