



Welcoming | Involving | Evolving

Oxhey Early Years Centre

Newsletter - 5th June

Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Friends and Families,



Welcome back to those of you who had a half-term break and I hope you all enjoyed a good long Bank Holiday weekend. A great time was had in our holiday daycare - thanks to our all year round team.

We had a wonderful Sponsored Walk before half-term - thank you to everyone who joined us and for all your sponsorship money. We have raised an amazing **£276** so far for the **Debra** UK charity. There is still time to bring any sponsorship money that you may have.

We look forward to a busy and exciting half-term ahead - a time for lots of growing and new life and of course preparing children for transitions.

Also scheduled in are some rain forest animals (Zoolab) animals visiting the Centre, Parent Consultations, pyjama day and our annual Family Picnic Day. Please check below and add the dates to your diaries, in particular the Family Picnic Day when all family members are invited to come along with their children for this fun filled day.

Our PA team are doing a great job preparing for our **FAMILY FUN/PICNIC DAY on FRIDAY JULY 7th** and organising other events to raise money for resources for the rooms. They are having a meeting on **Wednesday 21st June, 7.45pm** here in the Rainbow Room. Do come along - they need lots of help with the Picnic Day.

Please note all rooms will be **CLOSED** for an **INSET DAY (Staff Training) - Friday 30th June.**

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:

Bags 2 school

Zoolab visit here (rainforest animals)

PA meeting- everyone welcome (7.45pm)

Pyjama Day (wear Pjs or a onesie) see below

Blue & Purple Room Parent Consultations

Orange Room Parents' Evening (5.30pm -7.30pm)

INSET DAY for staff training all rooms CLOSED

PA meeting - everyone welcome (7.45pm)

Family Picnic Day (everyone invited to this special day- we will also need plenty of volunteer helpers)

Last day of term for school and term-time only Daycare

Occasional Day - NURSERY SCHOOL CLOSED

Tues 6th June 9am

Thurs 15th June

Wed 21st June

Fri 23rd June

wk beginning Mon 26th June

Thurs 29th June

Fri 30th June

Thurs 6th July

Fri 7th July

Fri 21st July

Mon 24th July

Calendar showing terms dates and holidays for 2017-18 (from September 2017) is now available on our website http://www.oeyc.herts.sch.uk/news_dates/term_dates.html



Please remember your bags of clothes by the end of today or first thing tomorrow morning. Bags will be collected at 9am tomorrow morning and we regret we will not be able to accept any bags after this time. Thank you as always for your support.

Children's group photos

If you put in your order **before half-term** then photos should be back this week. If you were **late** putting in your order due to your child having chicken-pox then your photos will be back next week.



Zoolab Visit - Thursday 15^h June



Zoolab will be visiting us next Thursday and we are greatly looking forward to seeing and handling the 'rainforest' animals they bring (snakes, spiders, tree frogs.....). We have a risk assessment in place for this visit which will ensure your child's health and safety, but we need to make parents/carers aware that if their child has any known allergies to animals or they do not want their child to take part then please let their child's key person know as soon as possible. Historically these visits (previously we have had farm animals) have been extremely popular with children and adults alike and provide a wide variety of learning opportunities.

If your child does not usually attend on this day and you would like them to see the animals, please have a word with a member of staff in your child's room. It may be possible for you to attend **with** your child for 30 - 40 minutes on the day.

Sun-Safety Guidance



Please remember to apply sun cream to your children before their session and provide them with a labelled sun hat. Remember that the sun can come out later even on a cloudy day!



If your child arrives without sun cream we will ask you to apply it before you leave.

We will only reapply sun-cream if your child is attending all day. Please give your named bottle of sun cream to your child's keyperson. **DO NOT** leave any sun cream in your child's bag.



Please make sure that your child wears adequate footwear suitable for climbing, pedalling etc - no flip-flops, crocs or flimsy footwear. Please ensure shoulders are covered. Thank you.



VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS URGENTLY NEEDED FOR THIS TERM



May we remind all parents that voluntary contributions for the summer term are now due - without these we may not be able to provide the extra-curricular activities such as Woodoaks and Yoga. Half of the contributions go to providing a healthy snack for your child too. Please bring in your payments to the Office ASAP - £25 for the whole term.

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>



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

Parents' Association News

We hope to be running an **ice-olly/ice-cream/ice-pop sale one day a week** - beginning this week and running until the end of the summer term. We will choose a warm day in the week (the sale won't necessarily be on the same day each week) and they will be on sale at mid-day, 1pm and then again at 4pm. They will all be reasonably priced. Tea-time children will have an opportunity to buy one too. We will need some large cool-boxes and **also some parent helpers for this event**. Please speak to Sally, Jane or Fay if you can help.



Our next PA meeting is on **Wednesday 21st June** here at 7.45pm. Please do come along.



Family Fun Day - Friday July 7th

On **Friday 23rd June** we will be holding a **pyjama day** - wear pjs, onesies or night attire and **donate a bottle** for the **tombola** for this **Summer Fun Day**

'**Jazzy jars**' - this stall has proved really successful in the past and the children really enjoy helping to make them and trying to win them back! A '**Jazzy jar**' is a glass jar, any shape or size, that we ask you to fill with anything you like, be as creative as you want to be! This can be anything from sweets (no nuts please!) to arts and crafts materials to party bag fillings. Again there will soon be a box in reception to collect these. There will be a few examples in the box to inspire you. Please have a look and fill as many as you like!



We are now collecting donations for the **raffle**. 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.



LOTTERY FUNDED

Outdoor Learning Project - Rainbow Room Garden - update

The work is now very nearly completed on this project and we are all very excited about how wonderful the garden looks, It will be officially opened during the first week of July - we will notify you of the exact date.

Donna Ellis, our Centre Business Manager who has been project managing the work would like to thank all parents who have kindly brought in donations of bedding plants, herbs and vegetable plants to put in the ground.

TESCO Bags of Help

Holidays during term-time



Please remember to always fill in a form and/or write a note if you are intending to take your child out of the Centre for any days for holidays during term-time and let the office know ASAP

We are continuing our 'Walk on Wednesday' campaign to encourage everyone to keep fit. Walk, cycle or scoot to school every Wednesday then put a dinosaur footprint on our friendly 'Steposaurus'. It's also a wonderful way for you and your children to stay in tune with the environment. **Why not switch off your phones for the duration of your walk to avoid distractions!** Experience with all your senses this summer.



Early Years Club - Play and Learning (0-5years old)

Friday morning 9.30 - 11 (Term-Time only) here in the Rainbow Room. Please use the SCC entrance.

Do come along with your baby or child. These are drop in sessions - 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 information call Sara on 01923 482842



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. Please contact Ceres El-Khalifa on 01923 255054

Up and coming workshops and courses:-

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