



Welcoming | Involving | Evolving

Oxhey Early Years Centre

# Newsletter - 7th November

Dear Mums, Dads, Carers, Friends and Families



We are looking forward to welcoming you to the parent consultations this week. This is a chance for you to discuss your child's settling, learning and development. Your Key Person will talk to you about how to support your child's "Next Steps" in learning and about how we will be supporting your child's progress. Please make sure you have booked a slot. In the week of parent consultations we also ask you to complete a questionnaire about OEYC. Orange Room parents will be given these at the evening consultations. For Blue and Purple Room parents I am

going to trial an online questionnaire from the Centre. This will be emailed to you. Thank you in advance for completing this for us.

## Applying for a place in Reception:

This process begins on-line this week. Please see the reminder later in this newsletter which gives details of where to apply. Most primary schools will have times when you can tour the school to help with your decision. I would recommend that you do this.

## Tesco Bags of Help Award - voting now open

If you, family or friends shop in Tesco (in Watford and/or South Oxhey) please ask them to use their token (given out at the checkout) to vote for Oxhey Early Years Centre. If we get the most votes our award will increase from £8,000 to £12,000. You can vote multiple times **and voting closes on 13<sup>th</sup> November (next Sunday)**

## Blue and Purple Room Parents: TAPESTRY

All parents have now been emailed a link to Tapestry (online learning journals) so you can log onto your child's learning journal. Please ask in the office if you have not been issued with one. Please try and look at your child's learning journal before your parent consultation.

## Car park safety (see paragraph below)

I am sure you will all agree that it is vital that we keep all children, parents and staff safe while on the premises of OEYC. With this in mind, please take a moment to remind yourself of our car park rules. Staff will be reminding adults of these rules and asking for cars to be moved if they are on our double yellow lines or obstructing other users.

We are beginning a very busy season for events so please read the information below and remember to keep in touch with children's learning in our OEYC WEEKLY LEARNING OVERVIEW, (emailed separately).

It's important to wrap up warmly now the cold weather is here (our outdoor learning environments will continue to be open every day). Please always provide a warm coat, hat etc. (all named) for your child. I look forward to seeing children with their tops inside out on Tuesday! (see below)

Have a good week.

Rachel Fagan - Head of Centre

Dates of forthcoming celebrations and events for your diary:

On-line Applications OPEN for Reception Class (details soon)	Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Parent Consultations for Blue and Purple Room	Week beg: 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov
EB awareness day - wear your Tee-shirt inside out (see below)	Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Parent Consultation Evening for Orange Room	Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov (5.30 - 7.30pm)
PA Meeting 7.45pm here at OEYC	Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Scholastic Book Fair	Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Children in Need - Pudsey Bear (dress up day)	Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Toy Sale organised by PA (All week)	Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov - Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec
Panto Trip - Watford Palace Theatre (BLUE ROOM CLOSED)	Fri 2nd Dec



Help us to gain £12K for our outdoor learning project voting has now begun in stores until 13<sup>th</sup> Nov - please tell family and friends to vote for Oxhey Early Years Centre



Don't be late to apply for school!

If your child was born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013, you will soon need to apply for a place in Reception for September 2017

On-line applications will open on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November and the deadline will be Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016

For more information please visit [www.hertsdirect.org/admissions](http://www.hertsdirect.org/admissions)

Wear your tee shirt inside out and show your seams to help raise awareness of EB

We are holding a special fund raising day tomorrow Tuesday 8th November to raise people's awareness of the skin condition Epidermolysis bullosa (EB) This is a general term used to describe a group of rare inherited skin disorders that cause the skin to become very fragile. In people with EB, any trauma or friction to the skin can cause painful blisters.

We currently have a little boy in the Blue Room, Freddie, who has this condition. His skin is as fragile as a butterfly. Children with this condition including Freddie often wear their clothes inside out so as not to cause friction to their delicate skin. We will be asking you to wear a jumper or tee-shirt inside out on this day to help raise awareness of what life is like for these children. More details will follow soon - Look out for posters.

Meanwhile if you would like to find out more about this condition please follow the following link <http://www.debra.org.uk>



Children's Individual Photographs - Deadline for orders Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> Nov

Proofs of your children's photos together with order forms have now been given out. Please follow the instructions on the order forms and return these together with payment to the main office no later than 4pm Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Nov



## News from the Parents' Association - Scavenger Hunt for Half-Term week

We hope you had fun collecting your treasures and we look forward to seeing your completed sheets. Please return sponsorship money and your treasure by **Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Nov**



Our **toy sale** is scheduled for **24<sup>th</sup> Nov- 1<sup>st</sup> Dec**. Please bring in any unwanted good quality toys and books and leave them in sealed bags outside reception. Good chance to have a clear out before Christmas and help raise money for the Centre.

Come and join our **PA meeting next week, Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> Nov** here in the **Green Room 7.45pm**. Find out what we do and find out how you can help.

## URGENT REMINDERS from Julie Marsh - Finance Officer

There are still a number of parents who have not brought in their **Child's Birth Certificate** yet. **Please bring an original copy ASAP.**

We will take a photocopy of this and return to you straight away. It is a requirement that **we must see every child's Birth Certificate in the Centre.**



## Car Park Safety



**Road Safety**

Our car park has limited capacity so please do not expect to have a parking space.

If there is no parking place available, please park safely nearby but **\*\*Please DO NOT obstruct the pavements or kerbs outside Eastbury Court\*\***

There is plenty of parking in the neighbouring road (Longcroft) -

Please then use the pedestrian entrance and **DO NOT WALK ACROSS THE CAR PARK**

***Please keep to the following guidelines:***

- Only park in allocated spaces, not on double yellow lines
- Drive very slowly both when entering the car park and when leaving
- Disabled parking spaces are for disabled badge holders only
- Find alternative, safe parking on neighbouring roads *but not on the kerbs outside Eastbury Court* as this obstructs pedestrians and Emergency vehicles
- Beware of children and pedestrians walking or running along the kerbs
- Always keep your children close by you
- Do not leave children in your car without an adult supervising them
- Do not park in designated bays for our elderly neighbours at Eastbury Court
- We operate a no smoking policy throughout the car park and premises

**Thank you for your co-operation in keeping everyone safe**

## Celebrating Diversity...



If anyone would like to come in to the Centre at any time to talk to the children about a special celebration, festival or event, or to do some traditional cooking, or read a traditional story from your culture, we would love to welcome you. Just speak to a member of staff in your child's room and this can be arranged.

We are also looking for any **cultural resources** we can use in the rooms especially in the home corner or for role play - ie. cooking utensils; crockery; cutlery (chopsticks); artefacts and ornaments; dressing up clothes (children's saris, costumes.....) and anything else you feel would interest the children and help them learn about the different cultures around them. Again have a word with a member of staff in your child's room.



## Early Years Club (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

We are continuing our 'Walk on Wednesday' campaign to encourage everyone to keep fit and enjoy some quality time together. Wrap up warmly and make the most of the autumn weather. 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 autumn progresses and winter approaches. Go on - embrace the elements.



## 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)

You can also follow us on Facebook for the most up to date information about what's going on in the centres!

## The Giving Machine [www.thegivingmachine.co.uk](http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk)

Shopping online and/or for the different festivities coming up? Please sign up - it's easy and free! This is a totally free website designed to benefit a charity you nominate. Every time you shop online (having logged in to The Giving Machine website first) a donation from the shop is given to your chosen charity.

Many big name stores such as Amazon, M&S, John Lewis etc. have a link from their web page. We would urge everyone to consider using this site and nominating 'Oxhey Early Years Centre' as a beneficiary. It's really easy to use and a great way to credit the Centre at no cost to yourself. Please spread the word amongst family and friends who order online too.

