

## Welcome Back to the First Half of Spring Term 2024

Welcome back to all our returning families and welcome to the new families joining us this half-term. Happy New Year to you all! We would like to say a big 'THANK YOU' to Fahima, our student from UEL, who will be leaving us on the 26<sup>th</sup> January. Good luck with your career Fahima and please keep in touch to let us know how you are getting on.

## Thank You

We would also like to thank you all for your kind donations to our Harvest collection last term. Staff and children took it all to the Sundial Centre, to be distributed to local people. They were very grateful, and we have been invited back to sing songs and share stories with them, which we are organising for this term.



## Tower Hamlets in Bloom

We were extremely excited and proud to be named winners in three categories in the Tower Hamlets in Bloom competition in December. We achieved third prize in 'Best Education Establishment', first prize in 'Best Children's Garden' and we received a cup for being Overall Group Winners. The Local Authority website states:

*Overall group winners Columbia Market Nursery School were recognised for implementing exceptional and positive planting and educational growing schemes, engaging children in hands-on-gardening.*

*"The school's commitment to fostering green fingered students is truly remarkable, where valuable gardening skills instil a deeper understanding of the natural world and the environment," judges said.*



## Wraparound Care

**Breakfast and After School Clubs are open.** Please book your slots with the office if you would like your child to stay.



## Clothes

The weather continues to be cold, so please make sure you label your child's coat, hat, gloves and scarf. Please check our Lost Property Box in the Children's Entrance if you are missing any clothes. Also, please ensure that your child's changing bag has a supply of clothes in case of toileting accidents or wet play.



## Snacks

The school helps children to understand the importance of eating healthily. If children want a snack during the day we would like them to eat fruit or a healthy snack. If every child brings in one piece of fruit, rice cakes or bread sticks each week then we will have enough to share with everyone. Many thanks.



## School Library

All children can choose a book to take home each week. Please buy a library bag from the school office. Our library days are:

Monday: Poppy

Tuesday: Sunflower

Thursday: Bluebell



Please enjoy reading together.

## Maths Bags

Please choose a Maths Bag with your child on Wednesday mornings. They contain lots of ideas and activities for enjoying maths at home.



## Stay and Play

Our Stay and Play is on a Thursday morning from 9:30-11:30. If you have a baby or toddler, or know anyone that has, please join us in Lavender Room on Thursday mornings.



## Story Theme

Every half-term we have a story theme. This half-term we are looking at books which encourage the children to use their imaginations to construct with boxes, sticks etc. Please take a look at the planning sheet on the Parent's Board which has ideas for learning activities across all areas of the curriculum linked to our theme.



## Illness and Medicine

It's the time of year when there are lots of coughs, colds and bugs about! If your child is unwell and you have had to give them Calpol or other medication to reduce their temperature or help with a cough, please keep them at home until this is no longer necessary. Medication wears off during the day and children often become unwell again, needing to go home. We only give medication in school for long term, diagnosed conditions which require a care plan. If your child has had diarrhoea and/or vomiting, they need to stay home until **at least 48 hours from the last time they had an episode.**



## Birthdays

We love to celebrate the children's birthdays in nursery. They wear the special birthday hat, we sing 'Happy Birthday' and they blow out candles on our special cake. If you would like to bring in something to share with their friends, please limit this to fruit or a healthy snack as we have children with various allergies and intolerances in school.



## Dates for Your Diary

Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day), Valentine's Day and Chinese/Lunar New Year all occur during February half-term this year. If you celebrate any of these events, we hope you have a lovely time. We will be celebrating after half-term.



## End of Term

The last day of this half-term is Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. School is closed from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> until Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February. Have a lovely half-term and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024.