

The Early Bird Pre-School CIC Newsletter



February 2022



Term	Dates	Half Term	Setting Closed **
Autumn 2021	Mon 6 th Sept – Thurs 16 th Dec	25 th – 29 th Oct	Thurs 2 nd Sept – open morning (for new starters only) Fri 3 rd Sept – closed, staff training
Spring 2022	Weds 5 th Jan – Fri 1 st April	14 th -18 th Feb	Mon 3 rd Jan – closed, bank holiday Tues 4 th Jan – closed, staff training Weds 2 nd March – closed, staff training
Summer 2022	Tues 19 th Apr– Thurs 14 th July	30 th May – 3 rd June	Mon 2 nd May – closed, bank holiday Fri 17 th June – closed, Standalone Farm visit

Dates for your diary:

Spring Term 2022

- Monday 21st- Friday 25th February
- Monday 28th February
- Wednesday 2nd March
- Thursday 3rd March
- Friday 18th March
- Tuesday 29th March

- Friendship Week
- Visit to Icknield School Bus Library
- Inset for staff training - *setting closed*
- World Book Day – dress up as book character
- Red Nose Day
- Nursery children visit to L'Artista Pizzeria

Summer Term 2022

- w/c 6th June
- Friday 17th June
- Friday 15th July

- Royal Jubilee Celebration
- Morning visit to Standalone Farm (setting closed)
- Summer Party

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

We are excited about some new additions this term! We are delighted to welcome Gail to the team. Gail joined us after Christmas and is our new full time Early Years Educator. She brings with her a wealth of experience, please say hello if you see her! And congratulations to Nick, whose baby Max was born on 21st December. Nick brought Max to meet the staff and children on 17th January and was an instant hit with everyone!

The children have enjoyed spending time outside this term. The mud kitchen has been particularly popular, the children have been making lots of concoctions with mud and water in the pots and pans. There has been lots of fun physical play too, with mini obstacle courses using tyres and crates for clambering on and over. Dinosaurs are still a favourite with our Early Birds, they have been creating a 'Dino Planet' in the garden and enjoying making dinosaur roars!

Inside there has been lots of sensory play with paint activities in the tuff spot and playing with rainbow bubble foam. Children have also been helping prepare snack by chopping fruit and vegetables.

We have also been bird watching and identifying the different bird visitors to our garden area – we have seen robins, blue tits and pigeons who have been enjoying our new bird feeders. Thank you to the kind parent who gifted us lots of garden goodies at Christmas.

A reminder to please return your home learning task of sharing a favourite home recipe, and thank you to those families that already have, we have loved looking through them.

After half term we are looking forward to pancake day, World Book Day and Mothers' Day, as well as a trip to Icknield Bus Library and a trip for the nursery children to make pizzas at L'Artista - more information soon.





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

please
don't forget!

September Places

Forms for September places have now been sent home.

Please make sure your completed form is returned to us by the deadline of

Monday 7th March.

Places will be allocated w/c 21st March and need to be accepted by Friday 22nd April.

Icknield Bus Library

We are excited that this year we can visit Icknield School's Bus Library again **on Monday 28th March**

This is only possible if we have enough parent helpers, so if you are available to help, please sign the form on our entrance door.

Donations

We would welcome any donations of small plates (ceramic, not plastic) and spoons of any shape and size! The children love using these for filling and pouring activities.

Celebrations

We would love you to share with us any cultural or religious festivals you celebrate at home and how you mark the occasion so we can learn together with all our Early Birds!



Holiday Clubs – Cancelled

We have taken the decision to cancel our holiday clubs again this year due to the ongoing challenges from COVID. We apologise for any disappointment.

Oral Health

Did you know almost a quarter of 5 year olds have tooth decay?

Here are some tips to help keep your child's teeth strong and healthy

0-2 year olds

- Start cleaning your child's teeth as soon as the first tooth appears
- Use a flat smear of toothpaste containing fluoride
- Clean your child's teeth at bedtime and one other time during the day, ideally for 2 minutes but a small amount of brushing is better than none – don't give up!
- **Bottles and dummies should not be used after 12 months as they can cause problems with tooth and facial muscle development.**

3-6 year olds

- Your child should have their teeth brushed last thing at night and on one other occasion during the day for 2 minutes
- Use a pea-sized amount of toothpaste with fluoride
- Use lots of praise and encouragement when your child brushes their own teeth— clap and cheer after!
- Sing a favourite song or play music to make it more enjoyable
- Use play to engage your child – pull funny faces that show your teeth
- Show them how it's done – brush your teeth first.
 - Your child should not rinse their teeth after brushing as this removes the fluoride which protects their teeth.
 - Safe snacks – fresh fruit, vegetable sticks, crackers, breadsticks, toast, pretzels, rice cakes.
 - Your child should drink water or milk between meals, save fruit juice for mealtimes. Sugary and fizzy drinks should be an occasional treat only
 - Take your child to the dentist regularly. To find your local dental surgery go to [Find services near you - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)



The Early Bird Pre-School CIC team

Natasha - Director & Early Years Manager

Ebony – Director, Early Years Leader & Designated Safeguarding Officer

Syreta - Early Years Deputy & SENCO

Kirstie -Snr Early Years Educator, H&S Officer

Kerry – Early Years Educator

Sarah - Early Years Educator

Nick - Early Years Educator

Gail – Early Years Educator

Katherine - Administrator

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