



Newsletter 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017

## Autumn is Here!

Autumn is here now with the mornings feeling a bit chillier and plenty of conkers and leaves on the ground and in our classrooms being used for art and maths! Conkers are great for counting and measuring. I wonder how many conkers will fill your tea cup? If we put 5 conkers in a line I wonder how long that line will be? Can I buy 10 conkers from your conker shop? These could well be the sort of questions you will hear around Eastwood!



It is also a nice time of year to be baking and I know that Blossom Room made some very nice cheese scones last week! Your child's class may be asking for donation of baking ingredients as there is so much science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) involved in baking!

## School Photographer

If your child attends nursery here at Eastwood then they can have a 'school photograph' taken by a professional photographer on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October**. There is no cost to having the photo taken but there is a cost to buy the photos and whilst we do get a little bit of income here at Eastwood we do use the cheapest photographer we can find!



## Drop In Sessions with 'Contact'

Our friend Carole from the organisation 'Contact' comes regularly to Eastwood and she is happy to support and advise any family from the community where a child has a special educational need or disability. Carole can advise you if you are thinking of applying for the Disability Living Allowance (DLA). She is next at Eastwood at 9.30 on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November. She will be in the Nursery School building.

**contact** *For families with disabled children*

## **Free School Meals and Disability Living Allowance**

Eastwood can access additional funds to help towards the costs of your child's education if we have records to show that children are entitled to free school meals or Disability Living Allowance. Information is treated in the strictest confidence. Application forms for Free School Meals are available at reception and if you can provide us with your DLA letter from the DWP we can take a copy- please see reception at the Nursery School. If you are not in receipt of DLA but feel that you might be entitled then do come and see Carole from Contact at one of our drop-ins.

## **Children's Centre Free Family Learning Fun Day 24<sup>th</sup> October 10.30 to 2.30**

Our friends from Family Learning are running a community Fun Day here at Eastwood Children's Centre on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October from 10.30 to 2.30. There are lots of exciting family activities planned so this could be a great session for the half term holidays. You can pick up more information from Caroline at the Children's Centre reception desk.

There are other exciting play and learn sessions on over half term so do please pick up our 'Autumn Half Term Timetable' from either Eastwood reception area

# **Dads Go Wild**

'Dads Go Wild' is our monthly Saturday morning outdoor activity session for young children with a male carer. Dads, granddads, uncles are all welcome with any child from birth upwards. Rob runs these sessions and as a qualified Lowland Leader devises a programme of nature exploration, outside crafts and some adapted mountaineering skills! Last Saturday we found out how to rope up for a mountain ridge walk- all in the grounds of Roehampton University! Next session at 9.30 on Saturday ##th November. Meet at the Nursery School entrance.



Oh, and we always have a campfire!

## **Breakfast**

Did you know that Eastwood provides a breakfast early morning care club for our Nursery School? Breakfast Club is £6 per session including a healthy breakfast and early morning activities with our qualified and experienced leader. Breakfast Club is from 8.00AM until school starts (term time only). Forms are available at reception and we do have some spaces.

## Learning and Teaching at Eastwood

**Children are learning about their routines at nursery and in many cases are learning the names of the other children in their group. This week we have had children exploring their new woodwork area, baking, exploring number and learning to count accurately and communicating through play.**

**We do like to give children the opportunity to write their names right from the start- so we always ask to see if they would like to have a go first and have name cards to hand.**

**A large group of young boys told me that they were farmers as they helped plant broad beans in the allotment (singing Oats and Beans and Barley Grow) and Fantastic 2s (our Children's Centre weekly class) went to the University grounds to discover toads, prickly chestnut cases and some very large swans!**

### **Are You Looking for a Nursery Place?**

We do still have some spaces. If you are interested in a place at Eastwood then call in! We take children from babies all the way through until they are ready to go to primary school.

All children are entitled to a part-time nursery place from the term after their third birthday and we can help you find out if your 2 year old is eligible for a free nursery place or if you are entitled to a 30

hour place from three. For other types of early years childcare our rates are very competitive.

Call in at reception and we will be pleased to help you phone 020 8876 3976 to arrange a show-round.

## **Dress code**

The photographer coming in provides a good opportunity to remind you that we like the children to have a zip up hoody with joggers or leggings (or a track suit to look really smart) to go with their tee-shirt or polo shirt. The hoody is very useful as some days it really can become too warm for a coat so we will ask them to put their hoody on to go outside to play and learn.

We ask that children have their Velcro-fastening shoes or trainers with them every day- even if they wear their wellies coming in to nursery. Sorry but lace up shoes and jeans are not part of the dress code and children should not be wearing them to nursery. All clothing should allow children to deal with each item independently and zip-up hoodies are excellent for learning to fasten zips.

## Heuristic Play Appeal

Thank you for your donations so far- we would still like to collect some more items to replenish our heuristic play bags and treasure baskets.

There are some baskets around for donations at the entrance to Nursery School and entrance to Day Nursery so please can you see if you have any items at home to spare that we could have?



Thank you! Google Heuristic Play or see Pinterest for ideas and think about making your own treasure basket for your child for free, open-ended play!

## Health and Safety

Thank you for remembering to hold hands as children come to nursery and leave. We really appreciate this – it helps to keep the children safe.

# Squirrels!

We do love our little furry friends that scamper around Eastwood in every increasing numbers! The squirrels are very tame and we have no way of controlling them- they will come right up to people. Unfortunately they will search through your buggies and bags if they can smell any food and on occasion have gnawed large holes in expensive buggy bags!



Please help us by not leaving any food in bags or under the seat in buggies or on bikes left outside even for a short time.

Please visit our website

[www.eastwood.wandsworth.sch.uk](http://www.eastwood.wandsworth.sch.uk)



