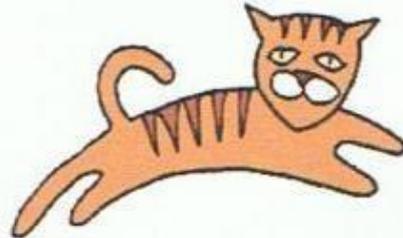


The Marmalade Cat



Principal

**Rozzy Hyslop BA (Ed) P.G. Dip. Sp.L.D.(dyslexia)
EYPS**

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Welcome to the Marmalade Cat!

As your child embarks on his or her first steps in education, your decisions on where and how they are taught will have a significant impact on their learning process. The Principal of the Marmalade Cat, Mrs Rozzy Hyslop has a teaching degree from Exeter and a subsequent Special Needs Diploma. She has 24 years teaching experience in both the primary and nursery sector and latterly Miss Rozzy has been awarded her EYPS – the highest Early Years qualification. She also runs the Marmalade Bear, Marmalade Caterpillar, The Marmalade Duck and Marmalade Owl.

The staff at the Marmalade Cat all have excellent Early Years qualifications. The Marmalade Cat's Head Teacher is Ms Jemima Ward who has been teaching for over 20 years and was previously the Head Teacher of the Marmalade Owl. The Marmalade Cat aims to provide your child with an excellent start on the learning ladder. We very much look forward to seeing you and your child at the Marmalade Cat.

Why the Marmalade Cat?

We aim to provide a fun, happy and secure environment in which your child can develop at his/her own pace. The Marmalade Cat wants to give your child the absolute best nursery education. A child should be happy, confident, challenged, and able to reach their potential with us academically, socially, and emotionally.

The location and premises

The Marmalade Cat is located on the edge of Clapham Common in the United Reform Church on the corner of Battersea Rise and Altenburg Gardens. It is fabulous church hall with several spacious areas, which have been totally refurbished to a very high standard, providing a wonderful setting for this thriving nursery complete with a modern lift.

OFSTED

We were inspected by OFSTED in May 2016 and were delighted to be deemed OUTSTANDING (the highest grade) in all areas. The report is available on the OFSTED web site, (www.ofsted.gov.uk) and at The Marmalade Cat. We have also received OUTSTANDING (Oct. 2007) for an inspection that focused on the 'impact of leadership and management on outcomes for children and families'.

The Groups

The children are split into two groups, the Kittens, and the Cats. The children each have a Group Teacher who monitors their development. The Kittens are rising three and the Cats rising four.

Times

The school times are Monday to Friday 8.45am-Noon. For the older children there are also extended day sessions until 3.15pm. We also run a separate afternoon school, which starts at 12.45pm and runs to 4.00pm. Afternoon children can have lunch at school, this session starts at 11.45. Lunches are provided by Chilli Bees catering company based in Wandsworth.

The Curriculum

The Marmalade Cat offers a balanced and broadly based curriculum, based around the Early Years Foundation Stage as compiled by the DFES. At the core of our educational policy are the seven early learning goals: the three Prime Areas being Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development; The four Specific Areas are Understanding the World, Literacy, Expressive Arts and Design and Maths. We aim to use the best of both traditional and Montessori methods. Within this curriculum the children will have many chances to experience structured play and free play which are both a particularly important part of their early learning experiences. The Chelsea School of Ballet come weekly to give ballet lessons to all and on top of our general music the children have a music lesson with a specialist teacher. The children are also taught French by a peripatetic teacher. Extra physical development sessions are taught by Activ Ts and Little Rackets. Yoga bugs teach yoga and Theatrebugs both drama and dance.

Events

The Marmalade Cat holds exciting events throughout the year which parents are encouraged to attend. These include: The Nativity Play, Grandparents Day, Parents' Stay and Play Days, A Mini Spring/Summer Concert, The Easter Bonnet Parade, Festival Feast Days, World Book Day, A Sponsored Charity Fundraiser, Open Art Day and Sports Day. The children will also go on half-day outings throughout the year to support their topic work.

Parents as Partners

As parents are the first and most enduring educators, we seek to develop an effective partnership with parents. Parents are asked to attend a small tea party with their child in the summer term prior to their child's arrival; this hopefully will help the child familiarise him/herself with The Marmalade Cat. At this tea party each parent will have time to talk to the teachers and be given a New Parents pack; the documents will need to be filled in to give us some background information on their child. All children have reached different stages of development when they arrive at school and it is extremely helpful to know what stage they are at before they start school. Over the first two days of term we offer each family a home visit from their child's new teacher this offers a chance for the parents to ask any questions and to familiarise themselves with the school routines. The children seem to settle in very quickly because of these visits.

In the Autumn term we will invite you to an evening for us to inform you of the learning opportunities provided by the Marmalade Cat. The evening will give you more time to ask your child's teacher any further questions, meet other parents and to become aware of what your child will be learning throughout the year. At this evening we will also go through the more practical side of day to day nursery school life.

The primary way of communicating with your child's teacher is through daily Tapestry observations and photos (Tapestry is your child's digital online learning journal), which ensures close contact with the parent and teacher is always maintained. The Marmalade Cat has its own app. where you can find dates and details of events as well as the plan for each upcoming week. Parents are encouraged to have close contact with the school either in person, by telephone or by email.

At the end of the Summer term we send out detailed reports outlining your child's progress and, in the Autumn, and Spring term we will hold individual meetings to discuss your child's

progress. We have a well-established Parent Teacher Association to help parents meet each other and to provide a non-academic support network for the good of the school.

The choice of your child's next school is important, and we aim to support you in finding the right school for your child for both independent and state sectors. This is often difficult in the school's immediate area. Miss Rozzy has substantial experience and knowledge of the process and options available. Miss Jemima and Miss Rozzy regularly visit local schools to foster good relationships and therefore have up to date knowledge of the local provision.

Admissions procedure

If you would like a registration form, more information or to arrange a show round then please call the Registrar, on 020 8265 5224 or email marmaladeschools@gmail.com.

If you would like your child to attend the Marmalade Cat then we would ask you to fill in a registration form and send it with the registration fee to the school office. Children are accepted on a 'first come first served' basis, with priority being given to residents of Wandsworth over children from other boroughs. The Marmalade Cat does not require children to take any test on entry and nor does it discriminate on the grounds of disability, special needs, or ethnic background. We operate a sibling policy where a space is available, and we keep an eye on any gender imbalance. The parents will be notified if their child has a place or is put on the waiting list.

Website

Full details on all the Marmalade Schools can also be found by visiting our website

www.marmaladeschools.co.uk