

Dear mums, dads and carers,

May 2015 Newsletter

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Ofsted report published

Ofsted have now published their report on Ambler after inspecting our Baby Room, Toddler Room and Nursery provision during Easter. We're delighted that they've awarded us the mark of 'Good' in all the areas needed in early years settings. The full report is available online and in our foyer area. We are also working hard to make sure we improve in the final few areas to get marked as 'Outstanding' next time!



Parents' Survey now live

Every year Islington Council asks people who use Children's Centres to complete a short survey to share their comments. Your response is really important to us and will help the council understand how satisfied parents are with the services we provide and where we need to improve. Let us know what you think and you could also win £30 in Marks and Spencer vouchers! Please ask your keyperson for a paper survey or complete it online at www.islington.gov.uk/ccsurvey2015



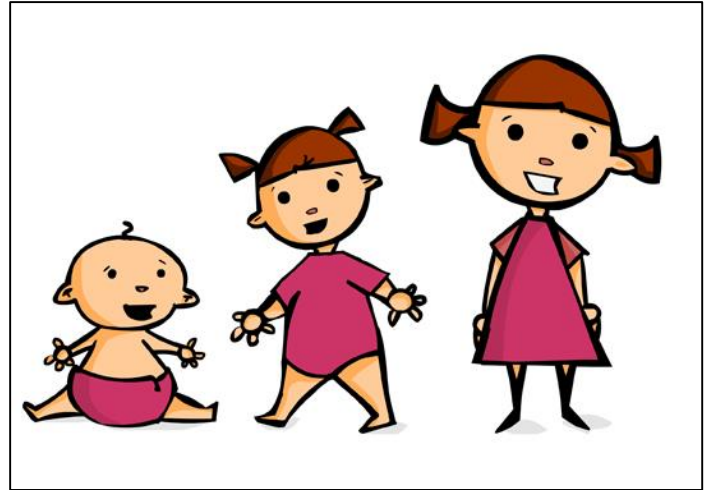
New Parent Governors

Many thanks to all who voted in our ballot for new Parent Governors! The poll was a very close call which resulted in Clare Potter and Pascal Auberson being elected. Parent governors play a vital role in ensuring the governing body is aware of the views of the local community. Any other interested parents/carers are encouraged to apply in September when there will be a further two vacancies. If you want to contact either of the new Parent Governors, please see the school office.



September's Nursery places

We're now offering out our Nursery places for Autumn Term 2015, which starts in September. If you get a letter please read it carefully, fill in the slip and return it to the admin office as soon as possible. This way we can make sure to reserve your child the offered place from next term onwards. Offers of full-time Nursery places (9.30am to 3.30pm) are being given in line with the council's admissions policy, so if you have any questions please see the admin office or a member of the senior leadership team.



One World Day is soon!

This year's 'One World Day' will be on Thursday 21st May. Children will be able to wear their national costume on this day to celebrate all the countries and cultures represented at Ambler. We are also very excited about the event itself, which will take place from 3.30pm to 5.30pm in the school and showcase music, food and other exciting activities from around the world. We'd love it if parents could provide snacks for their child's rooms, but remember NO NUTS are allowed!

A chance to 'Get Involved'

Our new display in the foyer aims to help you all 'Get Involved' with the Children's Centre in any way you can. Please have a look if you'd like to know more about the Advisory Board or if you fancy joining Friends of Ambler in their fund-raising efforts. We will also be launching a Parents' Voice group in coming months so everyone can share their experiences and help us improve the things that matter to you. Finally, if you have a particular talent – such as singing, cooking, storytelling or gardening – please speak to your keyperson about how you can help here.



Reception's greengrocer trip

Both of our Reception classes are going on a trip! To tie in with their make-believe shop, Reception Blue and Green are visiting a real greengrocer on Blackstock Road. Please let the staff know if you'd like to accompany your child on the trip, which takes place on Monday 18th May. As well as learning about weighing and counting money, the children will be buying a small amount of fruit so we'd appreciate a voluntary contribution of 50p towards the cost. If you haven't filled in your permission slip, please do as soon as possible.

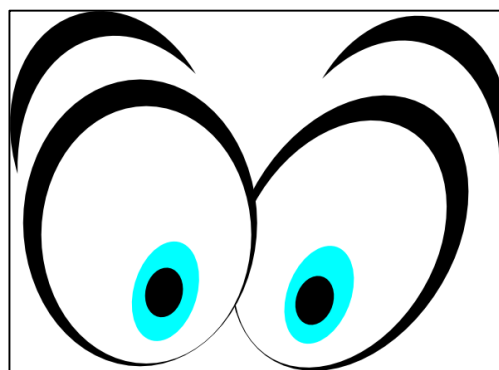
Look out for upcoming activities

There are several great one-off activities coming up at Ambler where we'd love to see as many of our families as possible. Keep an eye out for more information on flyers and posters around the Centre, but please pop the following dates in your diary:

Weds 20th May for **BookStart** – free books for two year olds if you bring in your child's Red Baby Book.

Thurs 4th June for **Early Home Learning** – develop skills to play and interact with your child at home.

Weds June 24th for our **Be Inspired** event – aim high and follow your career goals with lots of fun activities.



Check emergency contacts

Please make sure that the admin office has your most up to date contact details - whether you've got a new mobile number or have changed jobs recently, it's very important that we can reach you by phone at all times. It's also vital that we have the contact numbers of at least two other people who we can get in touch with if there's an emergency. In the interests of your child's safety

Healthcare plan reviews

Can all parents/carers please check the dates on your child's medication, as we are not allowed to administer any pumps/inhalers/creams that are out of date. Also, if your child is moving into Year One in September you will need to book an appointment with Hazel Lambert, the lower phase leader, to review your child's healthcare plan. The meeting must take place this term – so before the summer holidays. Please call the school office on 0207 226 4708 to book an appointment that is suitable for both you and Hazel, so your child stays safe at school.



New bank account details

Our old Co-Op bank account is now closed entirely, so please make sure any standing orders or bank transfers are sent to our new Barclays bank account instead. The account name is Ambler School, the account number is 73765881 and the sort code is 200000. If you need to check that your payments are set up correctly in the new financial year please just see the admin office...



Communication

Each child has a pigeonhole labelled with his/her name. Please check this daily as this is where you will find any up to date communications from us.

Who to speak to and governance

We aim to have open communication. Your child's key person and then the room lead will be the people you have most contact with. However, there may be times when you want more support from the senior leadership team of **Michael Jarrett**, Head of Centre, **Honoria Lukulay**, Assistant Head, or **Lorna Prynne**, Early Years Foundation Stage Co-ordinator.

Our Advisory Board parents are **Christine Langford** and **Ram Deb. Alice Gwinnell**, parent of a Nursery child, and **Mary Stevens**, parent of a Toddler child, are also on the Governing Body.

If you have any compliments, complaints or suggestions to help us improve our services for all our children and families, please fill in a feedback form (available from the foyer).

Very best wishes,

The Ambler Team



term dates and holidays

TTO = Term Time Only

AYR = All Year Round

Summer Term

Last day of half-term for TTO: Friday 22 May

CC closed for bank holiday: Monday 25 May

Half Term break (open for AYR) : Tuesday 26 to Friday 29 May

CC re-opens to TTO: Monday 1 June

Last day of term for TTO: Friday 17 July

Last day of term for AYR: Friday 14 August

Autumn Term

CC closed for bank holiday: Monday 31 August

CC closed for inset days: Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 September

First day back for Baby and Toddler Rooms: Thursday 3 September

First day back for PAYING Nursery children: Thursday 3 September

First day back for FUNDED Nursery children: Monday 7 September

First day back for CURRENT Reception class: Monday 7 September