



Comet Nursery School and Children's Centre Newsletter

March 2016

Maureen is retiring!



After 34 years of working at Comet Maureen who works mainly in the Children's Centre will be retiring to spend more time with her family. She has worked tirelessly for the children and families in our local community for many years and has without a doubt made a huge contribution to their education and well-being. We have worked out that Maureen must have worked with around 17,000 families during her time here!!!! I'm sure you would join me in wishing Maureen a very happy retirement filled with lots of fun and family.



Thank you to all the parents who donated to the Sport Relief charity day and bought wrist bands for the children. The children had great fun learning the dance and showing it off to their friends. We have raised in the region of £150 and had a great day.

Natural Explorers at Comet

As you may be aware children (3 and 4 year olds) whose families are on a low income are entitled to Early Years Pupil Premium funding that is paid to the nursery. With this money we provide a range of activities and experiences that will enhance their learning and broaden their vocabulary. We are doing this by providing gardening activities, small outings, forest school activities, natural materials and interests in scientific enquiry. Many of the activities are for all children and we call these universal activities. Our recent activities have been to observe an octopus that we got from the fishmongers, trips to a Vietnamese restaurant, the garden centre, the aquarium, buying fish to look after at nursery and Shoreditch Park. Please speak to Lisa (Headteacher) or Fliss (Deputy Head) if you would like more information.



Holidays in term time

We would ask that parents take their children on holiday in the school holidays, however if you have to take your child out in term time please see the office staff for a holiday form that must be completed and authorised before you go away.



Living Eggs are coming to Comet

We are really looking forward to our living eggs being delivered to us on the 11th April. The children will be able to watch the eggs hatch and the chicks grow. They will be with us for 2 weeks so please make sure you come into the classrooms to have a look!

Healthy lifestyles for children and families.

Please look on the Change 4 Life website, they have got great ideas and activities to help reduce children's sugar intake and increase their portions of fruit and vegetables. As you may know from the media there is a high rate of obesity in our young children. It's important we are aware of this as well as the importance of physical activities and help our children lead healthy lifestyles. There is a free App that you can download and it's easily accessible with great ideas!



Children Centre News

The children's centre will be open from **Tuesday 29th March** with a wide range of exciting activities both in the centre and out in the community.

Wednesday 30th March we will be learning how to bake shortbread biscuits, don't miss this opportunity to come and bake some little treats. On **Monday 4th April** we are 'Going on a Bear Hunt' to Discovery at Stratford, please see Carol for information on tickets.

Tuesday 5th April we are having our very own Bear Hunt so come along in old clothes and wellies and be prepared to go under and over many things! **Wednesday 6th April** we have our holiday trip to the Picturehouse Cinema. We have lined up Inside Out, please purchase your tickets quickly with our office staff.



Please collect one of our Easter holiday timetables for more information about specific timings of each session.



We will begin our very exciting Gardening Project at the end of April...Do you have experience in gardening? Would you like to be involved in helping us grow fruit and vegetables for the children to eat? If so, please get in touch and put your name down with our office staff.

Dates for your diary....

11th May - Healthy Cooking for Life. This 5 week programme will give you more confidence in making decisions about what and how to select and cook healthy food for your family. Please place your name on our waiting list, this is a popular course so be quick!

15th June - Sewing with recycled clothes. Over the 5 weeks you will be able to learn how to use a sewing machine to make bags from denim jeans, table runners and fabric covered gift boxes. We look forward to seeing you at one of our sessions very soon.

Have a great Easter holiday and children return back to nursery on Monday 11th April.



Dates for your Diary

Summer Term 2016

Monday 11th April – Children return to school

11th – 22nd April – Living eggs will be hatching into chicks!

18th – 22nd April – Week of Happiness

Monday 2nd May – Bank Holiday school closed

Thursday 5th May – Closed for polling station

Saturday 7th May – Comet Open Day

Wednesday 11th May – Class photos and family photos

30th May – 5th June – Half term

Monday 6th June – Children return to school

13th – 17th June – Art Week

Thursday 23rd June – Closed for polling station

Thursday 7th July – Leavers outing to Willow's Farm (nursery will be closed to children in the nursery that will be returning). Moon Room will be open.

11th – 15th July – Sports Week

Friday 22nd 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.