



Welcoming | Involving | Evolving

Oxhey Early Years Centre

Newsletter - 19th September



Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Friends and Families,
The Centre has been very busy over the past week with lots of children settling in **Orange**, **Purple** and **Blue** Rooms. The children are doing really well and it is lovely to see them beginning to play independently and say goodbye to their carers with a happy smile and a wave. Some children take longer than others to settle, so keep talking to your key person and keep talking to your child about all the fantastic activities they will be experiencing at Oxhey Early Years and they will get there soon.

I am very pleased to be able to let you know that the Centre has been successful in winning a grant from the Tesco "Bags for Help" scheme. Voting to decide how much our award will be begins on 26th September in stores (see below for more details). Please ask friends and family to support us and help us to win the top grant.

Governors

Thank you to those who have shown interest in being governor. I will be able to update you all next week on the recruitment drive.

Birth Certificates

Thank you to those parents who have already submitted their child's birth certificate. Please note however, that there is still a large number of parents who have not submitted their child's birth certificate yet. 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.

Learning at Home

To save any confusion with the Children's Learning Journals (see below for details) our weekly Learning Journal will now be known as **OEYC Learning Overview**. This will be emailed separately from this Newsletter. Please read this 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.

Have a good week,
Rachel Fagan
Head of Centre



Dates of forthcoming celebrations and events for your diary:

Rosh Hashana - Jewish New Year

Mon 3rd - Tues 4th Sept

Deadline for ordering Pantomime tickets

Mon 3rd Oct

Children's Individual Photos

Wed 19th & Thurs 20th Oct

Half-Term for Nursery School (Blue Room **CLOSED)**

Mon 24th - Fri 28th Oct

Half-Term for Term Time only Daycare

Mon 24th - Fri 28th Oct

Diwali - Festival of Lights

Sun 30th Oct - Thurs 3rd Nov

All Rooms - Parent Consultations

Thurs 10th Nov (5 - 8pm)

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 have received further information 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 have received a consent form to complete - thank you to those parents who have already returned these to the office. Please ask in the office if you have not received a form.** We will plan drop-in sessions, for parents, 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.

Is your child 3 or 4 years old?

If so please help us to apply for Early Years Pupil Premium

This applies to Blue and Purple Rooms only!

Letters were given out last week to parents/carers of children aged 3 - 4years regarding information we need to collect in order to check your child's eligibility for the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP).

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN BY FRIDAY 30th SEPTEMBER Completion of this form is voluntary BUT the information will help us to apply for additional funding. We will inform you if your child is eligible. Thank you to the 5 families who have already completed the form



TESCO Bags of Help

HELP US TO GAIN A GRANT OF £12,000

We have been successful in being awarded a grant to develop outdoor learning provision at the Centre. This is part of the Tesco's "Bags of Help" scheme. 3 local projects have been chosen and customers decide which project gets £8,000, £10,000 or £12,000. Voting will open in stores from 26th September, until 9th October. The number of votes cast for us will decide which amount we receive. Voting is via a token given at the check-out when you shop.

Please tell family and friends about this. We are not allowed to leaflet or promote this "at the stores" but we can do lots of promotion in the Centre and through family and friends.

LOOK OUT FOR THE VOTING - IN LOCAL TESCO STORES FROM 26th SEPTEMBER



Pantomime Reminder - Hurry still time to purchase tickets!

By now you will all know that 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**. Thank you to everyone who has placed an order for tickets for this popular annual event.

If you still need a letter and order form please ask in the office. This is fun for all the family so as many members of your family can come along with your child - nans, granddads, aunts, uncles siblings.....

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

News from the Parents' Association - Christmas Cards

The Parents' Association have organised a '**Design a Christmas Card**' project for this term. Your child will soon receive a letter about the project together with an order form. Not only is this a really fun activity for the children and a lovely memento for friends and family, but it is also a great way to raise funds for the Centre (every pack ordered raises £1). Designs and cheques should be returned by **Wednesday 12th October**. We appreciate that this is a tight deadline but this is necessary to enable all orders to be returned by the beginning of December. Sample cards will soon be on display in the PA display box outside and if you have any questions or would like additional sheets, please contact Sally Woodage at ta@oeyc.herts.sch.uk. Happy designing.



Book borrowing



Please do look at the books outside the rooms with your child and borrow one to take home. Just follow the instructions on the files located on the shelves and enjoy reading a book with your child. Ask a member of staff in the room if you are not sure of the procedure.

We are now selling book bags with our Oxhey Early Years logo on them - perfect for carrying library books to and from the Centre. These are priced at £4 each and are available from the main office or from Sally Woodage .



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 01923 330300 opt 1



eSafety



Childnet International is a non-profit organisation working in partnership with others around the world to help make the internet a great and safe place for children. The Childnet website hosts many online resources, as well as a number of recommended resources for young people, parents, carers and teachers. For more information on eSafety



www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers and/or on our website www.oeyc.herts.sch.uk for safety fact sheets and books for reading to young children to help them with the concept of eSafety.

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.



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**



To find out all the news and activities available at the **Oxhey Group Children's Centres (Ebury, Sunshine and South Oxhey)** please follow this link

www.pre-school.org.uk/oxhey-group-childrens-centres

or call the following numbers

Tel: South Oxhey: 0208 428 3591 Ebury: 01923 255054

Sunshine: 01923 254563

Or Email: oxhegroupcc@pre-school.org.uk

You can also follow us on Facebook for the most up to date information about what's going on in the centres!

Forthcoming courses of interest:-

Introducing Solid Foods - Wed 21st Sept 10am @ South Oxhey CC (tel: 0208 428 3591)

Common Childhood Illnesses - Thurs 22nd Sept 3.15 - 4.15pm South Oxhey CC (tel: as above)

(both above courses are free so book your place now)

The Giving Machine www.thegivingmachine.co.uk



Shopping online and/or for the different festivities coming up? Please sign up - it's easy and free! This is a totally free website designed to benefit a charity you nominate. Every time you shop online (having logged in to The Giving Machine website first) a donation from the shop is given to your chosen charity.

Many big name stores such as Amazon, M&S, John Lewis etc. have a link from their web page. We would urge everyone to consider using this site and nominating 'Oxhey Early Years Centre' as a beneficiary. It's really easy to use and a great way to credit the Centre at no cost to yourself. Please spread the word amongst family and friends who order online too.

