

The Early Bird Pre-School CIC Newsletter



March 2024



Term	Dates	Half Term	Setting Closed **
Autumn 2023	Weds 6 th Sept – Fri 15 th Dec	23 rd – 27 th October	Monday 4 th Sept – open morning, new starters only Tues 5 th Sept – Inset day, staff training Mon 18 th Dec – Christmas party
Spring 2024	Mon 8 th Jan–Thurs 28 th March	19 th – 23 rd February	Friday 5 th Jan – closed, staff training Friday 29 th March – Good Friday Bank Holiday
Summer 2024	Mon 15 th April – Thurs 18 th July	27 th – 31 st May	Monday 6 th May – closed, bank holiday

Dates for your diary:

Summer Term 2024

- Thursday 25th April Parents' Evening 5.30-7.30pm
- Wednesday 22nd May Stay & Play Session with parents 10.15-11.15am and 2-3pm
- Friday 14th June Visit to Shepreth Wildlife Park (no normal sessions)
- Thursday 27th June Stay & Play Session with parents 10.15-11.15am and 2-3pm
- Friday 19th July Summer Party 9.30-11.30am (no normal sessions)

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

Where has the time gone since the last newsletter?! What a busy half term we have had..

- We enjoyed our visit to Icknield School's double decker Bus Library. We explored the bus, had turns at being the bus driver and shared lots of stories. Thanks to all our helpers for making the trip possible. Thank you also to Icknield School for giving our Early Birds a World Book Day book.
- World Book Day was a big success. We loved seeing the children's outfits! We had story themed play throughout the day - we made Gruffalo Crumble with oats, enjoyed Hungry Caterpillar inspired snack, played with a tea set in our Home Corner for The Tiger who Came for Tea, the Three Billy Goats Gruff were represented in small world play and an enveloping activity for Dear Zoo. Every child received a book token to use in participating book shops.
- Red Nose Day – we had lots of red themed play such as red gloop (cornflour and water) and red collaging, we wore red clothes and had a disco. We raised £23.20 for Comic Relief, thank you for your donations.
- Science Week – our Early Birds were very excited with our experiments! We had an erupting volcano, magnet, play, Skittles in water rainbow experiments, dancing milk, making rain clouds (water, shaving foam and blue dye), fizzy dinosaur eggs, dancing raisins, planting broad beans and more! Please visit our Facebook page for more information on what we learned or speak to Ebony if you would like to know more.

After Easter (w/c 20th May) we will be discussing the PANTS rule with the children. For more information about this please go to [Let's talk PANTS | NSPCC](#). We will also be looking at oral hygiene during Smile Week in June – more information to follow nearer the time

Happy Easter to you all!

**We look forward to seeing you for
the summer term
w/c 15th April**



Sign up at

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

Tip of the Half Term Developing a Love of Storytelling



Storytelling is an important part of Early Birds. We incorporate it in all aspects of children's play.

Some of the benefits of storytelling

Boosts listening and attention skills *Improves language skills* *sharpens memory* *develops imagination and creativity and inspires curiosity* *Teaches empathy* *develops cultural understanding* *improves children's mental health and wellbeing* *makes them feel valued and strengthens relationships*

Top storytelling tips to help you at home

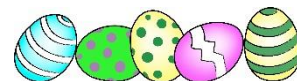
1. **Develop family reading routines and rituals.** Find a regular time of day when you can dedicate story time into your day. Making story time a cozy routine makes reading an essential and pleasant activity.
2. **Read what interests your child.** The nutrition facts on cereal boxes, newspapers, recipes, maps and game instructions all make great reading material if your child is interested.
3. **Try books that reflect your daily experiences.** Making connections to topics you read about is a fun way to keep children engaged. For example, if you are planning a trip to the zoo or dentist, find a story about these experiences.
4. **Re-read your child's favourites - repetition is very important in your child's development.** It's common for young children to request the same book again and again. Re-reading familiar stories offers children a chance to absorb information over time and lets them master the whole story.
5. **Encourage storytelling - storytelling doesn't always mean books!** Encourage your child to tell you a story from time to time or to re-tell a story after you've read it several times. Don't feel the need to correct how they are telling the story. You can tell stories while drawing or use puppets to act out a story, follow your child's interest!
6. **Have fun while reading.** Try acting out the story while reading by using facial expressions, gestures, body movements and voices to make the story come to life. Or make the story relevant to your child's life by adapting the story to include their name, a friend's name or your pet's name.

Polite Reminders

Please use the footpath when walking here, please do not walk across the car park.

There has been an increase in children wearing necklaces and other loose jewellery. Please remove these before your child comes in.

Please return any socks or other clothing that have been leant to your child. Any sock donations would also be appreciated!




Nursery Application September 2024

Please accept your nursery place by **Friday 19th April**. After this time places will be offered to families on our waiting list.

Please let us know the name of your new setting if your child is leaving us in July.



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	Please like and follow us on Facebook  Find us on Facebook