

## THANK YOU

for supporting Red Nose Day

by bringing in a small donation and helping your child to find something red to wear. We raised a total of £66.50 which we will send over to Comic Relief.

### Easter Period

Nursery School and our 2 year olds Term-time only children in Willow Room will be closing for the Easter Break with Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March the last day of term. All of nursery and children's centre services will be shut over the Easter Bank Holiday Weekend and we have a joint INSET day with Balham Nursery School and Children's Centre; Somerset Nursery School and Children's Centre and Alton Community Playschool on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April ready for re - opening on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Look out for our special Easter Programme for the Children's Centre - there will be some exciting activities taking place!

### Learning and Teaching at Eastwood

#### Maple Class



The Forest School programme has really been taking off and groups of children have been heading off into

the woods of Roehampton University to explore wildlife and develop observation and communication skills whilst benefiting from a good walk! On Thursday several children actually went twice! They did very well telling Rob all about what they had seen and learnt. Meanwhile science investigations back in class saw children learning to use pipettes, try simple chemical reactions and predict what they might see. As with all our rooms and classes, each day features a balance of play and adult - focused group work inside and out of doors.



The children have been trying particularly hard with their drawing skills and a quite wonderful 'Everybody Draw Together' session saw a large number of families enjoying drawing and talking about the stories that were unfolding on paper.



#### Willow Room

Another busy week in Willow during which the children have been doing lots of maths- sorting groups of objects into sets of colours both on the table and in the water tray. They have also built lots of different structures with community blocks in small groups which has helped teach the children involved to play co - operatively together. Some of our girls have also been pretending to go in taxis and even charged staff for leaving the room!

## Cedar Class



There has been quite a wind and air theme to the week with children exploring air movement through making kites and enjoying parachute games outside.

They have also explored sounds and started to make their own musical instruments using everyday objects which should help us in developing music gardens (see separate item further on). The children also enjoyed red nose day with a range of activities based around red noses!

## Beech Class

The children have been exploring the differences between remote control vehicles and programmable floor robots recently and have found that remote control cars are far better suited to some speedy work out of doors! They have developed control and skill in controlling their trucks to move along a large number line and an obstacle course of gutters and ramps. The outdoor writing area has really been taking off with individual and group story - telling. The weather station has led to much discussion around the properties of various clothes and children have been sorting clothes suitable for different weathers. In mathematics the children were exploring ordinal numbers.

## Chestnut Class

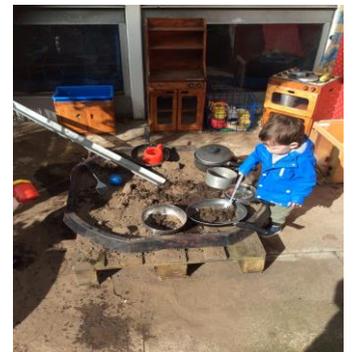
Some rather nice smells were coming from Jane's cooker earlier in the week as she kindly baked the hot

cross buns that some of the Chestnut children had made by mixing ingredients and kneading their dough. We generally introduce children to the world of letters and sounds through the letters of their names (as these are the letters they tend to be most interested in) and some careful work took place this week focusing on the children's initials. All of the Chestnut class children have been joining in very well and learning a range of nursery rhymes which they plan to sing for their parents at the end of the term.

## Blossom Room

This week Blossom room children been celebrating Mothers' Day and making some special surprises for Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>!. The children really have been making the

most of the new garden layout. There has been a lot of interest shown in the mud kitchen now that we have added water. The children have been using their imaginations and cooking up lots of treats!



The key persons have added recipe cards to the mud kitchen; this will help to introduce more maths to the outdoors whilst also developing literacy skills. The children have also found the outdoor house a very communication friendly space. There has been lots of talking, babbling and reading going on in there which will form an essential starting point for their communication, language and literacy.

## Car Park



We continue to get complaints from Blue Badge Holders that the parking bays close to the Nursery School entrance are often taken by cars that are displaying neither a blue badge nor an Eastwood permit. Please only use these parking spaces if you have the appropriate permits and never leave a child unattended in the car.

## Summer Term

This is the last newsletter before the summer term starts.



Thank you to parents and children for having regard to our new dress code which has helped ensure children are practically dressed to be independent and very active learners! You may want to think about having shorts ready for the warmer months instead of the usual joggers.

We ask that children have Velcro-fastening shoes



and that you keep jeans for the weekend not for nursery school.



The children should all still have welly boots and raincoats at nursery even when it is warm and a summer hat for sunny days.

Please remember to put your child's name in everything!



## Music Gardens

Making music and sounds is an essential part of young children's development and here at Eastwood we feel that music is in itself an essential part of children's experience. Creating and listening to sounds and music also benefits children and forms much of the first stage of the Phonics Programme 'Letters and Sounds'. For obvious reasons children making their own music often works best outside so we are hoping to develop music gardens in all our outdoor areas! Perhaps you have some interesting everyday objects which are no longer wanted that we could turn into an instrument? Old vacuum cleaner hoses, metal colanders, saucepans and very large tubs with lids are especially good but above all we need things to make 'beaters' as these disappear at an alarming rate! We would welcome any donations and there are posters and fliers around with more details.

# Eastwood News Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Improving lives through education for young children and their families in Roehampton.



We would be very pleased if you could contribute to the development of our **Music Garden**. We would like to encourage children to use recycling materials and items for different purposes. We want to open a world of discovering sounds and rhythm through different ways to promote imagination and creativity.



We are collecting kitchen utensils, old or unused pans, pots, lids, wood sticks, spoons, graters, grills, etc...anything that can make a sound/noise.

**Please do not include knives or sharp items for safety reasons.**

We look forward to creating a lovely space in the music garden with your contributions and the team work of children and staff.

If you would like to be part of this project, Please speak to a member of staff.

We welcome helping hands.  
Thank you!

