



Welcoming | Involving | Evolving

Oxhey Early Years Centre

# Newsletter - 23rd January 2017

Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Friends and Families



The cold weather continues and children continue wrapping up warmly and exploring and investigating the outside gardens learning more about the winter changes to our outdoor learning areas.

Hopefully you will all have received the parent mail last week confirming that the December Ofsted visit resulted in the Nursery School continuing to be **OUTSTANDING**. I am very proud to be the head teacher of an outstanding school. Once again thanks to all involved: staff, children and parents. You can find the Inspector's letter/report on our website.

## Staffing

We will be saying goodbye to a longstanding member of the day care team at the end of this month. Alex Ray has been with the Centre since she was a student and now works as a senior practitioner for both Orange Room and Time for Twos. She will be a big loss to the Centre but we wish her well with her new appointment and future endeavours. Good Luck Alex!

## Library Mornings

We will be starting Library mornings in **Blue** and **Purple** Rooms this Friday - please sign up if you can. You might like to purchase a Centre book bag to help take care of your library book.

Please read below for all the latest news and information.

Have a good week.

**Rachel Fagan, Head of Centre**

The Learning Overview is emailed separately - this includes ideas of how to support your child's learning at home and our weekly rhyme. This week's rhyme is all about "Jack Frost."



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

<b>Bag2School event</b>	<b>Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>
<b>Chinese New Year Celebrations - Year of the Rooster</b>	<b>begins Sat 28<sup>th</sup> January</b>
<b>On-line Nursery Applications OPEN</b>	<b>Mon 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>
<b>Let's Do Maths! Parents come and join in the activities</b>	<b>Wk. beginning Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - more info nearer the time!</b>
<b>Parents' Association Coffee morning - see below</b>	<b>Fri 10<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>
<b>Half-Term week for school and Term Time only Daycare</b>	<b>Mon 13<sup>th</sup> - Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>

## Blue and Purple Room Library Day (every Friday) - We need your help!



We will be beginning our **Library and Book Sharing Day** **This Friday - 27<sup>th</sup> January to continue to the end of term.** We will need a parent/carer each week (on a Friday) to help children select a book to take home. We have put lists outside the rooms for parents/carers to sign up if they can volunteer their help on any Friday (morning or afternoon) for this term. So far we have only had one parent sign up and we need many more. If you want to find out more, please speak to Rachel

or Sally.

## OEYC BOOK BAGS

To coincide with our promotion of our Libraries, we will be selling book bags with our Oxhey Early Years logo on them. These will be priced at £4 each and are available from the main office or from Sally.



## 30 HOURS FREE CHILD CARE IS COMING!

From Sept 2017 Oxhey Early Years Centre will be offering the additional 15 hours free child care that working parents can apply for.

These additional hours are for 3-4 year olds.

To help us devise the best offer for our parents we will be sending out an online questionnaire to Orange Room, Time for Two parents and parents of children staying with us for 17/18. (a paper version will be available if you prefer)

Please look out for this and let us know what you want and need via this questionnaire.

## News from the Parents Association

Please remember your filled bags for the **Bag2school collection tomorrow 24<sup>th</sup> Jan**. We have more bags if you need them. Bags can be filled with clothes, soft toys, paired shoes, hats, belts and handbags for this event. Please bring in your filled bags in now. Please do not bring any bags in after 8.30 am tomorrow.



## Coffee Morning - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February - 9.30am - 11am



We will be holding a Coffee morning in the Rainbow Room on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February to coincide with the Early Play and Learning session. Please do drop in from 9.30am onwards and purchase a cup of coffee/tea and a piece of cake. It will be a wonderful opportunity to take time out and have a chat with other parents. All money raised will go towards the PA funds which put on events such as the Living Eggs ( watching chicks/ducks hatch), our cultural day and our annual visit from farm or zoo animals.



## Can you help? We need tins of all different shapes and sizes please

If you have any empty tins with lids i.e. biscuit, chocolate, crackers, drinking chocolate, .....we would greatly appreciate these in the Purple Room for matching activities and sorting by shape.

## Reminder from Julie Marsh

If I am not in the Office or I am otherwise occupied, there is a red Post box on the wall just outside the main office for posting cheques and any invoice queries etc. Please write your child's name clearly on the back of all cheques.

You may also email me any queries at [finance@oeyc.herts.sch.uk](mailto:finance@oeyc.herts.sch.uk)





### Nursery School Admissions

Applications for a school nursery place will open on **Monday 6th February 2017** for children born between **1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014.**

A leaflet detailing information about nursery admissions will be sent to all parents/carers who are registered with a Hertfordshire GP

Apply online from Monday 6th February 2017

Application deadline Friday 17th March 2017

Offer date Tuesday 25th April 2017

Accept your place by Wednesday 3rd May 2017

[www.herts.direct.org/nurseryadmissions](http://www.herts.direct.org/nurseryadmissions)

NB If your child is currently in the **Orange/ Blue/Purple** Rooms, letters have been sent out to you explaining what you need to do with regards your application. If you still have any queries, please speak to a member of staff in the Office.



We are continuing our 'Walk on Wednesday' campaign to encourage everyone to keep fit and enjoy some quality time together. Embrace the winter weather (wrap up warmly) and walk, cycle or scoot to school every Wednesday then receive a special sticker. It's also a wonderful way for you and your children to stay in tune with the environment and each other. **Why**

**not switch off your phones for the duration of your walk to avoid distractions and focus on your interactions with your child as you walk!** There are still many wonderful things to see (and hear and smell!) now that winter progresses. It won't be long until we see some signs of spring!

### Early Years Club - Play and Learn (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 info. call 01923 330300 opt 1



### 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 opt 1 or email at [admin@oeyc.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@oeyc.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](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!

**Forthcoming course on Oral health for children on Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Jan at South Oxhey**

**Also New at Sunshine Children's Centre - Busy Feet Explorers Music & Movement group  
Drop in Session £2 per family every Friday Term Time Only 1.30-2.30pm 2 - 5 yr olds  
Phone 01923 254563 for more information**



### Parenting a Child With Additional Needs

This FULLY FUNDED 7 session course is an opportunity for parents to share feelings and experiences and discover solutions to problems based on what works - not what's meant to work!

The lead facilitator has first hand experience of parenting a child with additional needs.  
**YOU DO NOT NEED A DIAGNOSIS TO ATTEND THIS COURSE**

Topics include:

- \* Discovering your child's sensory temperament
- \* Home/School Issues and meetings with professionals
- \* Understanding and managing behaviour
- \* Recognising your child's emotional needs
- \* Coping with feelings and the wider family

**DATES: Tues 31<sup>st</sup> Jan, Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> 28<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

**Time: 12.30-2.30pm**

**To be held at;**

**Ebury Children's Centre**

**Raglan Gardens**

**Oxhey Hall**

**Watford**

**WD19 4LL**

**This course is funded by Childhood Support Services**

**Hertfordshire County Council**

To book your place, please contact

Oxhey Group Children's Centre

Email: [joanne.hart@pre-school.org.uk](mailto:joanne.hart@pre-school.org.uk)

Tel: 01923 255 054

