

December 2024



Early Years news, advice and guidance for Square Mile families and settings

Hello...

Welcome to our monthly newsletter.

Our aim is to share regular local and national Information for families in the city.

If you would like to find out anything further on any items or like more advice or information, please contact the Family Information Service.

EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Book Club Free Books For Children Under 5!



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting programme devoted to inspiring a love of reading in children everywhere.

Enrolled children from birth to five can receive a high quality books, sent via the post and best of all it is free of charge.

To register please click here:

<https://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/education-and-schools/early-years-0-5-education/dpil>

Talk Together, Learn Together Winner!



These cards were designed by the Early Years team and FIS Officer to encourage increased awareness of Speech and Language Development.

The cards were distributed over the summer break to Early Years settings and libraries. By providing guidance and suggested activities, the cards aimed to help parents understand the importance of speech and language development in young children, leading to more intentional learning experiences.

The back page of the cards was for parents to share their talking and learning experiences with us and be entered into a prize draw to win a Coltale dragon puppet. The second winner, M and her daughter (picture above) spent the summer completing the activities at Shoe lane Library and are now regular library visitors!





Coltale's NEWSLETTER WINTER 2024



Book for the Winter



This book tells the story of Gretel starts to feel a little overwhelmed and learns that the bravest thing a mammoth can do is ask for help. The story demonstrates the importance of talking about and sharing our feelings. Talk to your child about feelings. Talk about times when they felt excited, surprised or left out. After reading a story together, ask open-ended questions about how Gretel might be feeling at different points in the story and why? This will help your child gain insights on empathy and learn how to understanding others' emotions.

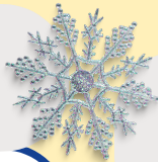
In association with
Dolly Parton's
Imagination
Library!



Activity

Put small plastic toys in a small container and fill it with water. Put it in the freezer overnight. Encourage your child to try and get the toys out of the ice just like Gretel does!

Talk to your child about which tools are the best to use and why.



Activity



Can you tell their emotions? Choose from the words on the box.



sad
angry

worried
silly

happy
tired



Healthy Early Years Awards Are Presented To City Early Years Settings

Congratulations to Newpark Childcare Centre (Natalia and Felicia) and City Child and Family Centre - CCFC (Zahida and Georgina) for achieving their Healthy Early Years Silver and Gold awards.

Here the managers are pictured receiving thanks from Dr Deborah Bell the Strategic Education and Skills Director at the City of London Corporation.

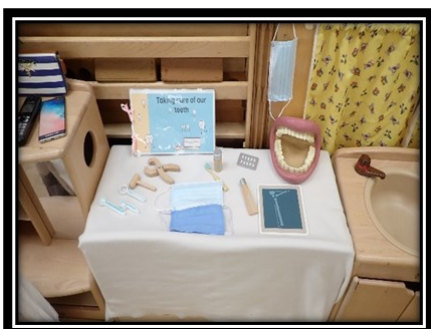
To achieve a Silver or Gold Healthy Early Years Award, both settings assessed current health practices, engaged staff and families, and provided a case study focusing on physical and emotional well-being for parents and children. They submitted a thorough application showcasing compliance with award criteria and ensured ongoing improvements to maintain the standards.

CCFC's case study was around the support they gave to their resettling families and Newpark worked with parents and children to promote a healthy lifestyle. Their applications were approved by City Hall, and they received a certificate signed by Sadiq Kahn – Mayor of London.



You can find out more about the awards here!

[About Healthy Early Years London | London City Hall](#)





Are you finding parenting stressful?

Family Lives wellbeing service for City of London parents and their families can help you

Family Lives provides individual and group parenting support to parents / carers and their families experiencing emotional and mental health challenges.

Our family support worker works across the borough on Mondays and Tuesdays and will be able to:

- provide a listening ear
- help you to understand what's going on for you and your family
- help you find your way through your challenges
- signpost or refer you to other support agencies such as CAMHS

A service for parents of children and young people aged 0-18 (0-25 for children with SEND). In partnership with Early Help, Aldgate School and Aldgate Child & Family Centre

If you or your child are struggling with emotional health, please call or message Gill Whitehead on 07702 954891 or email gillw@familylives.org.uk for more information about this service

We build better family lives together



0808 800 2222



@FamilyLives

www.familylives.org.uk



School Uniform Grant

The School Uniform Grant provides financial assistance towards the cost of school clothing and footwear for families on low income living in the City of London.

[Getting help with the cost of living - City of London](https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/education-and-learning/schools/support-with-school-uniforms-free-school-meals-and-more)

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And finally thank you to Thomas, aged 11, who has designed this Poster especially for our Newsletter. Thomas we wish you all the best in your future coding and design business! We hope you have a very happy Christmas too!

Remember deadline for Primary School admissions is 15th January!

[City of London Primary Schools Admissions Video 2024-25 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Do you have children?
Do you know how to get them
into education?

Get help finding a school or childcare

 Education and
Early Years Service
02073321002 | eeyservice@cityoflondon.gov.uk
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/schooladmission



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020 7332 1002 | EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk | www.fyi.cityoflondon.gov.uk

