

Comet News

December 2016



What have the children been interested in?



The children have been busy engaging in lots of open ended creative endeavours with block building and transient art. We have been getting inspiration from the range of colours and textures found in leaves, conkers, pine cones and other Autumn finds in the garden. This has given the children lots of opportunities to expand their vocabulary, talk about why and how the seasons change, notice and talk about details, differences and similarities in natural resources. We have also been learning lots of sorting skills and practical maths talking about counting, pattern making, shapes, arrangements and measurement. The children have been working well together discussing how to create beautiful pieces of art and confidently sharing their ideas and opinions throughout the creative process.



Home Learning

You could go on a treasure hunt at the park or around the house to collect conkers, leaves or even bottle tops and buttons to make your own transient art home. You could lay out paper or material and talk to your child about what they are making. Remember to let them lead and give them plenty of time to talk and share their ideas!



Sad news and time to say goodbye!

Zoe is leaving Comet to go home to New Zealand. She has been teaching at Comet for 3 years and has made a huge difference to the children's lives and learning. Zoe has bought us Learning Stories, she has encouraged the children to investigate the natural world by developing a wormery, composter and growing area. She has also bought in crickets, meal worms and grasshoppers for the children to look at. I'm sure you will join us in wishing Zoe all the best back in the Land of the Long White Cloud.



School Meals

Following on from our letter we wanted to remind you of the increase to school meals. From January 2017 the meals will now be £2.00 a day/£10 a week. If you think you are entitled to free school meals visit the hackney citizen portal and apply.



Christmas Party



The nursery Christmas party will be on Wednesday 21st December from 10.30am until 1pm, this replaces ALL our usual session times.

PLEASE NOTE - there is no breakfast club, tea club or full day provision on this day.

We will provide all the food for the party and we are hoping that Father Christmas will visit us during the party!!



Christmas Sing-a-long - Monday 19th December

Parents are invited to come and hear the children sing some of their favourite Christmas songs.

For morning children the performance will be at 11am and for afternoon and full time children they will sing at 2.45pm.

So come along for a mince pie and a song.

Christmas Cards



If your child would like to send Christmas cards to their friends we will have a post box in the hall from Monday 5th December. **The last collection date will be Monday 19th December.** If you need names of children please pick up a list from the office.

Children's Centre Update

Make sure you don't miss out...

We have some new classes beginning in 2017. Please check with Clara, Sarah or Carol and sign up to register your interest.



Cultural Cooking - Learn new recipes and how to cook food from all over the world. From Chinese to Indian and Italian to Mexican.

Little Gardeners - Support turning our children centre garden into an edible oasis. Learn how to plant, what to plant and when! Regardless of space we can all grow our own food, salad or herbs.

Sewing - This course is designed to support learning new and complex sewing techniques whilst making beautiful bags, quilts and clothing. You will be supported throughout the entire course and each week builds upon the last.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for supporting and attending sessions at our children's centre. We work hard to provide a variety of sessions however, should you feel something is missing we would love to hear from you.

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2016

Monday 19th December - Christmas sing-a-long performance for parents

Wednesday 21st December - Children's Christmas
Party and last day of term

Spring term 2017

Friday 6th January - Children return to school

Monday 30th January - Chinese New Year (year of the Rooster)

13th - 17th February - Half term

Monday 20th February - Children return to school

Tuesday 28th February - Pancake Day

Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day

6th March - 10th March - Book Week

Friday 17th March - St Patrick's Day

Friday 24th March - Red Nose Day

Sunday 26th March - Mother's Day

27th - 31st March - Easter activities

Friday 31st March - Last day of term

Summer Term 2017

Tuesday 18th April - Children return to school

Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday school closed

Saturday 6th May - Open day for new parents

Wednesday 10th May - Class photos and family photos

15th - 26th May - Natural Explorers project

Monday, 22nd May - School closed for training

29th May - 2nd June - Half term

Monday 5th June - Children return to school

12th - 16th June - Art Week

18th June - Father's Day

Friday 21st July - End of term party for children and their families
and last day of term

We will inform you of any new dates as soon as possible.