



Welcoming | Involving | Evolving

Oxhey Early Years Centre

Newsletter - 27th March

Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Friends and Families



I am amazed once again how quickly time has passed and we are nearly at the end of the Spring Term. There have been so many experiences this term enabling children to progress and develop - I have seen so many children deeply involved in learning through play. Thank you to all the staff, both in the rooms and in the offices who ensure that the Centre runs so smoothly every day. Thank you for all your comments and feedback after parent consultations. Additionally a big thank you to all our OEYC staff, governors and directors, who consistently contribute to our outstanding Centre.

Our all year round Daycare team are hoping for good weather over the holidays to have a fun filled fortnight. For those of you who are off for the fortnight, we do hope you have a relaxing break. Please do make a note of all the important dates below, including Centre and room closures.

The Learning Overview and weekly rhyme is emailed separately.

Have a good week.

Rachel Fagan, Head of Centre



Dates of forthcoming celebrations and events for your diary:

Easter Cake Bake Sale - organised by the PA	Fri 31 st March
Last day of term for Nursery School & Term-time only Daycare	Fri 31 st March
Good Friday - Bank Holiday - <u>ALL ROOMS CLOSED</u>	Fri 14 th April
Easter Monday - Bank Holiday - <u>ALL ROOMS CLOSED</u>	Mon 17 th April
<u>ALL ROOMS OPEN</u>	Tues 18 th April
Cultural Event (for PM children only who missed it in March)	Thurs 20 th April
Duck Egg Experience	begins Tues 25 th April
Book Fair	Thurs 27 th Apr - Thurs 4 th May
Bank Holiday Monday CENTRE CLOSED	Mon 1 st May
Children's Group Photographs	Wed 10 th May

Reminders from Julie Marsh - Finance Officer

Daycare Sessions over the Easter holiday period

If your child is going to be doing anything different to what they usually do over the holiday period please notify me - Julie Marsh, or complete a white change form (found in reception) ASAP.



News from the Parents Association

Easter Cake Sale

The PA is running a cake sale this Friday 31st March - and this time it's **Easter themed!** You will be given a plate to take home this week and it would be fantastic if you could fill the plate with six (or more) cakes - these can be homemade or shop bought, it's up to you. If they feature bunnies, chicks, Easter eggs, ...even better!



You and your children will then be able to buy a plate back for £1 - raising important funds that will provide activities and treats for the children throughout the year.

Please look out for sign-up sheets outside each room over the next week, as we would be very grateful for any help preparing the stall and selling cakes.

Thank you once again for all your support

Sponsored Scavenger Hunt



Competition sheets will also be coming home with your children this week ready for the Easter Holidays - something fun to do and at the same time help raise funds for special events and for purchasing bikes, scooters, buggies etc.

We hope you have fun collecting treasure and we look forward to seeing your completed sheets after the Easter holiday! Please return sponsorship money and your treasure by **Friday 21st April**.

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.



Duck Egg Experience



Every year the Parent's Association fund the Duck/Chicken Egg experience that we have in nursery. The children learn so much from watching the eggs hatch and become ducklings or chicks. We need to raise £300 to fund this event, so we have set up a giant golden egg in the hallway. You can make a suggested donation of £1

for your child to stick a jewel on and support this experience. 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!

Summer Fun Day

We need to start collecting 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.



Coffee Morning - Friday 24th March



Thank you to everyone who attended this event last Friday. It was nice to meet up with new faces and we raised **£61** in the process which will go in the PA fund to buy resources for the rooms and to put on special events.

Red Nose Day - Comic Relief

Thank you to everyone who supported this event on Friday - the children had a fun day. We raised **£101** which will go to this very worthwhile charity.



Lunch arrangements for the 2 week Easter holidays



As Bromet School closes for the Easter break we are unable to provide lunch time meals over that period. Therefore if your child attends any sessions starting **Monday 3rd April to Thursday 13th April inclusive** and which includes the lunch period, you will need to provide a packed lunch. Many thanks.

Childcare Choices

This is a new website all about Government help with childcare costs, including 15 to 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



30 Hours - coming September 2017

We are finalising how this will be offered at OEYC - information will follow after the Easter break. Details are still being produced from the Government - see above, which affect our offer. This link gives details of eligibility criteria

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



Blue and Purple Room Library and Book Sharing Fridays



Thank you to all parents who have signed up this term to help in our Library and Book Sharing Day each Friday. We shall be carrying this on for the summer term and we will **need parents to help out**. If you can spare an hour or so in the morning or afternoon of any Friday we would greatly appreciate it. Please sign up on the lists outside Blue and Purple Room or speak to Sally or Rachel for more information.

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

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



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: 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!

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:-

Healthy Eating Cookery Course - Wednesday 19th April 10 - 12noon for 5 weeks - Ebury CC

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

Common Childhood Illnesses - a talk by a local Health Visitor - Thurs 13th April South Oxhey CC 3.15 - 4.15pm - phone 01923 255054 to book your free place on this talk

Keeping your Children Safe online - Wed 19th April 10.00 - 11.30 South Oxhey CC Phone Joanne @Ebury CC on 01923 255054 to book your place on this free workshop

