

# Comet News

November 2021

Welcome to our November newsletter. The new children have settled in so well and are exploring the environment, making new friends and learning new skills. We have been so impressed with their development and independence.

Thank you to all the parents and carers for being so understanding with our safety measures, we really appreciate your support and understanding

*Welcome to the Comet team*



Simran has joined the Comet team as Lead Teacher & SENDCo. Simran will also be part of the senior leadership team.



Dionne is a Meal Time Supervisor and will be supporting the children at lunchtime.



## **Home Learning**

Please make sure you enjoy your book with your child. It's something they have chosen themselves, sometimes though children like to share the same book!

This month it would be great if when you are out and about with your child you could help them notice the numbers in the environment such as door numbers, speed limit signs or number plates on cars. This is a fun way of helping children to develop their number recognition.

On our recent staff training day we focused on learning new Makaton signs that we can use to support children with their communication skills.

Makaton with Lucinda is a lovely way to learn signs with your child on this YouTube channel.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVR4-zug\\_Upe9pWcz1jRalw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVR4-zug_Upe9pWcz1jRalw)

Singing hands is another great resource to learn signs and songs! <https://singinghands.co.uk/>

## **Curriculum Information Evenings**

Come to one of our Curriculum Information Evenings to find out what the children learn at nursery and how we are supporting them to develop new skills and independence. This is not an individual parents evening.

Dates: 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November







Please see you emails for how to sign up using the google form provided.



## Children's Centre Update

We've had lots going on at the Children's Centres this month. Gardening has now finished until the spring term. Although we are sadly missing Liam, we have replaced both sessions with normal stay and plays, and look forward to seeing him back in the New Year. We have also introduced another stay and play session on a Thursday morning at Comet@Thomas Fairchild. This will run until the end of term. Please see timetable for details. We had a very spooky half term week. Emmerline came in and did a lovely cooking session with the families at Comet. The families made a delicious pumpkin risotto and yummy butternut squash side salad. She also did some soap making with the families at Comet@Thomas Fairchild, which everybody really enjoyed. We ended the fun-filled week with a Halloween Party at Comet. We indulged in delicious food, good company and even had a little boogie at the end. In the next few weeks, we will begin to plan for Christmas, with activities starting the 1<sup>st</sup> week of December.

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>

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Explore with Baby</b> 9.30am - 11.00am Come and explore a range of sensory activities to support your baby's development. 0 to walking 	<b>Gardening, Stay &amp; Play</b> 9.30am - 11.20am (8th Sept - 20th Oct) Stay and Play to resume 27th Oct 	<b>Hackney ORBIT (CLOSED SESSIONS)</b> 9.30am - 11.30am 
<b>Messy Play Stay and Play</b> 1.00pm - 2.45pm 	<b>Let's Build Stay and Play</b> 1.00pm - 2.45pm 	<b>Creative Stay and Play</b> 1.00pm - 2.45pm 

**Notes:**  
All our sessions are FREE... but remember we close our sessions 1 hour after the start time. Please note, our activities are open to families with children aged 5 & under.  
Maximum 10 families per session. Arrive on time to secure your place!  
Please remember to bring a donation of fruit for snack time to all stay and play sessions.  
We work hard to ensure that all our sessions run smoothly for you, however, if times we appreciate things can go wrong. Should you have a concern about our services or the staff, please do let us know directly with Morgan Parker, Extended Services Lead or Lisa Clarke, Head of Centre. Thank you.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Family Music &amp; Movement</b> 9.15am - 10am Over 18 months 10.15am - 11am Under 18 months 	<b>Strengthening Families Parenting Programme</b> 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. 	<b>Explore with Baby</b> 9.30am - 11.00am Our session gives you and your baby the chance to explore a range of sensory activities. 0 to walking 	<b>Black Play Stay &amp; Play</b> 9.30am - 11.00am Come and take part in fun, building activities that promote your child's development. 	<b>Sensory Stay &amp; Play for children with Additional Needs</b> 9.30am - 12.45pm Come & join us for sensory activities specifically designed for children who have additional needs. 
<b>Little Chef's Stay &amp; Play</b> 1pm - 2.45pm Spend time with your child cooking yummy recipes! 	<b>Mini Stay &amp; Play</b> 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. 	<b>Gardening Stay &amp; Play</b> 1pm - 2.45pm Stay and Play to resume 27th Oct. Come & take part in fun and creative outdoor learning experiences with our gardeners! 	<b>Hackney ORBIT (CLOSED SESSIONS)</b> 3pm - 3pm 	<b>Mini Stay &amp; Play</b> 11am - 12.15pm Come along for our mini stay & play session. 

**Notes:**  
If you are eligible for Healthy Start vouchers and have a young child under the age of 4 you might also be able to claim Rude Vouchers. This entitles you to additional money to purchase fruit and vegetables from locally approved stalls or shops. Speak to Morgan or the office for more details.  
Maximum 15 families per session. Arrive on time to secure your place!  
Please remember to bring a donation of fruit for snack time to all stay & play sessions.  
Dates:  
1st September  
2nd September  
7th October  
14th November  
4th November  
2nd December

**Please check the diary dates as there have been some amendments**

## Dates for your Diary

### Autumn Term 2021

- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need fundraising – Wear something spotty
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December (afternoon) – Chickenshed Theatre – Tales from the Shed Christmas Show
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Children's Christmas lunch
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December (am) & Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> (pm) – Christmas sing-a-long for parents (tbc)
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Children's Christmas Party & last day of term (10am -12.30pm)
- PLEASE NOTE there will be no breakfast, tea club or full-time hours on the 17<sup>th</sup> December.**

### Spring Term 2022

- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – children return to school
- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Chinese New Year (Year of the Tiger)
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February – STEM Week
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> February – Half term**
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February – children return to school
- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Pancake day
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – World Book Day
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Book Week

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Comic Relief charity day  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Mother's Day  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Easter activities week  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Last day of term  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – World Autism Awareness Day

Summer Term 2020

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Children return to school  
**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Bank Holiday school closed**  
2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> May – Eid ul Fitr  
**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May – School closed for Polling Day**  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May – Open day for new families  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Art Week  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May – School closed INSET Day**  
**30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Half term**  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Children return to school  
Canal trip for Sun and Star Rooms (TBC)  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Week  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Father's Day  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July – Leavers reports to parents  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July – Comet's got Talent show  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> July**

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