



## October 2024



Term	Dates	Half Term	Setting Closed **
Autumn 2024	Weds 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept – Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct – 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> of December, there are no sessions but we are open for our Christmas party 9:30am – 11:30am
Spring 2025	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan–Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> April	17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Friday 3rd Jan – closed, staff training
Summer 2025	Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> April – Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> July	26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May – closed, bank holiday

### Dates for your diary:



#### Autumn Term 2024

- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November
- Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November
- W/C Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

School reception applications open  
 Saturday Family Group 9.30-11.30am  
 Extended Halloween/Autumn Party Week  
 Photographer  
 Children in Need Spots/Pyjamas Day  
 Parents' Evening – Times TBC  
 Christmas Party 9.30-11.30am (no normal sessions)

#### Spring Term 2025

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March

Application deadline for school reception place  
 World Book Day – dress as favourite book character  
 Red Nose Day

#### Summer Term 2025

- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May
- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Parents' Evening – Times TBC  
 Summer Party 9.30-11.30am

### The Early Bird Pre-School Strathmore latest news . . .

Welcome to the first newsletter from Early Birds. We have had a lovely start to the new academic year, the children have settled incredibly well and are becoming familiar with the setting's routine.

#### Fledglings Adventures this half term:

We have been out and about exploring our local community. We had a bus trip into Hitchin town where they signed up to the local library and spent some time reading some books. We have been to Oughtonhead common to collect autumn treasures, that the children then explored back at the pre-school. Thank you for the pumpkin donations, the children have been incorporating them in their play including painting and washing them, carving them and playing with them in the home corner. To extend this learning we went to Sainsburys to buy some ingredients to make pumpkin soup – some of them tried it and said it was delicious!

*Thank you for returning the autumn home learning bags– we will also be sending out some family mobiles for the October half term to complete with your children. We are looking forward to displaying the family mobiles in the pre-school.*

During space and climate change week we explored making a space nebula using milk, washing up liquid and food colouring – watching how the colours swirled around the tray like a nebula in the sky. They investigated a space tuff tray with rice and planets and have spent time learning about carbon footprint – one of the children provided a book all about climate change and the effects it has on our planet. The children then took part in car painting activity while discussing the impact driving a car has on our carbon footprint.

#### The Nest's Adventures this half term:

Our youngest children have settled in so very well and formed great bonds already with their key person. They have enjoyed exploring their environment, messy play experiences such as water and sand have been very popular. They have spent long periods of time engaging in sensory play and have made their own colourful sensory bottles. The children have been exploring our local community too, thank you to our new 6- seater buggy! Going to our local park has been a favourite, the children have been developing their gross motor skills while exploring the equipment.

**We hope you have a lovely half term. We will be back for the second half of the autumn term on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November**

Please support us for FREE on #easyfundraising. You can raise donations whenever you shop online with over 6,000 retailers including John Lewis, eBay, Argos, ASOS, M&S and more.

Sign up at

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=3AD16S&char=114322&referral-campaign=c2s&utm\\_source=refsharebox](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?invite=3AD16S&char=114322&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=refsharebox)



Thank you

Thank you for all the support, kind words and donations from all our families. We really appreciate it and are grateful you are supporting us along our journey.

### Parents' Evening

We will be holding a Parents' Evening on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November**  
You will be able to book a 15 minute slot to spend time with your child's key person.  
*Please note, parents only, no children please.*  
Time slots will be made available nearer the time.

### Drink's Bottle Reminder

If you are sending your child in with a drink's bottle for them to access in the session, please only put WATER in this bottle. We do offer them water or milk at snack time. If juice or squash is in your child's bottle we will give it to them at lunch time.



### Saturday Family Groups

Dates for our next two Saturday groups are:  
\*Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November (Becky and Charlotte)  
\*Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December (Denisse and Shay)  
Both are 9:30-11:30am, if you want to book on, please email us or speak to a member of staff.

 **Christmas**   
Christmas is fast approaching, and we are looking for donations of Christmas decorations and fairy lights. If you, your friends or family are having a Christmas clear out please keep us in mind.  
Thank you!

### School Reception Applications

If your child was born between September 2020 and August 2021, they will be moving to school reception in September 2025. Applications open on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November** and the deadline for on time applications is Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025. Follow the link below for more information:

[School Applications](#)



### Photographer

Jenner Mackay James  
Photography  
will be visiting us on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November**



If your child doesn't attend on a Wednesday, you are welcome to bring them along for a photo. Siblings are also welcome. Please contact us for an appointment For more information go to: [www.jennermackayjames.com](http://www.jennermackayjames.com)

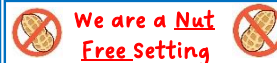


### Tapestry

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.

### Safeguarding Reminder:

\*No phones are to be used on our premises, this includes our garden.  
\*Please close the garden gate behind you as you leave our premises.  
**THANK YOU**



**We are a Nut Free Setting**  
Please do not provide nuts or food containing nuts in your child's lunch box as we have children with serious allergies

## The Early Bird Pre-School Strathmore team

**Natasha** - Director & Early Years Manager

**Denisse** - Director & Early Years Manager

**Becky** - Setting Leader & Safeguarding Officer

**Charlotte** - Deputy Leader & SenCo

**Jess** - Nest Room Leader & Health and Safety Officer

**Shay** - Early Years Educator

**Katherine** - Finance Manager

Please **like** and **follow** us on Facebook



Find us on Facebook

The Early Bird Pre-school (Strathmore), Old Hale Way, Hitchin, Herts SG5 1XR

Tel: 07421 481747

Email: [Strathmore@earlybirdpreschool.co.uk](mailto:Strathmore@earlybirdpreschool.co.uk)

Website: [www.earlybirdpreschool.co.uk](http://www.earlybirdpreschool.co.uk)