

The Early Bird Pre-School CIC Newsletter



February 2025



Term	Dates	Half Term	Setting Closed **
Spring 2024	Mon 6 th Jan – Fri 4 th April	17 th – 21 st February	
Summer 2024	Tues 22 nd April – Fri 18 th July	26 th – 30 th May	Monday 5 th May – closed, bank holiday June date TBC – closed, Shepreth visit

Dates for your diary:

Spring Term 2025

- Saturday 1st March Family Group, 9.30-11.30am
- Thursday 6th March World Book Day – dress as favourite book character
- Friday 21st March Red Nose Day
- Wednesday 26th March Stay & Play sessions

Summer Term 2025

- Saturday 3rd May Saturday Group, 9.30-11.30am
- Monday 2nd – Thurs 12th June Duckling Hatching Experience
- Saturday 7th June Saturday Group, 9.30-11.30am
- June (date TBC) Visit to Shepreth Wildlife Park
- Saturday 5th July Saturday Group, 9.30-11.30am
- Saturday 19th July Summer Party 9.30-11.30am



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



We have had a great start to the new year. We have welcomed some new children to both rooms and one of our Nest children has transitioned very well into the Fledglings room. All our new starters have settled in nicely and learning our routine well.

Charlie the tortoise came to visit during animal week. The children loved him! They were very gentle with him despite the excitement. There were wild animals in the tuff spot with gloop and we shared The Tiger Who Came to Tea. Thank you to Robin's mummy for bringing Charlie the Tortoise in and thank you to those of you that shared photos of your pets for our display.

Both rooms celebrated Chocolate Cake Day – we made chocolate playdough and gloop and the children made chocolate water by mixing cocoa powder into water using whisks.

The Nest children have enjoyed two walks to local parks in their big pram! Icknield Park was a particular success, the children had a wonderful time.

The older Nest children have been transitioning to cups recently and have been using wooden knives to help prepare snack. There is a new bubble machine that all the Nest children have been having fun with. Fledglings have been enjoying some new resources too – we have a new trampoline and a frog spinner chair plus a sand timer which is helping with turn taking.

It has been lovely welcoming parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles to our Stay & Play sessions. The children love to share their time here with you and get excited when they know you are coming! If you couldn't make it this time, there will be another Stay & Play session on Wednesday 26th March. Sign-up sheets will be available nearer the time.

This week we have been marking Friendship Week. The children have been making friendship bracelets for each other or to take home to family members. We have a kindness jar in reception with acts of kindness, please take one and share a photo of your child performing their act of kindness!

After half term we will be starting our fundraising for our duckling hatching experience in the summer term. We will also be marking Pancake Day, World Book Day, Red Nose Day and Science Week.

World Book Day Thursday 6th March

Always popular! Children are invited to come dressed as their favourite book character. We will be sharing lots of stories and enjoying story-themed activities!



Red Nose Day - Friday 21st March

RED NOSE DAY

We will be doing our bit for Comic Relief with fun themed play activities.

Children are invited to wear something red.

Suggested donation for Comic Relief
£1 per child

REMINDER

Nest Families

Please use a tote bag rather than a rucksack for your child's belongings.

Please be mindful what is in the bag and remove medication, money, purses and snacks to protect us all. Thank you!

Nursery Application September 2025

Nursery applications have now been sent home.

Please return your completed form by
Monday 3rd March

We will allocate places by
Monday 17th March

Places must be accepted by
Friday 4th April

After which time places will be offered to families on our waiting list.



A Note on Funding

Working Families: From September, working families with children aged 9+ months will be able to receive 30 hours funding per week. Please bear this in mind when applying for your September place, as we anticipate there will be a high demand for full time places in September and it may be difficult to add more hours later in the year.

All children aged 3 are eligible to 15 hours funding the term after their 3rd birthday. You do not need to apply for this.

2 Year Funding: If your family receives certain government support, you may be eligible for 15 hours funding per week the term after your child turns 2

Please speak to Katherine for more information or go to

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk



Shepreth Wildlife Park

We have planned a visit to Shepreth Wildlife Park again in the summer term
All our Early Birds and their parents/family members are invited.
Letters will be sent home after half term.



We hope you all have a lovely half term! We will be back on Monday 24th February



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

Katherine - Finance Manager

Kerry - Early Years Educator

Nick - Early Years Educator

Sarah - Early Years Educator

Hayley - Early Years Educator

Maisie - Early Years Helper

Caitlin - Early Years Helper

Kateryna - Early Years Helper

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