



Welcoming | Involving | Evolving

Oxhey Early Years Centre

# Newsletter - 10th July

Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Friends and Families,



Once again we had a fantastic Family Fun Day on Friday. It was lovely to see so many of you here and the weather was good too. Thank you to all of you for coming along and for your support in making it run so smoothly - I'm sure that you had a great day playing alongside your children, enjoying your picnics and meeting friends and families. My thanks go to our wonderful STAFF TEAM who all worked hard to make the event a success. Thank you to our Governors who attended and took part in the day. Many thanks also go to the AMAZING PA TEAM who worked so hard to raise money

and arrange stalls. Not forgetting of course, Miles and Hannah from Woodoaks for their 'Creative Play' sessions and Phil Perry, our Entertainer, who always gives a great show and his balloon modelling gets better and better. We have received lots of positive feedback from parents about the day, so thank you for that too.

We continue to be busy with many activities around transitions and we will be welcoming families new to the Centre for their 'Introductory Visits'. We are holding a welcome meeting this week too for parents new to the 3-4 provision in September. As we near the end of term, please note all the important dates below. The OEYC Learning Overview and weekly rhyme will be sent out separately.

Have a good week.

Rachel Fagan, Head of Centre



## Dates of forthcoming celebrations and events for your diary:

Welcome to OEYC meeting for all parents (3 - 4yr olds)	Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> July (7-8pm)
Last day of term for school and term-time only Daycare	Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> July
<b>Occasional Day - NURSERY SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<b>Mon 24<sup>th</sup> July</b>
Holiday Daycare begins	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> July
Holiday Daycare CLOSED	Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> - Thurs 31 <sup>st</sup> Aug
<b>INSET DAYS - ALL ROOMS CLOSED</b>	<b>Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Sept &amp; Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>
<b>ALL ROOMS OPEN FOR START OF AUTUMN TERM</b>	<b>Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>
Calendar showing terms dates and holidays for 2017-18 (from September 2017) is now available on our website <a href="http://www.oeyc.herts.sch.uk/news_dates/term_dates.html">http://www.oeyc.herts.sch.uk/news_dates/term_dates.html</a>	

## Welcome

'Welcome to Oxhey Early Years Centre - Blue and Purple Rooms  
This is a meeting for all parents new to the 3-4 year old provision  
and is on: Monday 10th July 7 - 8pm

If you would like to attend this meeting and have not been given a letter, please call in the office for a letter with an attached slip which must be signed and returned.

The Parents Association would like to thank you all for your donations of bottles, jazzy jars and raffle prizes for the Family Fun/Picnic day and to those of you who volunteered to help on the stalls. The event was very well attended and we raised £307 for the Centre so thank you all very much.

**Thank  
You**

The Parents' Association are in great need of new volunteers to start in September. If you can help in any way please speak to Sally Snell (a member of the OEYC staff team & their 'welcomer' every 9am and 1pm) or Sarah Castro-Keable who will continue leading from September. Thank you all once again for your support - The Parents' Association team - Sarah Castro-Keable, Nisha Soni, Katy Swaine (Parents), Sally Snell (Teacher Administrator)



**LOTTERY FUNDED**

### Outdoor Learning Project - Rainbow Garden now open

The work on the new garden has now been completed and the garden was officially opened by the Mayor of Watford - Dorothy Thornhill last Monday. We have had so many positive comments from parents as to how wonderful the garden looks and of course further proof of its success has been the number of children involved and

engaged in the garden on Family Fun Day. Use of the garden will become part of our planning for all the rooms moving forward.

*Thanks go to Donna, our business manager and project manager for the garden, Emily who support with designs that offered lots of open ended learning opportunities and Linda as caretaker who supported Donna and has been looking after the garden this term.*

Please follow this link to read an article on the opening in last week's Observer

[http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/15394949.Mayor\\_of\\_Watford\\_opens\\_new\\_nursery\\_garden/](http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/15394949.Mayor_of_Watford_opens_new_nursery_garden/)

**TESCO** Bags of Help



### **Childcare Choices - GET YOUR 30 HOUR ELIGIBILITY CODE HERE**

This is a new website all about Government help with childcare costs, including 15 OR 30 hours free childcare, Tax-Free Childcare, tax credits, Universal Credit, vouchers and support while you study. Click on the link to find out more

[www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

### **ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR 3 -4 YEAR OLDS**

This link gives details of eligibility criteria

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/30-hours-free-childcare-eligibility>



### **REMINDERS FROM JULIE MARSH - FINANCE OFFICER**



Please let me know ASAP the date of your child's last day, if it is other than the end of term.

If your child has **all year round care**, please let me know the date you wish to finish their booking, otherwise I will assume their last day will be 19<sup>th</sup> August.

**MAY I RESPECTFULLY REMIND EVERYONE THAT ANY OUTSTANDING DEBTS SHOULD BE PAID BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF TERM - FRIDAY 21st JULY**

## OFSTED QUESTIONNAIRE

If you have not already done so please look at our online questionnaires on **PARENT VIEW**. Please follow the link below and complete a questionnaire. Thank you to those people who have already completed the questionnaire.

Log onto [www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk). If you experience any difficulties logging on please let us know. Thank you for taking time to do this.

If you would prefer to complete this at the Centre ask in the office about a guest log-in.



## THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT **ANIMAL AGENTS** SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2017



### Hertfordshire Libraries Summer Reading Challenge

'Animal Agents' are coming as part of the 2017 Summer Reading Challenge!

Research shows that the Summer Reading Challenge helps to improve children's confidence with reading and interest in looking at books. It is the UK's biggest promotion of children's reading - last year over 20,000 Hertfordshire children took part - and it's free.

The children are challenged to read six library books or eBooks of their choice during the holidays. For every two books they read, they are rewarded two stickers. When they have completed the challenge, they will receive a wristband and are invited to a presentation ceremony where they will be given their certificate and medal. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to win tickets to an exclusive author event. The Summer Reading Challenge materials are suitable for all ages and for visually impaired children too. 'Animal Agents' packs will be available in all Hertfordshire public libraries from Saturday 15 July while stocks last, finishing on Saturday 9 September a link to the Animal Agents website can be found at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries)

### What the children said about last year's challenge

*"I really liked it and it was easy and the books were interesting and fun, amazing, wonderful and can't wait until next year."* - Samantha Age 8

*"I really liked the reading challenge and talking about the books to the library staff."* - Martha Age 4

*"Fun and exciting challenge this year."* - Matthew Age 10

*"The reading challenge encouraged me to read more books than I usually would."* - Rufus Age 7

*"A really great idea to get kids excited about reading and feel special in receiving their certificate and medal."* - Mikail Age 6

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](http://www.pre-school.org.uk/oxhey-group-childrens-centres)

or call the following numbers: South Oxhey: 0208 428 3591

Ebury: 01923 255054 Sunshine: 01923 254563

Or Email: [oxheygroupcc@pre-school.org.uk](mailto:oxheygroupcc@pre-school.org.uk) or pick up a leaflet from Reception

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





## Are You Ready For School?

Is your child starting pre-school or nursery in September 2017? If so can they do the following?

- Change their clothes?
- Use cutlery?
- Sit and listen?
- Carry a tray?
- Choose what food they want to eat?
- Take their shoes and socks on & off?

The Oxhey Group Children's Centres will be holding **FREE** workshops to help your child practice these self-care skills. You need to be able to attend **all 4** sessions.

Sessions will be held on the following dates:

**1<sup>st</sup> August**

**Times: 10am - 11.30 am**

**8 August**

**15<sup>th</sup> August**

**22<sup>nd</sup> August**

For more information and to book please contact  
**Maira Darr at Sunshine Children's Centre**  
**01923 254563**

**Maira.darr@pre-school.org.uk**

**Venue:**

South Oxhey Childrens Centre

Northwick Road, South Oxhey WD19 6NL

## Hiring the **Rainbow Room** for parties, special events or classes-please view 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 lovely outside area included too. 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@oeyc.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@oeyc.herts.sch.uk)**

