

November 2023

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 more on any item, advice or information, then please contact the Family Information Service.

020 7332 1002

EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Coltale Passport Winner

This year our Coltale passport was linked to 'Ready, Set, Read' and delivered in partnership with our Libraries.

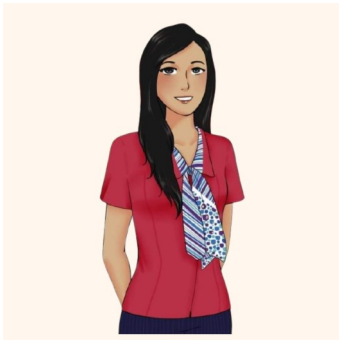
Here is a picture of another one of the winners, Yena, receiving her COLTALE Puppet at Artizan Library.

As part of our Coltale programme (City of London Talks and Listens Enthusiastically) we post Makaton, Top Tips and Rhyme Time videos every Monday, Wednesday and Friday on our social media platforms. Follow us on Facebook and X (Twitter). [@SqMileFamilies](https://www.facebook.com/SqMileFamilies).



'A Day In The life' of Davinder Kaur

Education Welfare Manager: Universal Education Services



I'm up at 6am to start the day with granola packed with strawberries and banana.

I have three children, aged 17, 12 and 10. My two daughters leave for school at 8am My eldest son sets off for his short

walk to school 30 minutes later.

If I have a working-from-home day, I'll log in on my PC straight away to check emails and send replies to my colleagues and schools.

I will then contact some of the families with whom I am working closely. I touch base with them to see

how they are I discuss support to sustain good attendance for their child. As well as school attendance, I oversee child performance licensing. Today I have made inquiries about a child who is appearing in a photoshoot for a leading brand in the borough. My priority is to ensure the child's welfare is considered and everything is in place to keep them safe.

"help your child with good daily habits such as finishing homework"

Most days I visit schools, for example, this Thursday I'm going to the City of London Girl's School to discuss attendance matters and support.

My tips for parents to support their children's attendance are:

1. Help your child understand that great attendance is a priority for their wellbeing and learning.
2. Irregular attendance at school can lead to missed life opportunities and choices when they are older.
3. Always help your child with good daily habits such as finishing homework and preparing their school bag the night before school.

4. Leave enough time in the morning to be able to get to school on time.
5. Encourage children to turn off electronic devices at least an hour before bedtime so they have enough sleep.
6. Only let your children stay at home if they are truly sick.
7. Talk to your children, look for signs of anxiety and support them to find solutions.
8. If you cannot schedule an appointment with the doctor, or dentist after school, encourage your child to return to school for at least part of the day.
9. Always contact the school if your child will be absent.
10. Avoid taking term time leave. Taking your child out during term time is likely to have an impact

on their learning. You could be issued with a penalty notice if you do take term time leave and permission has not been granted by your child's Headteacher.

I clock off at 5 p.m. and have some much needed family time with my own children. Sometimes this involves taking my children to their extracurricular classes, such as boxing and guides.

"I love crime and thriller books"

I have very little time for myself but if I do, I find that the most enjoyable thing I like to do is to settle down and relax by reading a good book in the evening. I particularly love crime and thriller books. I find it an effective way to clear my mind of the stresses of the work day. What drives me on with my work is a desire to make a difference in our children's lives and futures. I'm really passionate about ensuring that City of London's young learners achieve their full academic potential and make a positive contribution to the community of which they are part.

Coltale says...
Regular attendance in early years helps children to:

- Be ready for school - acquire social and emotional skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for success in life.
- Be ready to learn - early skills in literacy and mathematics have a strong impact on future educational attainment.


Talk to your child's school or early years setting to find out how they can support your child's attendance.

Measles and Vaccinations

Is your child starting primary school? Check to see if your child is up to date with their MMR vaccine to protect them against catching measles.

The NHS in north east London is encouraging all parents of children aged 1 to 11 who are not yet up-to-date with their routine vaccinations for polio and measles, mumps and rubella (MMR vaccination) to come forward.

Contact your GP, or if your child is aged 4 -11 book directly by calling **0208 0174292**



NHS

9 out of 10

unvaccinated children can catch measles if someone in their class has it

Check your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations



The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people and parents across the country.

We want to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting.

This is your chance to tell key policymakers what is important to you ahead of the general election. Take part now and ensure your needs are reflected in the decisions that will affect you in years to come.

Scan the QR code to take part



CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition



Top Tips for Oral health

Introduce oral hygiene to your child from an early age.

Select toothbrushes that are small, and soft-bristled.

Children often mimic their parents. Let them see you brushing your teeth, flossing, and maintaining good oral hygiene.

Limit your child's consumption of sugary foods and drinks as they can cause cavities.

Show your child how to brush their teeth properly. Brush in small, circular motions and make sure to reach every tooth, including the ones at the back.



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

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

