

NEWSLETTER

February 2023



Hello everyone. Welcome to our February newsletter.

There has been so much going on in the nursery this **half term** and it's hard to believe that we are nearing the half term break already! We hope that you have some lovely things planned with your children. Don't forget that our website has loads of activities and links to great resources to help you keep your children engaged and developing appropriately. Our teaching team in Cooke, Donaldson and Jeffers put together a wonderful selection of activities that you could do at home based on the learning that is going on in the nursery. There are also links to some great videos that we have produced to help you engage and interact with your children. Here is the link: <https://www.rebeccacheetham.newham.sch.uk/page/?title=Supporting+your+child+at+home&pid=65>

Another great resource produced by the Department for Education is Hungry Little Minds: <https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

The children in Cooke, Donaldson and Jeffers rooms have been looking at the topic of **transport**, enriched by the three wonderful texts; **Mr Gumpy's Motor Car**, **Zog and the Flying Doctors** and **Whatever Next**. Since our educational visits were unable to take place this term, why not take the bus and tube to visit the **Transport Museum** in Covent Garden. The museum charges £18 per adult ticket, but you can use that same ticket for 12 months throughout the year for free entry. Children under the age of 17 go free! It's a really wonderful museum with so much to entertain and engage you and your children. Alternatively you may want to revisit The **Natural History Museum** and the **Science Museum** which are free to access, although you do need to pre book. To get there, it is a straight run (about half an hour) on the District Line from Plaistow to South Kensington and then a short walk from there

If you do partake in these or any other interesting activities, please let us know through the **Evidence Me** app! Here is the link to how to download Evidence me and how to use the app: <https://www.rebeccacheetham.newham.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=347&type=pdf>

You will have received your child's **initial assessment** by **Friday 10th February**. We hope that you enjoy reading them and seeing what we can see in your child's development whilst they are at nursery. Please take the time to read them and especially look at the targets we will be focusing on with your child. As always, if you have any questions or want to discuss something with your child's key worker, please make an appointment with them directly or through the front office.

Our next **Parent Forum** Workshop is happening on **Wednesday 8th February 2023, in person at 10am or online at 2pm** and the topic will be **Making your mark—Introducing Early Writing**. Here is the Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86412176004?pwd=QkhVLy9QbmhuS1NqMmdCekd5bEs3QT09>

Please make every effort to join in our Parent Forums as we aim to provide you with some meaningful and supportive information for you to help with engagements with your children at home.

Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter. For those that have the half term, we hope you have a wonderful break and we look forward to all our children returning back on Monday 20th February 2023.

Nursery Opening Times

Extended day
8:00am to 5:00pm
Or
8:00am to 6:00pm

30 Hours
8:45am to 2:45pm

Morning place
8:45am to 11:45pm

Afternoon place
12:45pm to 3:45pm

Charges apply for late collections.

Attendance and Punctuality

We take attendance and punctuality very seriously and it is proven that constant absence can be a major disruption to your child's development.

Research has shown that attending early years education and care can help to improve children's outcomes and narrow the gap associated with socio-economic disadvantage. <http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/impact-nursery-attendance-childrens-outcomes>

If your child will not be attending nursery, it is essential you contact us



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World Book Day 2023

World Book Day is fast approaching and we will have a whole range of exciting book related activities on offer to help celebrate the day with your children. In the past we have asked that children dress up as their favourite book character and since we encourage **homemade costumes**, we will be providing a range of fabrics and other resources for parents to use. We are also offering you an opportunity to come in with other parents/carers to make a costume together on **Wednesday 22nd February at 9am—10am and then again at 2.30pm—3.30pm**. If you can't make these sessions, you are welcome to collect some resources that you can use at home. Again, there is absolutely no pressure at all to be in costume; it is just if you want to!

We are also working in conjunction with **Newham libraries**. Be sure to pick up your free bookstart pack along with information on activities you will find going on in your local library. You also now have an opportunity to join the library through us. Fill in the application form and let us take care of the rest! Please also actively use our Reading Passport books which also include a host of dual language books. This enables the love of reading to be shared with the whole family.

World Book Day is on **Thursday 3rd March 2023**. We would encourage you to bring in one of your child's favourite books to share with their friends. We will also provide you with a handout for you to fill out with your child over the half term about their favourite book. This will be a great opportunity to talk about a book with your child! If you would like to come into the provision and do some reading with the children and share some of your favourite books (in ANY language), let the team know in the front office so we can coordinate your visit. We will also be giving out vouchers for you to exchange for a £1 book at selected retailers. **Booster Cushion Theatre** will be visiting our setting to make the book experience 'alive' for the children on 7th March 2023.



Here are some great resources for you to access about developing a love of reading with your child, especially prepared for World Book Day from The National Literacy Trust. Click on the link to take you to the article:

[Activities | Words for Life](#)

Please ensure your child has received the World Book Day Handout asking them to draw a picture from their favourite book. We can't wait to see the masterpieces your children will create! ***Every picture completed and returned can be exchanged for a free book courtesy of the nursery to continue the love of books and reading.***



**FATHERS READING
EVERY DAY**

FRED is a four-week program designed to encourage fathers/grandfathers/uncles/brothers to read to their children on a daily basis. The program is structured so that male figures read to their children a minimum of 15 minutes a day for the first two weeks and a minimum of 30 minutes a day for the last two weeks. Each participant will be presented with a packet that contains an introduction to the program, reading logs, tips for reading aloud to their children, and recommended book lists. They will also be invited to join us for our World Book day celebrations on the 2nd March 2023.

You can find out more at <http://www.fatherhoodinstitute.org/training-and-consultancy/fathers-reading-day-training/>

If you have not yet received your information pack, please ask for one at the school office.



Children's Centre



Baby Singing and Story Time (Rebecca Cheetham)

0-12 months (Pre walkers)

Booking required

Every Monday
1:00pm – 1:45pm



Toddler Singing and Story time (Rebecca Cheetham)

12 months– 2 years

Booking required

Every Monday
2:00pm – 2:45pm



Stay and Play for 2-3 year olds (Rebecca Cheetham)

Booking required

Every Tuesday
9:30am– 11:00am



Bye Bye Bottle Workshop (Rebecca Cheetham)

Join a member of our Family Support Team to gather ideas and strategies on how you support your child to transition from a bottle to a beaker.

Booking required.

Tuesday 7th March 2023
10:00am-11:00am

Spring Half Term Programme

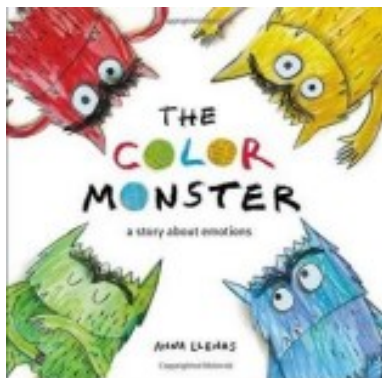
	Monday 13 th February 2023	Tuesday 14 th February 2023	Wednesday 15 th February 2023	Thursday 16 th February 2023	Friday 17 th February 2023
A M	Mark Making @ Rebecca Cheetham 10:00am – 11:30am 0-4 years Booking Required	Eat and Play @ Rebecca Cheetham 9:30am – 12:00pm 0-4 years Invitation/ Referral Only	Educational Visit @ Science Museum (South Kensington) 10:00am - 2:00pm 2-4 years Booking Required	Baby Sensory @ Rebecca Cheetham 10:00am - 11:30am 0-12 months (Non walkers are welcome) Booking Required	Family Play Celebrating different Cultures @ Rebecca Cheetham 10:00am – 12:00pm Children under 4 years (Older siblings welcome) Booking Required
P M	Block Play @ Rebecca Cheetham 1:00pm – 2:30pm 0-4 years Booking Required	Family Fun @ Rebecca Cheetham 1:00pm - 3:00pm Whole family Invitation Only	(Limited Buggy Spaces)	Stay and Play @ Rebecca Cheetham 1:00pm – 2:30pm 0-4 years Booking Required	Messy Play @ Rebecca Cheetham 1:30pm – 3:00pm 0-4 years Booking Required

Booking required: You can book sessions by either calling the Centre on 0208 534 3136 option 4 Referral/ Invitation Only: These sessions are created for families who have been invited/ referred into a session by another professional or agency.

Book of the Month

We use books to open up a world of learning for our children. The core books we use, relate to children's interests and we feed that through the breadth of activities we offer within the provision. We also think that using books as the basis for our learning helps children love reading on a deeper level which we hope they will keep with them throughout their education.

This month's book of the month is ***The Colour Monster*** by Anna Llenas and we knew we had to celebrate this book in the nursery because talking about feelings and emotions is a skill we need to grow and develop. Sometimes, as adults we find it difficult to articulate our feelings, so you can imagine how it must be for our little ones.



This book perfectly offers children an insight into our feelings and emotions, naming our feelings and giving an example of what it might feel like. The thing I love about the book is the fact that Anna Llenas normalises the emotions; none are good or bad, they are just a different way to feel.

Emotional literacy also helps with your child's self awareness and self esteem, so books like this really help give adults a starting point to talk about emotions.

It's okay to feel sad and it's okay to cry, just as much as it's okay to feel happy. And to end, boys get sad too, don't tell your boys to stop crying; let all children feel their emotions and get it out!



Here is a link to a Youtube reading of the book that you can share with your children and also use to get a better understanding of ways you can talk to your children about feelings and emotions: [The Color Monster - Read Aloud by Mr. Joshua Brooks - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=512&type=pdf)

It's a great starting point alongside the activities we have compiled for you in our Book of the Month info sheet:

<https://www.rebeccacheetham.newham.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=512&type=pdf>

If your child loves a particular book why not tell us about it in Evidence Me; we'd love to hear your feedback!

Who is Donaldson?

The teaching and learning spaces throughout Rebecca Cheetham are named after well loved children's book authors.

One of our rooms for children aged 3 and 4 years old is named after **Julia Donaldson** CBE, an English writer, playwright and performer, and the 2011–2013 Children's Laureate. She is best known for her popular rhyming stories for children, especially those illustrated by Axel Scheffler, which include *The Gruffalo*, *Room on the Broom* and *Stick Man*. She originally wrote songs for children's television but has concentrated on writing books since the words of one of her songs, "A Squash and a Squeeze", was made into a children's book in 1993. She remains one of England's most prominent and popular children's authors.

Here are some of the many titles written by Julia Donaldson:

A Squash and a Squeeze

Tiddler

The Snail and the Whale

Detective Dog

The Highway Rat

What The Ladybird Heard

Tyrannosaurus Drip

Zog



FEBRUARY

Wednesday 8th - Parent Forum - Mark making

Monday 13th to Friday 17th - Half term holiday.
School closed to government funded children.

The setting is open to our all year round children.

MARCH

Thursday 2nd—**World Book Day**

Tuesday 7th - World Book day event with Booster Cushion Theatre company.

Wednesday 15th - Parent Forum—Wellbeing

Advance notice of Easter holiday arrangements

Friday 31st March - Last day of school for government funded children. They return on Monday 17th April.

Our all year round children will be off on Friday 7th April and Monday 10th April only



