



Welcoming | Involving | Evolving

Oxhey Early Years Centre

# Newsletter -30th January

Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Friends and Families



Chinese New Year began at the weekend. The children have already been involved in many activities around this theme. You may be lucky to see the Chinese dragons the children will be designing and making, dance around the Centre, accompanied by Chinese music. It should be spectacular! You may also smell some delicious stir-fries being cooked. We'll be trying chopsticks too! If you are celebrating this week, we hope you have a very Happy New Year - **Kung Hei Fat Choy!**

## Let's Do Maths

All next week the Centre will be welcoming parents/carers to come and join in our play and activities to see how we learn maths through play and exploration (see information below). We look forward to welcoming lots of visitors (younger siblings welcome too).

## Library Mornings

Library mornings in **Blue** and **Purple** Rooms will continue each Friday. Thank you to all parents who have signed up to help so far. 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. 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 Chinese New Year.

Have a good week.

Rachel Fagan, Head of Centre

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

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



Blue and Purple Room Library Day (every Friday) - We need your help! Library and Book Sharing Day will continue this Friday - 3<sup>rd</sup> February until the end of term. Thank you to those parents who have already signed up to help. Please add your name if you are able to help too. 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.





## Let's Do Maths

We are having a special 'Let's do Maths' week in the Blue and Purple rooms to recognise and celebrate that maths is all around us. There will be lots of maths activities taking place such as making patterns,



measuring, creating shape pictures, reading number stories,

etc. and we are hoping that many of you will be able to spend some time in your child's

room involved in an activity with the children. You will work alongside the members of staff. If you have an hour or two to spare and would like to help out in your child's room during this week, please indicate your preferred day on the sign-up sheets outside the rooms.

Possible activities may include:- Cooking that involves counting and measuring; Making play dough - using shape/number cutter; Junk modelling - discussing 3D shapes and using mathematical language e.g. on top, next to, big, smaller etc; Reading number stories; Threading beads to make repeating patterns; Playing a game e.g. snakes and ladders, dominoes; Creating pictures using 2D shapes; Playing a game outside and keeping score; Number Target practise game outside. Or maybe you have another idea. We look forward to seeing you next week.



## **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 have devised an online questionnaire. This has been sent out to parents already. If you missed this and might use the 30 hours in the future then please follow the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/OEYC30HRS>

NOTE: No final decision has been made on OEYC's exact additional 15 hours offer

## **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.



### Sainsbury's vouchers for schools

Sainsbury's have now started up their **Active Kids** voucher scheme again. We welcome any vouchers you collect. There will be a box in reception for these. The more we collect the more equipment we can

get for your children. Thank you

### News from the Parents Association

**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.



### 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)**

### 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



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: [oxheylgroupcc@pre-school.org.uk](mailto:oxheylgroupcc@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**

**Parenting a Child With Additional Needs - Hurry some places left and it begins today!**

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

