

The Early Bird Pre-School Wheathampstead Newsletter



October 2025



Term	Dates	Half Term	Setting Closed **
Autumn Term	Wednesday 3 rd of September – Wednesday 17 th of December	Monday 27 th of October – Friday 31 st of October	Thurs 18 th Dec – Tues 6 th Jan. The Christmas party is on 18 th Dec 9:30-11:30am.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 27th – Friday 31st of October – Half Term

Monday 10th of November – Odd Socks Day

Beginning of December – We will be collecting for our local food bank

Beginning of December – The children will be making and posting Christmas cards

Wednesday 3rd of December – Parents Evening (Time to be confirmed)

Saturday 6th of December – Family Play and Exploration Group 9:30-11:30am

Monday 8th of December – Christmas Social and Mini Market 7pm – 9:30pm

Friday 14th of December – Children in Need

Thursday 11th of December – Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 18th of December – Christmas Party 9:30 – 11:30am



Christmas Party

The Early Bird Pre-School Wheathampstead latest news . . .

Fledgling Room

Autumn is a wonderful time for children to learn and grow through outdoor play. We've enjoyed collecting colourful leaves, spotting animals, and simply spending time in nature. These experiences have supported physical development, sparked creativity, and helped build language and vocabulary. We were especially excited to welcome some special visitors to our garden this term helping us understand the world around us: two frogs hopping around the playground and a busy squirrel gathering conkers and their shells!

This term, our early birds rolled up their sleeves and became little playdough chefs! They had so much fun measuring, mixing, and kneading their very own batches of playdough. Together we explored the ingredients, flour, water, oil, and a splash of colour or a hint of herbs and spices. The children loved recalling each one as they added it to the bowl. This activity was not only full of fun and creativity but also enhanced skills like following instructions, taking turns, and strengthening their fine motor muscles.

The children have shown wonderful enthusiasm for reading this term! They've especially enjoyed joining in with their favourite stories like *Peace at Last* and *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, confidently repeating familiar words and phrases while pointing to the pictures and text as we read together. Many have also been exploring books independently, retelling the stories in their own words with great expression and excitement. These experiences play a key role in developing speech and language skills. Through books, children expand their vocabulary, learn sentence structure, and build strong communication foundations, all while having fun and falling in love with stories.

This term, our pre-school has been filled with the delicious smells of cooking as our early birds introduced home cooked meals to our day. The children have adapted well to this change and have also enjoyed taking part in helping with preparing parts of our meal. From healthy flapjacks to beetroot cake, naan bread, plaited loaves, and homemade vegetable soup, our little chefs have been busy! These sessions have helped children explore new ingredients, build motor skills, learn about healthy eating, and even practise early maths through measuring and counting. Best of all, the food they make contributes to our pre-school lunches—giving them a real sense of pride and achievement at mealtimes. If you have any questions about the lunches, please ask your key person.



Nest Room

What a wonderful autumn we've had so far! The children have been making the most of the season with plenty of outdoor adventures. From crisp nature walks in the buggy to relaxing moments in the garden with our guinea pigs, Freida and Bubbles. Our Nest children have been enjoyed the sensory experience of scooping and pouring oats, exploring textures and building fine motor skills through play! They've also been showing a growing love for books, eagerly listening to stories and to spark even more excitement, we've introduced nursery rhyme bags filled with fun props to help bring classic rhymes to life. This supports language development and sparks imagination.



Tapestry

We love to hear what the children get up to at home, please add photos or comments on Tapestry to keep us updated. If your child has a new interest or has learnt a new skill, we would also love to hear about it.



Christmas Social and Mini Market – 8th Dec

The most magical time of the year will be here before we know it, and we're excited to invite you to our **Christmas Social Night and Mini Market!** Join us for a joyful evening filled with twinkling lights, festive treats, and holiday cheer. We'd love to welcome parents to get involved — if you'd like to run a stall (crafts, bakes, gifts, or anything merry and bright!), just let us know! Whether you're selling or shopping, it's going to be a holly jolly time for all!



Reminders

- Could we ask that you label your child's clothing, in particular coats, cardigans and jumpers.
- If your child has accidentally gone home with an item of clothing that isn't theirs, could you please return it so we can ensure it gets back to the right owner.
- Please avoid parking in the school car park. It poses a safety risk to the children, and we appreciate your cooperation in keeping everyone safe.

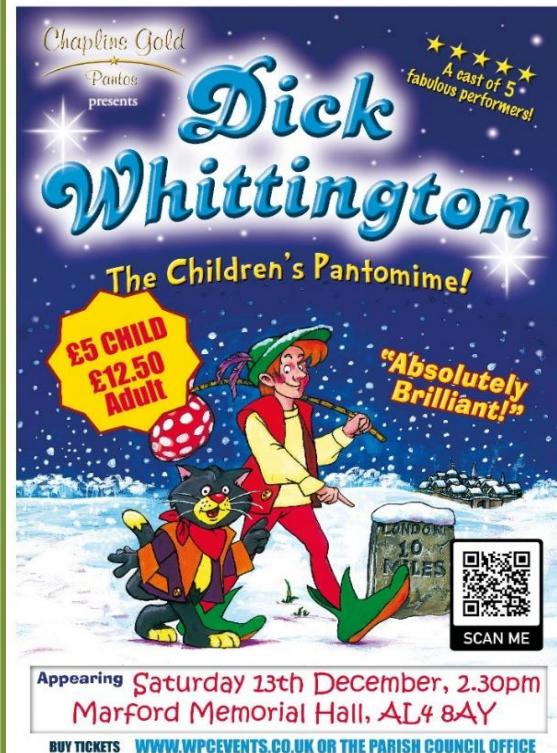
Thank you!

Speech and Language Development: Information for Parents

Children develop speech, language, and communication skills at different rates, and it's completely normal for there to be variation. However, understanding the typical milestones for your child's age can help you feel confident about their development - or know when to seek a bit of extra support.

We recommend visiting the Speech and Language UK website, www.speechandlanguage.org.uk, where you can find helpful information about what to expect from birth to 5 years, as well as complete a free online progress check. This quick tool allows you to assess your child's communication skills and will give clear guidance on what to do next if there are any concerns. If you complete the check or have any worries about your child's speech or language development, please don't hesitate to speak with your child's key worker. We're here to support you and your child every step of the way.

Let's continue working together to help every child grow in confidence and communication!



The Early Bird Pre-School Wheathampstead - The Team



Denisse – Director, Early Years Manager, SENCO & DSL (Level 6)

Ella – Setting Leader, DSP and H&S Officer (QTS, Level 6)

Dawn – Deputy Setting Leader & Deputy SENCO (Level 3)

Emma – Early Years Educator (Level 3)

Lyndsey -Senior Early Years Educator & DSP (Level 3)

Mary – Early Years Helper (Level 3)

Le'oshe – Early Years Helper (Level 2)

Keely - Early Years Educator (Level 2)

Sarah N – Early Years Helper (Level 2)

Sarah P – lunchtime Helper

Caroline – Early Years Helper