

Comet News

November 2020

We hope you all had a lovely half term and have found some time to get out and about. We understand this is not an easy time for everyone and things may be difficult with getting children to different schools at different times and juggling that with other commitments such as family and work. We appreciate how difficult this may be and would urge you to contact us if you need our help.

We understand with the new lockdown procedures starting on Thursday 5th November this may present with greater worries about your child's safety. We would like to reassure you that we are working hard to keep the nursery clean, children wash their hands as they come into the classroom at the beginning of their session and then throughout the day. We encourage the children to play outside and again this is a way of minimising any risks to their health. If you would like any more information please contact us while our Risk Assessment is available on the website.



Social distancing - dropping off and picking up!

We would like to remind you to please follow the queuing system as you drop off and pick up your child. We understand that this might not be great in bad weather but it is important we follow social distancing rules especially with the increase in positive cases in the community. If you need to come into the nursery reception

area we would remind you to wear a mask. Thank you.

PLEASE HELP!

We need fruit/vegetables donated on a weekly basis for the children's snack time. Some parents are fantastic at bringing it in but we really need everyone to bring a few pieces each week. Thank you in advance.



Early Years Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of certain benefits such as **Universal Credit, income support and jobseeker's allowance** 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. Without confirmation of free school meals you will be charged the daily rate of £2.00. A daily menu is displayed outside the main entrance.

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.

Moving to Reception Class in September

If your child is born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 they will be due to move to Primary School in September 2021. We have sent out the Hackney Education guide and would urge you to look at the dates for submission. All applications are completed online.

Usually I would be urging you to go and visit the schools of your choice and some may still be doing some visits. Please contact the schools of your choice to see what they are offering at the moment. It is important to make an informed decision about the best school for your child so take some time to look at their websites, Ofsted reports and speak to other parents who may have children in that school.

Please look out for further information and if you need any further guidance or support to complete the form please contact Lisa or the office and we will be able to do that for you.

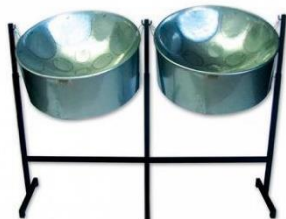
Curriculum



The children have been really busy and have had a great time gardening with Liam our new gardener, had fun at the spooky party day and loved meeting the animals from our visiting farm. We have been focusing our teaching on sharing, turn taking and developing children language skills though having lots of new experiences to try out.



We also know that during the lockdown children were not able to go to parks or play outside much so we have been offering lots of outdoor play challenges. This maybe learning to ride one of our balance bikes, climbing, swinging and balancing on the climbing frame or making mud pies in the Mud Kitchen.



Black Heritage Week

We had a great week exploring music, food, art and dance during our Black Heritage Week. We were lucky to have a visiting steel pan group who let the children have a go at playing the steel pans. We also had Luanda, Akinyele's mum, who taught the children some Cuban salsa dancing.



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 you child.



We hope you have had a chance to share your child's book with them that they have bought home from school. Maybe talk about the pictures or talk about the sequence of the story, what do you think happens next? Please keep it safe as we have had some books come back damaged. Please return the book every Tuesday.


Macmillan Coffee Morning



Thank you for all your support for the charity event for Macmillan we raised an amazing £138.00.











Children's Centre News

The children's Centre continues to offer support and stay and play sessions to parents. Please see the timetable below or on our website.




Comet Children's Centre - Timetable Autumn 2020

20 Halcomb Street, N1 5RF 02077499850
3rd November to 16th December 2020

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|--|--|---|
|  <p>Family Music & Movement 9.15am - 10am Over 18 months 10.15am - 11am Under 18 months</p>  <p>Let's make Playdough Stay & Play 1pm - 2.45pm Spend time with your child getting creative with playdough!</p> | <p>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</p>  <p>Toy Library Stay & Play 1pm - 2.45pm Come along for our stay & play session & borrow toys from our library to take home.</p> <p>Please remember to bring a donation of fruit for snack time to all stay & play sessions.</p>  |  <p>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</p> <p>Stay & Play 1pm - 2.45pm Come & take part in fun learning experiences and meet other families.</p>  | <p>Let's get Creative Stay & Play 9.30am - 11.20am Fun and creative craft activities for you and your child to enjoy together.</p>  <p>Hackney ORBIT (CLOSED SESSION) 1pm - 3pm A service for mothers, fathers, grandparents and carers who have been, or are impacted by drugs or alcohol. For more details call our team.</p>  | <p>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.</p>  <p>Mini Stay & Play 11am - 12.15pm Do you prefer a quieter, shorter stay & play session? If so, our sensory mini stay & play session may be what you are looking for.</p>  |

Website:
www.cometnurseryandcc.co.uk
E-mail:
admin@comet.hackney.sch.uk
Facebook:
Comet Nursery School
Instagram:
cometnurseryschoolandcc



If you are eligible for Healthy Start and have a young child under the age of 4 you might also be able to claim Rose Vouchers. This entitles you to additional money to purchase fruit and vegetables from locally appointed stalls or shops. Speak to Morgan or the office for more details.

COVID-19 UPDATE:
Parents MUST wear a mask when inside the building at all times, masks can be removed in the garden. Temperatures will be taken on arrival and you WILL NOT be able to enter if 37.8° or above. Please note, you will need to book in for EVERY session, max 5 families per session. 1 Adult, 1 child and 1 pre-walker only per family.

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2020

- Thursday 5th November – Firework display for children
- Friday 13th November – Children in Need fundraising – Wear something spotty
- Monday 16th November – Diwali celebrations
- Date to be confirmed** - Primary School transition meeting for parents
- Friday 11th December – Children's Christmas lunch (TBC)
- Monday 14th December – Christmas sing-a-long performance for parents
- Friday 18th December – Children's Christmas Party & last day of term

Spring Term 2021

- Tuesday 5th January – children return to school
- Monday 8th February – Chinese New year (Year of the Ox)
- 15th – 19th February – Half term
- Monday 22nd February – children return to school
- Monday 1st March – Book Week
- Thursday 4th March – World Book Day
- Sunday 14th March – Mother's Day
- Friday 19th March – Comic Relief charity day
- Monday 29th March – Easter activities week

Monday 29th March – Autism Awareness week

Thursday 1st April – Last day of term

Summer Term 2020

Monday 19th April – Closed for INSET Day (TBC)

Tuesday 20th April – Children return to school

Saturday 1st May – Open day for new families

Monday 3rd May – Bank Holiday school closed

12th/13th May – Eid ul Fitr

31st May – 4th June – Half term

Monday 7th June – Children return to school

Canal trip for Sun and Star Rooms (TBC)

Sunday 20th June – Father's Day

Monday 8th June – Art Week

Friday 9th July – Leavers reports to parents

Wednesday 21st July – summer end of term party & last day of term

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