



Welcoming | Involving | Evolving

Oxhey Early Years Centre

Newsletter - 24th April

Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Friends and Families



Children have all settled back well and have been eager to investigate their environment. It is particularly exciting at this time of year with all the growth and change happening - so much to explore and learn. We are all looking forward this week to the arrival of the eggs and will be watching closely for signs of baby chicks hatching from them.

Moving on to Reception - allocations of primary schools came out last week. This process will continue over the next few weeks, particularly for those of you hoping for a different allocation. If you have any queries or questions about the process, please speak to me or contact your Children's Centre.

Continuing at OEYC in September

If your child is staying with us in September please keep up to date with information on 15 or 30 hours free funding for 3-4 year olds - see details below. If you are hoping to be eligible for the extended funding for working parents (up to 30 hours) then please register at the government "child care choices" website- see below. You can register to get an email alert for when the eligibility checker goes live. (You do not need to do this if you only want a 15 hour place)

Allocation of nursery places, via the Herts online process can be viewed from Tuesday 25th April. Parents will also receive an email tomorrow, from us, giving more details about the hours we are offering and asking for a response within 5 working days - please look out for this email. If you have queries about your offer, please detail these in your reply or speak to Wendy or Julie in the office, or to me. The 30 hours offer is new for everyone and has meant making some changes to how we offer places, please bear with us at this time of change.

Please read below for all the up and coming events.

The OEYC Learning Journal and weekly rhyme will be sent out separately. Please read this for all the information about what we are learning in the rooms and ideas to support your children's learning at home.

Have a good week.

Rachel Fagan, Head of Centre

Dates of forthcoming celebrations and events for your diary:

Chicken Egg Experience

Book Fair

Bank Holiday Monday **CENTRE CLOSED**

Children's Group Photographs

Parents' Association Meeting (everyone welcome)

Sponsored Walk in aid of debra - a charity supporting EB (details soon)

begins Tues 25th April

Thurs 27th Apr - Thurs 4th May

Mon 1st May

Wed 10th May

Wed 11th May (7.30pm)

Tues 23rd May





Scholastic Book Fair

Please come and support our Scholastic Book Fair which starts this week on **Thursday 27th April outside Reception**. All profits from sales will be spent on purchasing books for our Centre. As usual there will be a wide variety of top quality books and stationary to choose from. The fair will **finish on Thursday 4th May**.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FUNDING FOR 3-4 YEAR OLDS

30 Hours - coming to OEYC September 2017

Keep informed using the information below and the child care choices website.

This link gives details of eligibility criteria

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



Childcare Choices

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. Please click on the link to find out more www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

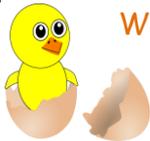
PLEASE REGISTER FOR UPDATES AT THIS SITE

News from the Parents Association

Sponsored Scavenger Hunt

Please return sponsorship money and your treasure by **Tuesday 25th April**. Money should be put in the PA post box situated on the wall outside the Blue Room.

Chicken Egg Experience - Our Chicken eggs will be here this week!



We need to raise £300 to fund this event, so if you haven't yet done so, please come and choose a jewel to put on the golden egg in Reception. We suggest a donation of £1. Thank you to everyone who has already purchased a jewel - our duck is looking more sparkly now. Please ask in the office for your jewel now! This will end this

week.

Parents Association Whatsapp group

Interested parents will get information about our upcoming events and how they can support us (it's not just about turning up to meetings!). Ask in the office about adding your phone number to our group.



Summer Fun Day



We are now starting to collect donations for the raffle which is to be held on the Summer Fun Day in July. If any parents know of a company that could donate a prize or service as a raffle prize we would be very grateful! Prizes could include: restaurant vouchers, beauty therapies, car services, day out tickets, hampers etc.

Our Next meeting is Thurs 11th May - 7.30pm here in the Rainbow Room. EVERYONE VERY WELCOME - SO PLEASE COME ALONG AND FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP.



LOTTERY FUNDED

Outdoor Learning Project - Rainbow Room Garden

Work is continuing on this and many children have had the chance to go and see the construction workers and digger in action. The new allotment beds have been made and work on construction for the amphitheatre has begun along with the new storage and play sheds.



Walk to school

We are continuing our 'Walk on Wednesday' campaign to encourage everyone to keep fit and enjoy some quality time together. 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. Switch off your phones for the duration of your walk to avoid distractions and focus on your interactions with your child as you walk! Enjoy the mild spring weather we are having at present and soak in all the sights and sounds of spring.



Blue and Purple Room Library and Book Sharing



We are continuing this through the summer term and we will **need parents to help out**. However, this is now slightly different for each room. Purple Room parents have been sent a separate email regarding when they can come in and help. Please read the posters outside the rooms and sign up on the lists or speak to Sally or Rachel for more information. Many thanks for your

continued support.

May I also remind you to sign in the designated book folder - on top of the book cases - when your child returns their book.



We still have **blue book bags** for sale £4 each. Please ask in the office.

Sainsbury's vouchers for schools

We are continuing to be part of the Sainsbury's **Active Kids** voucher scheme. Thank you to those of you who have already brought vouchers in. There is a box in reception for vouchers. We welcome any vouchers you collect. The more we collect the more equipment we can get for your children. We have until June before this scheme closes.



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**

Early Years Club - Play and Learn 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



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: South Oxhey: 0208 428 3591

Ebury: 01923 255054 Sunshine: 01923 254563

Or Email: oxhegroupcc@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!

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.

Volunteers needed

They are currently also looking for volunteers to help them in a variety of ways, admin, playgroups, maintaining resources.....Volunteering will also help you enhance your CV at the same time supporting a fantastic service.

For more information, please contact Ceres El-Khalifa on 01923 255054

Up and coming workshops and courses:-

Understanding your Baby's Brain - Wed 26th April 10.30 - 11.30am (1 session) South Oxhey CC

How to look after baby's and your teeth - Tues 13th June 1.30pm (1 session) South Oxhey CC

How to keep your child safe in the home - Tues 4th July 1.30pm (1 session) South Oxhey CC

About Boy's Course (understanding boys development & behaviour) Tues 18th July

9.30 - 11.30am South Oxhey CC

For more information and/or to book a place phone 02018 428 3591

