



Newsletter

October 2014

A healthy opening to education, open hearts and open minds at Chelsea Open Air Nursery

Dear Parents and Carers,

With a new academic year upon us I would like to welcome all of the new children and families joining us this term and also welcome back children who are returning for a second year.

September is an exciting and busy time here at Chelsea Open Air; we are busy getting to know all of the children and settling everyone in to the school routine. The children will also be very busy, making new friends and getting to know their new nursery school environment, which is challenging, so there may be a few bumps! The children have made great progress and have settled in well, they are starting to make friends and build relationships with their key worker and other adults.

Thank you...

Thank you to the parents' who have brought in pictures of their family to add to our display, the display is a wonderful way to celebrate every child in the school and give the children a sense of belonging, supporting their personal and emotional development.

Also thank you to the parents who have already signed up for our fruit rota, the signup sheet is on the internal notice board by the main entrance door. We ask that parents bring in a selection of fruits and vegetables for the children to enjoy at snack time.

COA Uniform

For parents that are interested order forms for COA school uniform has been put into each child's locker, waterproof coats, sweatshirts, t-shirts and fleeces are available at a very reasonable price. If you would like to order any uniform items please return your order from by Wednesday 8th October. There will be further opportunities to order uniform later in the year. Samples are available in the office to try on in advance.

Meal times

Children who attend for a full day will enjoy a wholesome and nutritious lunch each day from our seasonal menu. The observant of you will have noticed we do not have a kitchen on site, our food is cooked and delivered from Christ Church Primary School, with whom we have a long standing relationship with. The weekly menu is available on our website:

www.chelseapenairnursery.co.uk/parents.php

Parents Forum

Thank you to all of the parents who attended the Introduction to the Parents Forum meeting on the 25th September, it looks like we are set to have a strong and vibrant Parents Forum this year. If you were unable to come along but would like to get involved the next Parent Forum meeting is on Wednesday 22nd October at 1.30pm. The following parents have taken on key roles within the forum:

Chair of the Forum:	Marriane San Miguel, Quinceo's mother (Nursery School)
Vice Chair:	Justine Violante, Francesca's mother (Nursery School)
Secretary:	Iva Netzova, Nathan's mother (Childrens' Centre)
Vice Secretary:	Magali Moutrail, Marcus's mother (Children's Centre)

Donations for our creative area needed...

Thank you to all of the families who have been bringing in junk for the children to model with, it has been a fantastic help. We are still collecting boxes and cartons, but would really like some smaller items which will help to extend our imaginations in the creative arts area, we need:

- ✓ Small containers, i.e. yoghurt pots and stock cube boxes
- ✓ Buttons, corks, lids, ribbon, wool, string...
- ✓ Old gift wrapping paper
- ✓ Old Greeting cards (no rude ones!)
- ✓ Material
- ✓ Dry foods, i.e. pasta, rice, beans



Small and interesting objects that often end up in the bin can provide a great learning resource, and are always welcome here at COA; all we ask is please no toilet rolls, thank you.

PACT Library (Parent and Children Together)

Many parents came along to our Library Day on the 30th September. Throughout the term there are a number of PACT sessions where you can come along and explore the items available to borrow. The PACT library is open every day, so please feel free to borrow resources on a regular basis, this will support your child's learning and development at home. The next PACT session will be on the 7th October at 1pm in the Children's Centre.

Holiday Club

Our popular holiday club will be running over the October Half Term, Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm. We are now taking bookings for the club; the theme for the week will be 'Uniting Colours' and will be an artist inspired week. The club costs £35 a day for children who attend COA and their siblings (£40 for non COA children), please book in the school office.

What to Wear to Nursery School

We would like to remind parents of the importance of wearing old clothes to nursery; our environment is free flow where children can choose to play indoors and outdoors. Every day the children have the opportunity to build in the sand, dig in the mud, splash in the water and paint. As you can imagine (and as some of you have found) these activities can be very messy, but the children are having opportunities to develop their creative, physical and social skills as well as an incorporation of all other areas of learning. **Our main focus is on providing your child with the best, well-rounded education and start to school that we possibly can**, this will involve messy play.

- ✓ Please make sure your child has clothing that is easy to remove, for example elasticated waist, to support independence.
- ✓ Please wear lots of thin layers as it keeps you warmer than one thick layer.
- ✓ Please do not wear anything that you would not be happy about getting dirty.
- ✓ Please bring welly boots and a warm waterproof coat to nursery school
- ✓ Don't forget a hat, scarf and gloves

A few other bits...

A few children are coming to school with food in their bags, for health and safety reasons we request that food is not kept in children's bags.

Also we request that children do not bring in toys from home to nursery school as we cannot guarantee their safe return and can cause upset in the class.

Say Hello...

Finally I would like to welcome some new members to our team this term, Kate and Marie, we are delighted to welcome them and wish them lots of happiness at COA.

Wishing you all a wonderful beginning to our new term,

Warm regards,

Julie and the COA Team ☺

Dates for Your Diary

Half Term: Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October

Monday 3rd November

Parent/Keyworker Meetings (no school today): A chance to find out how your child is settling, Look out for more information in your child's locker and a meeting sign-up sheet nearer the time

Saturday 4th October and 1st November 10am to 12pm

Dads Group: All male carers welcome, no need to book, just come along!

Tuesday 7th October 1pm to 2pm

PACT Session: explore the resources available and take a pack home to share with your child

Friday 10th October 9am to 11am

FACES Employment advice and guidance surgery: for parents looking to move into study or back to work, please book a slot in the office

Friday 24th October 9 to 10.30am

Introduction session to FACES Employment support services: find out about how you could benefit from the services they offer over coffee

Tuesday 28th October 10am to 11am

Family Film Sharing: enjoy a free family screening of Mary Poppins, booking required