

February 2025



## 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](mailto:EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

### Choosing a school for your child with SEND

Having an education, health and care (EHC) plan in place, or in draft form, for your child or young person gives them certain rights.

One of these is the legal right to request that a particular school or college is named in the EHC plan (or to express a preference for an independent school, nursery, college or other institution).

Click on this useful resource to find out how to support your child with or without an EHCP Plan.

[Choosing a school without an EHC plan](#)

[Choosing a school/college with an EHC plan | \(IPSEA\) Independent Provider of Special Education Advice](#)



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>





# Learning at Home with Coltale the Dragon.



Here are some pictures of Early Years Providers receiving their COLTALE Calendars.

Pictured are Baby Leo counting the books for his baby room at Smithfield House. The nursery's Manager Janet Macgregor and SENCO Shaney Selwyn are with our FIS Officer Paul Ricketts.

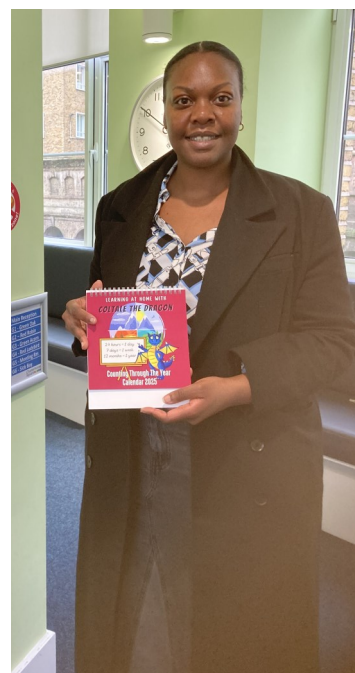
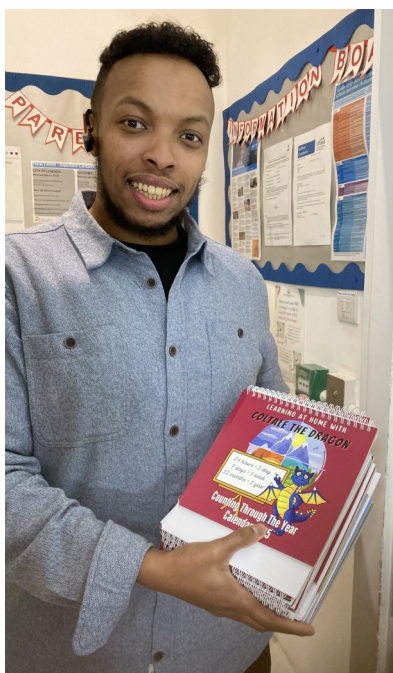
Early Help Support, John Turner is pictured at his desk in the Guildhall, City of London.

Hatching Dragons manager Ali Ali is pictured receiving copies for his children.

Racheal Zvaipa, City of London SEND Caseworker is pictured delivering calendars to Charterhouse School.

Our Family Information Service and Early Years calendar was designed using ideas from parents, children and staff across the city.

There's a monthly mathematical activity tailored to 0 to 5 year old children. The activities will give parents and carers the chance to take advantage of home learning opportunities with their children.





# Cost of living

The East London NHS Foundation Trust has lots of advice, tips and hacks on how to make important household savings. With ways to reduce your household gas and electricity usage for daily living - including lighting, cooking, laundry and heating.

Click on the link below to find out more.

[Cost of Living Tips | East London NHS Foundation Trust](#)



## Bumps and Babies

Barbican Children's Library.  
10-11.30 am every  
3rd Thursday of the month.



Meet new parents and parents to be

Fun and Educational Activities

Pregnancy advice



A safe, nurturing, and engaging environment where you and your little ones can thrive.

FIRST SESSION 23RD  
JANUARY 2025

## Learning through play



A 3-week programme for parents and carers of babies and young children, exploring:

The benefits of play and ways parents can join in

Playing and sharing ideas for play

The importance of play

29th January, 5th and 12th February 2024

10am - 12pm

Barbican Children's Library, EC2Y 8DS

For more information, please contact Gill on 07702 954891 or email [gillw@familylives.org.uk](mailto:gillw@familylives.org.uk)

We build better family lives together

[www.familylives.org.uk](http://www.familylives.org.uk)

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