

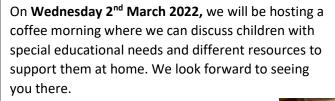
February 2022

Dear Families

We hope you are all keeping well as the restrictions are being lifted. We are sorry that we had to close last week but with the reduction to our staff team due to covid we were unable to open safely. We hope you are all looking forward to half term starting on Monday 14th February.



Makaton: You will have seen that we are sharing our 'sign of the week' outside the school entrance. Please take time to practice with your children. Here is an update of the signs we have covered last term.







If you have any concerns or general questions, please do not hesitate to see me - Simran (DHT & SENDCO)



https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/

Children's Mental Health Week (7-13 February 2022). This year's theme is **Growing Together**. We're encouraging children (and adults) to consider how they have grown and how they can help others to grow.



The Duchess of Cambridge will be reading the story of **The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark, by Jill Tomlinson** on Cbeebies in the week of half term for Children's Mental Health Week. In the story, a baby barn owl, named Plop, is helped by others to overcome his fears and improve his confidence.

World Book Day



day 3rd March 2022 ease join us in celebrating I Book Day by dressing up favourite story characte

World Book Day fun dress up day. Children can come dressed up as their favourite book character on Thursday 3rd March. This is the start of our celebration of books and reading. The children will all receive a World BooK Day voucher to go towards buying a new book or choose a £1 book. Look out for our Book Week information that will be sent out soon, we have lots planned.

https://www.worldbookday.com/2021/09/world-book-day-2022-

announcements/

Card payments

You can now pay for lunches, uniform etc by card. Please see the office

Lost Property!

We have quite a lot of lost property. Please make sure you name your children's clothes, hats and scarves.

Curriculum at Comet



We have been celebrating Chinese New Year by making a dragon and doing a Dragon Dance. This year is the Year of the Tiger, the tiger embodies courage and bravery, so the new year could symbolise resilience and strength — even in times of struggle. Children have also enjoyed role playing in our 'Chinese Restaurant' by taking orders, writing them down and paying for their food. They have also been looking at Chinese calligraphy and trying



LOST PROPERTY

it themselves. The children have learn a lot about the customs and traditions during Chinese New Year, they have tried new foods and we even got to hear how loud Chinese fire crackers are!

During this half term we have also been looking at the changing season, we have been learning to put our coats on independently and keeping warm outside by taking part in running, jumping and climbing. Some of the children have tried out some Forest School activities while others have been experimenting with our new outdoor equipment.

Home Learning

During half term why don't you enjoy a walk with your child down on the canal? There are lots of birds and ducks to see and maybe even a swan. This website has some great ideas for feeding ducks as we should avoid giving them bread but they do like, sweetcorn, oats, lettuce, seeds and rice. Have a look here https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/what-feed-ducks

We are very lucky to have this great space on our doorstep, although please beware of the cyclists who sometimes ride very fast!

Things to do in half term

Imagine Children's Festival is on at the Southbank this half term, some things are free! https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/families?type=family-young-people

MUSEUM OF The Museum of the Home (Geffrye Museum) has lots to do over half term. THE HOME https://www.museumofthehome.org.uk/

Why not go swimming at Brittania Leisure Centre or maybe enjoy some soft play.

https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/london/hackney/britannia-leisure-centre#



Children's Centre News

It's been a busy few weeks in the Children's Centres. We have been cooking, exploring and getting messy! Emmerline's 'Cooking on a Budget' has sadly come to an end at Comet@Thomas Fairchild. But do not worry, Emmerline will be moving her session over to Comet after half term and running the session on a Tuesday morning. We have lots of fun activities planned for Half Term, including our very own Comet Cinema morning! See timetables below for more information.





Masha's Quilting Workshop will start after half term at Comet@Thomas Fairchild. Masha will teach basic quilting skills and show you how to create patterns on a sewing machine. The workshop is open to nursery and children centre parents, so if you are interested please get in touch. Spaces are limited. Please look us up on Instagram and Facebook or on our website.

Dates for your Diary

Spring Term 2022

14th – 18^h February – Half term Monday 21st February – Children return to school Tuesday 1st 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

<u>Summer Term 2022</u> 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 Monday 23rd May – Creativity Week

Friday 27th May – School closed INSET Day

30th May – 3rd June – Half term

Tuesday 7th June – Children return to school Canal trip for Sun and Star Rooms (TBC) Monday 13th June – Sports Week Sunday 19th June – Father's Day Friday 8th July – Leavers reports to parents Wednesday 13th July – Comet's got Talent show 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 the 20th July <u>We will update you with new events as we plan them.</u>**