


Comet News


September 2018


Welcome back to all our returning children and to our new children and their families we would like to welcome you to Comet. It is a very busy time of year as all our new children settle into the nursery routine. We hope that they will all enjoy their time with us.

We would like to welcome our new member of staff, Busra to our staff team. Busra is a Nursery Education Officer (NEO) and will be working in the Star Room team with Kerri (Deputy Headteacher), Jessica (Teacher) and Nathan (NEO).



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 Moon Room team are Natasha (Lead NEO), Morgan (NEO) and Chantelle (NEO). Elizavet is from a supply agency and will be covering a maternity leave.

Attendance at Comet

At Comet we believe it is really important for children to attend every day and that they are on time. This allows your child to start the beginning of their session with their friends and gives them positive life skills on the importance of being on time.

Our session times in Sun and Star Room (3 and 4 year olds) are:-

Morning session	9 - 11.30am
Afternoon session	12.45 - 3.15pm
30 hours provision	9am - 3pm
Full day for part time children	9am - 3.15pm



The register is completed every day. If you bring your child later than 9.20am or 1pm you will need to see Katie, Kelly or Jenny in the office and your child will be marked in late. If you need to collect your child early we would ask that you do so by 11am or 2.45pm or 3pm for Moon Room, so children are not disturbed in their story time. It is also really important that your child is collected on time.

Our session times in Moon Room (2 year olds) are:-

Morning session	8.30 - 11.30am (if you arrive after 8.45am, you will be asked to wait outside until 9am to reduce disruption)
Afternoon session	12.30 - 3.30pm

Early Years Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of certain benefits such as income support and jobseeker's allowance and think your child is entitled to free school meals please go to the Hackney Learning Trust website and register to get your child a free school meal. Without confirmation of free school meals you will be charged the daily rate of £2.00. A daily menu is displayed outside Sun Room.

If you are entitled to free school meals the school automatically gets Early Years Pupil Premium funding. This allows us to take children on trips, offer Forest School and gardening activities. We really do rely on this extra funding to make sure our children get lots of different opportunities to extend their learning.

We are giving away a FREE Comet t-shirt to all children who are entitled to free schools meals as a thank you for registering.

What have the children been interested in so far?

The children have been very interested in exploring the changes in the season. Some children visited Shoreditch Park to collect leaves and conkers for our display. They have also harvested and eaten tomatoes that have grown in our nursery garden.

We have noticed that many of the children have shown a real 'can do' attitude by persevering when they have tried out new activities and experiences, even when they found it difficult.

Moon room have visited Snake Park, they enjoyed playing in the sandpit and testing out their climbing skills.

Home Learning

We have lots of information and ideas for home learning for parents in the hall. Please take anything you think you and your child would like to do at home.



We also provide a book borrowing service. Children will have been provided with a school book bag and they will choose a book to bring home every Wednesday. Please share this book with you child and also keep it safe and cared for. We ask that you return the book bag the following Tuesday ready for a new book.

We have some Breakfast and Tea Club spaces available for children in Sun or Star Room. If you would like to know more please see the office.



Please name your child's clothes

Please can you name your child's clothes especially the Comet sweatshirts. If you have lost any clothes please see the lost property box in the hall.

*Don't forget to provide your child with a spare set of clothes to keep at nursery. There is a named bag on their peg. **The bag must be kept at school.***

Please also make sure your child has good shoes for running and climbing and a coat now it's getting colder.



Macmillan Coffee Morning/Afternoon - Thursday 27th September



We are holding a coffee morning/afternoon to raise money for Macmillan cancer support. Please bring a cake or biscuits and stay for a coffee and a chat with other parents. We will meet at 9am and 12.45pm.

Please come along to support this charity event and meet other parents.



Parents information Evening - Tuesday 9th October 6pm -7.15pm

Please come along to our Parents Information Evening. We will talk through the learning and opportunities that children will experience at nursery. We will also offer you a chance to see the types of activities we provide - you might even want to have a go!

A crèche will be available for a small number of children. More information to follow.

Ideas for family outings

How about visiting Spitalfields Farm, it's just off Brick Lane and they have some lovely gardening areas, café, donkeys and goats and its free!

<https://www.spitalfieldscityfarm.org/>



Growing Communities have a farmers market in Stoke Newington on Saturdays.

Here is the link. <https://www.familiesonline.co.uk/local/hackney/listing/the-growing-communities-farmers-market>

The Victoria Miro Gallery has a small but colourful exhibition by Yayoi Kusama which opens on the 3rd October, it's free!

<https://www.victoria-miro.com/exhibitions/528/>



Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2018

- Thursday 27th September - Macmillan coffee morning/afternoon
Monday 8th October - Heritage Week
Tuesday 9th October - Steel Pan workshop for children
Tuesday 9th October - Parent's information Evening
22nd October - 26th October - Half term holiday
Monday 29th October - Children return to school
Friday 2nd November - Primary School transition meeting for parents at 10am
Monday 5th November - Week of Light (Fireworks and Diwali)
Monday 5th November - Firework party for the children
Wednesday 7th November - School photographer for individual photos of children
Friday 16th November - Children in Need fundraising
Monday 3rd December - Book fair (all week)
Wednesday 12th December - Children's Christmas lunch
Monday 17th December - Christmas sing-a-long performance for parents
Friday 21st December - Children's Christmas Party and last day of term

Spring Term 2019

- Tuesday 8th January - closed for INSET day
Wednesday 9th January - children return to school
Monday 4th February - Chinese New year (Year of the Pig)
18th - 22nd February - Half term
Monday 25th February - children return to school
Thursday 7th March - World Book Day
Monday 11th March - Book Week
Friday 15th March - Red Nose Day fundraising
Sunday 31st March - Mother's Day
Friday 5th April - Last day of term

Summer Term 2019

- Tuesday 23rd April - Closed for INSET Day
Wednesday 24th April - Children return to school
Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday school closed
Saturday 11th May - Open day for new families
Monday 13th May - Hatching ducklings (2 weeks)
Wednesday 15th May - Class photos and family photos
27th May - 31st May - Half term
Monday 3rd June - Children return to school
Monday 10th June - Art Week
16th June - Father's Day
18th and 19th June - Canal trip for Sun and Star Rooms
Friday 19th July - End of term party for children and their families and last day of term