

Comet News

September 2016

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 Kelly, our new member of staff to the Comet Team. Kelly will work in the office in the mornings from 8.30am to 11.30am and Jenny in the afternoons from 12.45 to 3.15pm.



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 - 3.15pm
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 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
Afternoon session	12.30 - 3.30pm

What have the children been interested in?

The children have been very interested in exploring forces to do with flight, gravity and wind this week. We have been busy making kites, aeroplanes and parachutes. The children are learning about how things work and why things happen through scientific enquiry. While the children have been constructing their kites, planes and parachutes they have also been learning how to follow a sequence, how to shape and

join materials they are using and they have been developing their ability to focus on tasks and see them through to completion. Many children have showed a real a 'can do' attitude by persevering even when they found some of the steps in making their items difficult.



Home Learning

While at home or out and about see how many flying objects you can see. Can you spot any planes, helicopters, or kites? What is it about the shape and materials that helps them fly? You might be able to find some flying machines in books or on tv or the computer.



You could try making paper aeroplanes at home. Talk with your child about flight, wind, wings, birds and anything that flies.

Playing with cars, ramps, water and balls will help your child learn about gravity and forces. Notice together how the objects always go down.

Explore what happens if you blow on an object. This is especially fun with floating toys in the bath. Can you propel a floating object along using a straw? Remember to make lots of comments about what you are seeing and not ask too many questions!

Children's Progress Meeting

Every term your child's key person will organise a meeting with you so we can discuss the progress made at nursery. This would also provide an opportunity to discuss home learning, your children's Special Books and also any concerns you may have. These meetings will take place during the day for about 10-15 minutes and we will try our best to make them at a time convenient to you.

In the parent questionnaire that was sent out in July, some parents expressed that they felt there wasn't enough opportunity to discuss their child's progress. Hopefully with this clear and more structured approach you will find the meeting helpful, informative and a way to work more in partnership.



Clothes

Did you know we offer Breakfast and Tea Club for children in Sun or Star Room? If you would like to know more please see the office.



*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.

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 collect a form from the office. Without confirmation of free school meals you will be charged the daily rate of £1.80.

A daily menu is displayed outside Sun Room.

Children's Centre Update



We hope that you have all enjoyed the summer and managed to attend some of our activities and trips whilst the nursery was closed. We had a fun packed schedule with a many different sessions to take part in, cooking, trips, walks and even the chance to meet a couple of cheeky Meerkats.

We have many new classes beginning this autumn such as cake decorating, cultural cooking classes and hopefully exercise classes. Please make sure that you sign up early for these as places are limited and classes fill up quickly.

You will have noticed that we have been reminding parents about our session guidelines. These are to ensure that everyone has an equal chance to attend their child's favourite activity. We are a very busy centre which results in sessions filling up quickly. To avoid disappointment please choose 1 activity and arrive on time as we are limited to the amount of families per session. Our new timetable for the autumn is available from reception or you can access this electronically online, so please ensure you have our latest edition.



Gardeners Required

3rd, 10th & 17th October

We have arranged a final 3 gardening sessions to tidy up our summer crops and to sow winter vegetable and salad seeds.

We would appreciate any support you can provide on these dates to ensure that we can continue our growing scheme through the winter months. Please come along and bring a friend and get stuck in but remember to wear outdoor clothes!



Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2016

Friday 30th September - Macmillan BIG coffee morning/afternoon

Monday 10th October - Heritage week

Tuesday 11th Steel Pan workshop for children

Tuesday 18th October - Parent's information Evening

24th October - 28th October - Half term holiday

Monday 31st October - INSET day school closed

Tuesday 1st November - Children return and Week of Light
(Fireworks and Diwali)

Tuesday 8th November - School photographer for individual photos of children

Friday 18th November - Children in Need fundraising

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)
Tuesday 9th February - Pancake Day
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
Thursday 17th March - St Patrick's Day
Wednesday 22nd March - School closed for training
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.