



Thomas Coram Centre

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Head teacher: Perina Holness

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Monday 30th September 2019

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm delighted that term has begun with such a lovely atmosphere in the nursery. We are really enjoying getting to know our new families and catching up with our returning families.

I am very pleased to be able to say that our **Beanstalk readers** have returned again this term. This means that we have 3 volunteers who come twice a week to read with the Kinder Children. There is a wealth of research which shows that young children who are regularly read to make accelerated progress in all areas of learning. We would love you to also come in and read with the children so please talk to your key person if this is something you would like to do.

Anna and I are currently working on re-establishing the **Toy Library** predominantly as a book loan scheme. More news to follow soon.

October sees all London schools celebrating **Black History Month**. This is always a lovely event where we celebrate cultural heritage and achievements. Your key person will keep you updated on our programme of events and again we are very keen for you contribute to our celebrations.

Our weekly **Parent Workshops** will soon be up and running. The first sessions will be run by Sarah and will cover Primary school applications for those parent whose parents will be leaving us in July 2020.

The dates are:

- Wednesday 9th October, 2.00-3.00pm
- Thursday 14th October, 2.00-3.00pm
- Tuesday 3rd December, 4.00-5.00pm

Parent Donations. Despite the Government's recent announcement of additional funding for schools, **Camden Council has been told it will not receive any extra money.** This means we can no longer afford to pay for all our additional services. We have been busy applying for grants so that we can continue to offer special activities such as music and Forest School for the children. We are now having to ask for a suggested donation from all parents of **£5** per term. The donation box will be available in the office and you are welcome to pay termly (£5) or half-termly (£2.50). Your support is very much appreciated.

Healthy Schools. We are now very proud to have achieved the **Bronze Award for Little Steps to Healthy Lifestyles** and the **bronze award in the transport for London STARS scheme.** This ensures that the children learn the importance of healthy eating and exercise. I would like to congratulate Leah, Tracey and Lucia for their hard work to achieve this with their delicious daily menus. I would also like to thank you all for bringing in the vegetables and fruit snacks which the children enjoy helping to prepare and eat throughout the sessions. Please remember there are no sweets or sugary drinks in our nursery school. Please bring a healthy alternative to cake if you would like to celebrate your child's birthday with us. Together we really are giving the children the best start in life!



As Autumn approaches please remember that all coats, hats, gloves and jumpers must have your **child's name clearly written inside** otherwise we are unable to keep track of these items.

Thank you for making such an effort to arrive for drop off and collection on time.

- Morning drop off is **only at 9.30-9.40pm** without prior agreement
- Afternoon sessions **begin promptly at 1.30pm**
- Please remember that it is particularly important to have collected your child by **3.25pm every Wednesday** due to our weekly Staff Training Session.

**With very best wishes
Perina and the Thomas Coram Team**

TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES **2019/20**

AUTUMN TERM 2019

Monday 2 September to Thursday 19 December 2019

Centre closed for **INSET1- 2.9.19**

Centre closed for **INSET2 28.10.19**

Centre closed for **INSET3-19.12.19**

- Half-term holiday: Monday 21st October to Friday 25th October 2019
- Christmas break: Friday 20th December 2019 to Friday 3rd January 2020

SPRING TERM 2020

Monday 6 January to Friday 3 April 2020

Centre closed for **INSET 4- 03.4.20**

- Half-term holiday: Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2020
- Easter holiday: Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April 2020

(Including Good Friday, 10th April, and Easter Monday, 13th April)

SUMMER TERM 2020

Monday 20 April to Tuesday 21 July 2020

Centre closed (Easter) Friday 10th April 2020

Centre closed for **INSET 5- 19.6.20**

Centre closed Monday 10th August 2020- Wednesday 2nd September 2020

- May Day Bank Holiday 2020: Friday 8th May 2020
- Half-term holiday 2020: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2020
(including Spring Bank, 25.5.20)

ALL YEAR PLACES: The nursery is **CLOSED** for:

- All 5 INSET days
- Two weeks at Christmas 2019: Friday 20th December 2019 to Friday 3rd January 2020
- Easter 2020: Friday 10th April- we open on Monday 20th April
- Three weeks in August 2020: 10.8.20- 02.09.2020
- Public holidays:
 - Good Friday - Friday 10th April 2020
 - Easter Monday - Monday 13th April
 - May Day 2020 - Friday 8th May
 - Spring Bank Holiday 2020 - Monday 25th May