

Comet News

September 2021

Although we have been back for a few weeks I would like to welcome back all our returning children and our new children and their families we would like to welcome you to Comet. After the disruption of the last 2 academic years we are looking forward to a more settled year where children are able to really immerse themselves in their time at nursery and enjoy all that Comet has to offer. We are hoping to be able to offer outings, more visitors to our curriculum this year and maybe some parents workshops!

Keeping us all safe!

As you know you are now able to drop off and collect your children in the garden and while you have been settling your children in you have been able to come into the classrooms. However, we are now asking that parents do not come into the classroom and a member of the class team will be available in the garden area.

Myself and Denise, our School Business Manager will also be on hand to answer any questions. We really appreciate your understanding.

Who we are!



Star Room team – Jessica/Emily (Class teachers), Nathan (NEO) Samantha (NEO)



Sun Room team - Beatriz (Teacher), Busra (NEO) and Chelsea (NEO).



Moon Room team - Kelly (Lead NEO), Chantelle (Lead NEO) Daniella (NEO) and Leanne (NEO)

NEO = Nursery Education Officer

Welcome to the Comet team



Emily is the teacher in Star Room on a Thursday and Friday.



Daniella works in Moon Room as an NEO.

And a sad goodbye!

For those of you that know Kerri, our Deputy Headteacher, who is currently on maternity leave we have to say a sad farewell. Kerri has relocated back to Ireland to be with her family.

Early Years Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of certain benefits and think your child is entitled to free school meals please go to the Hackney Education website to complete the form for free school meals.

If you are entitled to free school meals the school automatically gets Early Years Pupil Premium funding of £350 per year. This means that your child will become part of our Natural Explorers group and will be able to go on local trips, be involved in 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 and interests.

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.

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.



Attendance and times 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



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

Morning session 8.30 - 11.30am
Afternoon session 12.30 - 3.30pm

We are asking that all children are brought to nursery and collected on time especially as the children are coming through the garden entrances.

The register is completed every day. If you bring your child later than 9.15am or 1pm your child will be marked in late. If you need to collect your child early we would ask that you arrange this with the office team, however we would ask that you keep to the session times as much as possible.

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 class team or the lost property box in the reception area. We are waiting for a delivery of sweatshirts and we will let you know when they arrive.

*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.***

Home Learning

We have lots of information and ideas for home learning so please see your child's keyworker if you would like information on something in particular. In addition, the 'Home Learning' section of the website is also full of ideas and stories to explore with your child.



We also provide a book borrowing service. Children will be provided with a school book bag and will be able to choose a book to bring home every Wednesday. Please share this book with your 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.

Parents as Partners event

Hackney Education would like to invite parents/carers, particularly those from the black community, parents of young black men, and other minoritised communities who may have felt the impact of this past year the hardest to our first *Parents as Partners* online event.

As a parent/carer you will have the opportunity to have your voice heard by the various professionals who make your children's education possible. There will also be 15 sessions that you can choose from to join to hear more about the education provision in Hackney.



This event is a collaborative approach to see how Hackney schools, Hackney Education and Hackney parents/ carers can work together even better.

To attend the online event, register for free here: <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/parents-as-partners>

Curriculum Information Evenings

We are in the process of planning Curriculum Information events. These will be held after school in November. More information to follow.

Children's Centre

Here are the timetables for this term.

Please note the new telephone number for Comet @ Thomas Fairchild is 07766547679.

Comet Children's Centre - Timetable Autumn 2021				
20 Halcomb Street, N1 5RF 02077499850 31st August to 16th December 2021				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 Family Music & Movement 9.15am - 10am Over 18 months 10.15am - 11am Under 18 months	 Strengthening Families Parenting Programme 9.30am - 12.30pm 14th Sept - 14th Dec 13 week, face to face, parenting programme designed to support you to raise happy and successful children. Crèche provided. Book at the office.	 Explore with Baby 9.30am - 11.00am Our session gives you and your baby the chance to explore a range of sensory activities. 0 to walking	 Black Play 9.30am - 11.20am Come and take part in fun, building activities that promotes your child's development.	 Sensory Stay & Play For children with Additional Needs 9.30am - 10.45am Come & join us for sensory activities specifically designed for children who have additional needs.
 Little Chef's Stay & Play 1pm - 2.45pm Spend time with your child cooking yummy recipes!	 Mini Stay & Play 1.30pm - 2.45pm Do you prefer a quieter, shorter stay & play session? If so, our mini stay & play session may be what you are looking for.	 Gardening Stay & Play 1pm - 2.45pm (8th Sept - 20th Oct) Stay and Play to resume 27th October Come & take part in fun and creative outdoor learning experiences with our gardener Liam!	 Hackney ORBIT (CLOSED SESSION) 1pm - 3pm	 Mini Stay & Play 11am - 12.15pm Come along for our mini stay & play session.
Website: www.cometnurseryandcc.co.uk E-mail: admin@comet.hackney.sch.uk Facebook: Comet Nursery School Instagram: cometnurseryschoolandcc				

Comet @ Thomas Fairchild Children's Centre Timetable Autumn 2021		
31st August to 15th December 2021 Fenton Street (Gosley Street entrance), N1 7HA		
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
 Explore with Baby 9.30am - 11.00am Come and explore a range of sensory activities to support your babies development. 0 to walking	 Gardening Stay & Play 9.30am - 11.20am (8th Sept - 20th Oct) Stay and Play to resume 27th Oct	 Hackney ORBIT (CLOSED SESSION) 9.30am - 11.30am
 Messy Play 1.00pm - 2.45pm Roll your sleeves up and lets get messy! A range of messy play activities for you and your child to explore!	 Let's Build 1.00pm - 2.45pm A range of construction activities for you and your little builder.	 Creative Stay and Play 1.00pm - 2.45pm Join us for an afternoon of creative and artistic activities.
Website: www.cometnurseryandcc.co.uk E-mail: admin@comet.hackney.sch.uk Facebook: Comet Nursery School Instagram: Cometnurseryschoolandcc Phone: 020 7253 9449		

This term we have been very busy in the Children's Centres. Gardening is back and Liam has been engaging with families every Wednesday morning and afternoon. The children have taken part in lots of activities, including planting bulbs for spring, growing seeds at home and beautiful autumn crown making (see our Instagram or Facebook page for pictures!). Gardening will finish on Wednesday 20th October 2021 and will return in spring 2022.

In light of the new Early Years Strategy and proposals rolled out by Hackney Education, we would like to hear from all residents, but especially parents and carers, who have used, currently use or may use, Children's Centres. It is crucial for the development early years services in the borough, that we know what you think.

View the proposals and have your say at: <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/early-years-strategy>

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2021

Monday 11th October – Black History Week
Friday 22nd October – Spooky dress up party
25st October – 29th October – Half term holiday
Monday 1st November – school closed INSET day
Tuesday 2nd November – Children return to school
Tuesday 2nd November – Week of Light for Diwali and Fireworks
Wednesday 3rd November – School photographer for individual photos of children
Friday 5th November – Firework display for children
Wednesday 10th November - Primary School transition meeting for parents
Friday 12th November – Children in Need fundraising – Wear something spotty
Monday 16th November – Diwali celebrations
Friday 10th December – Children's Christmas lunch (TBC)
Monday 13th December (am) & Wednesday 15th (pm) – Christmas sing-a-long for parents (tbc)
Friday 17th December – Children's Christmas Party & last day of term. **PLEASE NOTE there will be no breakfast, tea club or full time hours on this day.**

Spring Term 2021

Wednesday 5th January – children return to school
Tuesday 1st February – Chinese New year (Year of the Tiger)
14th – 18^h February – Half term
Monday 21st February – children return to school
Tuesday 2nd March – Pancake day
Thursday 3rd March – World Book Day
Monday 7th March – Book Week
Friday 18th March – Comic Relief charity day
Sunday 27th March – Mother's Day
Monday 28th March – Easter activities week
Friday 1st April – Last day of term
Saturday 2nd April – World Autism Awareness Day

Summer Term 2020

Tuesday 19th April – Children return to school
Monday 2nd May – Bank Holiday school closed
2nd/3rd May – Eid ul Fitr
Thursday 5th May – School closed for Polling Day
Saturday 7th May – Open day for new families
Friday 27th May – School closed INSET Day
30th May – 3rd June – Half term
Monday 6th June – Children return to school
Canal trip for Sun and Star Rooms (TBC)
Monday 13th June – Art Week
Sunday 19th June – Father's Day
Friday 8th July – Leavers reports to parents
Wednesday 20th July – summer end of term party & last day of term. **PLEASE NOTE there will be no breakfast, tea club or full time hours on this day.**

We will update you with new events as we plan them.