

Comet News

September 2017

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 four new members of staff to our team.



Kerri MacFarland
Deputy Headteacher



Amanda Bentum
Senior Nursery Officer
in Moon Room



Kirsty Le Masurier
Learning Support Assistant



Kayla Brade
Learning Support Assistant

National Winners of the Early Years Pupil Premium Awards 2017



We feel very proud to have won this award at Comet. It was in recognition for the work we do to support children whose families are on a low income. It is our priority to tackle disadvantage for our families but also to promote the importance of social mobility and develop confidence in knowledge, skills and self-confidence. We have also won a visit by Discover Children's Story

Centre, this will be a great event and we will let you know the date as soon as possible. Please see the display in the hall.

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.

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
Full time	9am - 3pm
Long day	9am - 2pm



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

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 in Star Room. They also harvested a marrow that they have grown in our garden which they cooked and ate; some children liked it!

Another group of children have visited Dalston market to buy material for the nursery. They enjoyed the bus journey and walk.

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.

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 read and 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.



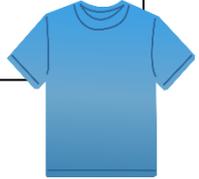
We have a few Tea Club spaces available for children in Sun or Star Room? If you would like to know more please see the office.

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 - Friday 29th 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 10th October 6pm

Please come along to our Parents Information Evening. We will talk through the learning and opportunities that children will experience

Reminders

- From Friday 6th October we will no longer take old £1 coins. You will need to take them to the back to have them changed.
- If you have changed your phone number recently can you update it at the office please.

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2017

Friday 29th September - Macmillan coffee morning/afternoon

Thursday 5th October - Steel Pan workshop for children

Monday 9th October - Heritage Week

Tuesday 10th October - Parent's information Evening

Thursday 19th October - Diwali

23rd October - 27th October - Half term holiday

Monday 30th October - INSET day school closed

Monday 6th November - Firework day

Wednesday 15th November - School photographer for individual photos of children

Friday 17th November - Children in Need fundraising

Monday 18th December - Christmas sing-a-long performance for parents

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

Spring term 2018

Friday 8th January - Children return to school

Tuesday 6th February - new children photo day

12th - 16th February - Half term

Monday 19th February - Chinese New Year (Year of the Dog)

Thursday 1st March - World Book Day

5th March - 9th March - Book Week

Sunday 11th March - Mother's Day

Friday 23rd March - Sport Relief Day

Thursday 29th March - Last day of term

Summer Term 2017

Monday 16th April - Children return to school

Thursday 3rd May - School closed for Polling Day

Saturday 5th May - Open day for new families

Monday 7th May - Bank Holiday school closed

Wednesday 16th May - Class photos and family photos

28th May - 1st June - Half term

11th - 15th June - Art Week

17th June - Father's Day

Friday 20th 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.