

# Education Mile

September 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 would like more advice or information, please contact the Family Information Service.

Email: [EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

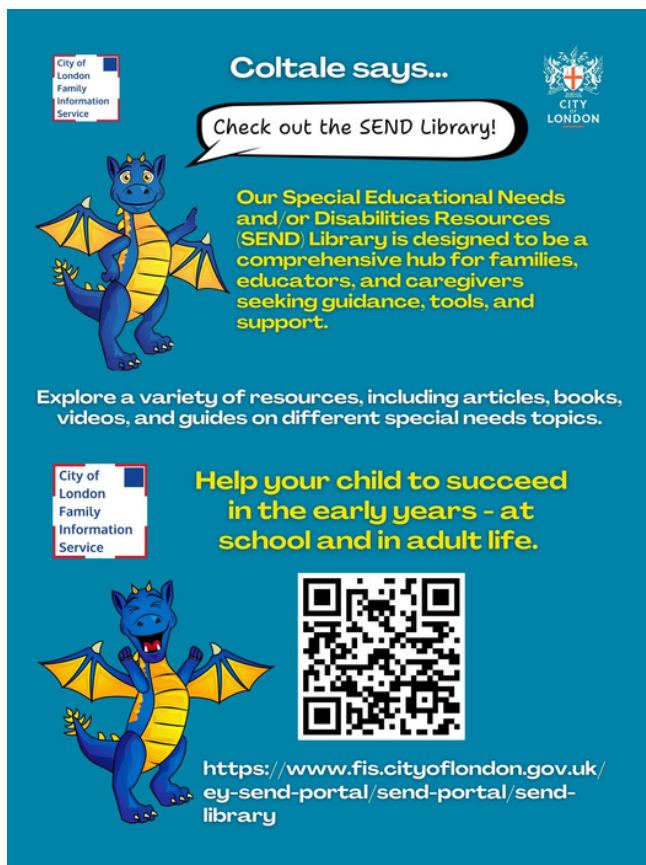
### Dolly Parton Imagination Library

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.

o register please click here:

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




**Coltale says...**

Check out the SEND Library!

Our Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities Resources (SEND) Library is designed to be a comprehensive hub for families, educators, and caregivers seeking guidance, tools, and support.

Explore a variety of resources, including articles, books, videos, and guides on different special needs topics.

Help your child to succeed in the early years - at school and in adult life.



<https://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/ey-send-portal/send-portal/send-library>



**Dolly Parton's IMAGINATION LIBRARY**

Register Your Child for

**FREE BOOKS**

Register your child in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and get a FREE BOOK every month until their 5th birthday.

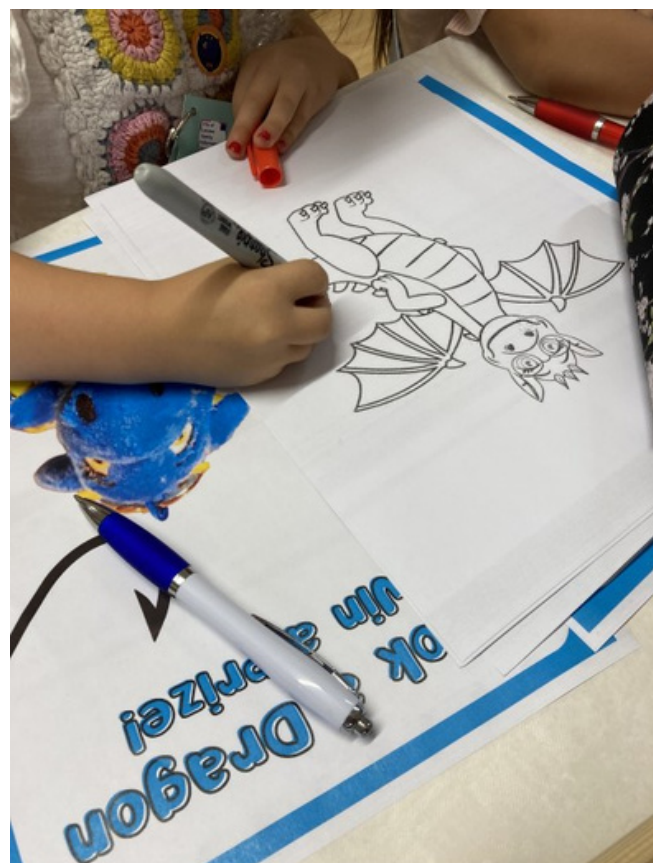


If your child lives in the City of London, register for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library here. Learn more at [ImaginationLibrary.com](https://www.imaginationlibrary.com)

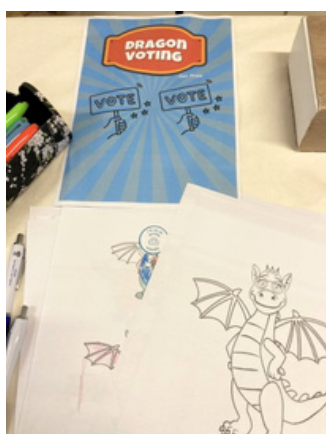


# Working Together for Young Children's Voices

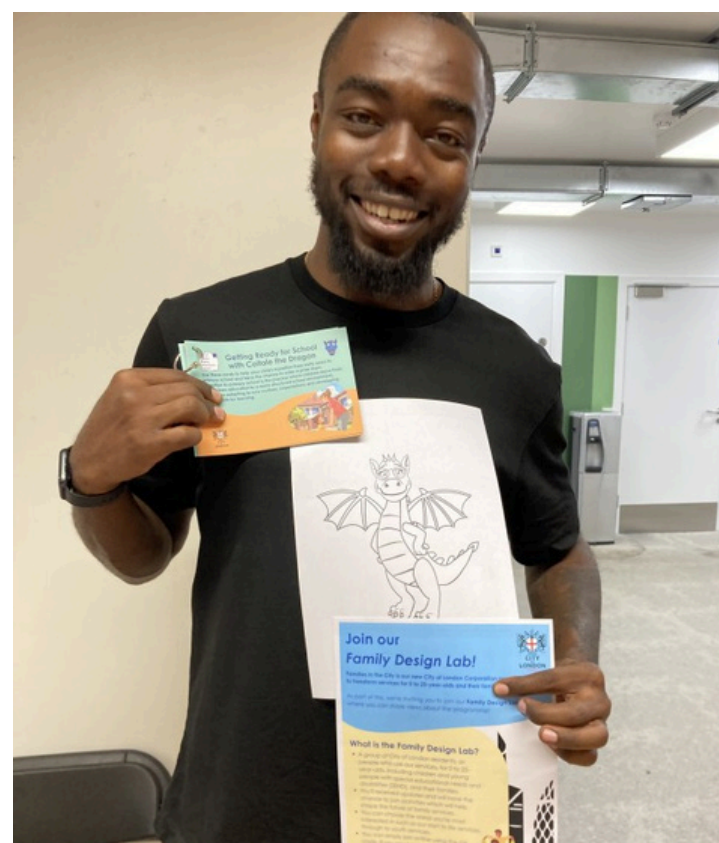
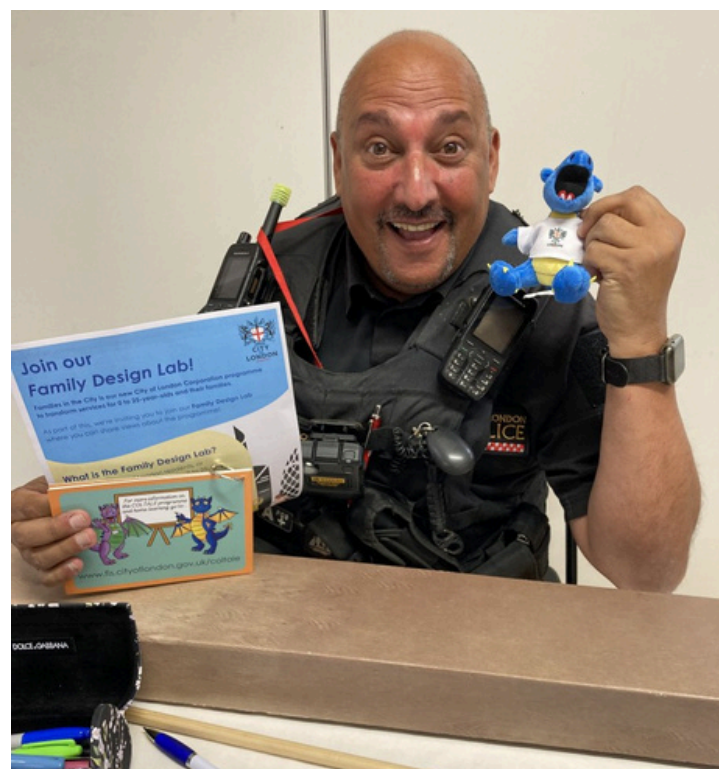
A big thank you to our libraries and practitioners for the fantastic sessions delivered over the summer months. The Early Years team attended Artizan Library Funday to promote resources supporting the Coltale project.



They offered engaging activities such as "Hook a Dragon" and shared speech and language advice with parents. Children took part in a competition to choose the colours of our new Best Start in Life Family Hub Dragon.



Pictured are local police and Artizan staff learning more about how we can all work together to support children's speech and language development.







# Coltale's

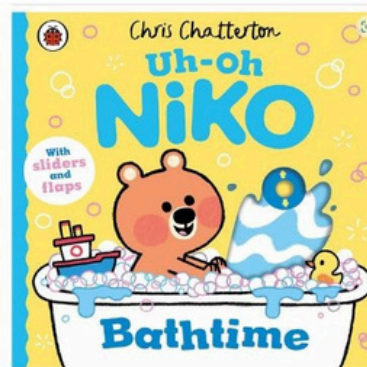
## NEWSLETTER

### AUTUMN 2025



## Book for the Autumn

This book describes the bath time routines of Niko, the cute but clumsy bear. Niko's playtime in the rain leaves him muddy and wet – time for a bath. Talk about why its important to have a bath after getting messy. Introduce the new vocabulary from the book For example, splash, clean, water and jump.



In association with  
**Dolly Parton's  
Imagination  
Library!**



## Puddle Jumping



### Step by step:

- Put on waterproof boots or old shoes you don't mind getting wet.
- Find the right puddle, muddy puddles make the biggest splashes!
- Jump or Stomp,
- Laugh and Repeat, Splash again, try different puddles. Who can make the biggest splash

## Leaf Play

Collect leaves, crinkle and throw them in the air.  
Have fun and let your creativity flow!







# Parent Praise for City Libraries

And finally we had to share a beautiful message from a parent to Shoe lane library which reads:

"Thank you to all the City libraries who provide so much for our City families and beyond."

Find out loads of great ideas about events to attend with your child during the Autumn Term by visiting our **What's On** webpage: <https://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/whats-on>



## City of London Services and Family Hub/Start for Life Activities September to December 2025

Education and Early Years Service, Department of Community and Children's Services 020 7332 1002 | [EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk)  
Follow us on X, Facebook and Instagram @SquareMileFamilies  
For the latest information about services, activities and events, visit: <https://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/>



Venue  
Colour  
Key:

Arizon Street Library,  
1 Arizona Street E1 7AF  
T: 020 7332 3810  
E: arizon@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Smithfield House  
Children's Nursery  
14 West Smithfield EC1A 9HF  
T: 020 7236 1000  
E: office@smithfieldnursery.co.uk


Shoe Lane Library,  
1 Little New Street EC4A 3JR  
T: 020 7583 7178  
E: shoelane@cityoflondon.gov.uk


Barbican Library,  
Barbican Centre EC2Y 8DS  
T: 0207 628 9447  
E: barbianlib@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Golden Lane  
Leisure Centre,  
Farn Street EC1Y 0SH  
T: 020 7250 1464  
E: SCD-Col@fusion-lifestyle.com

Gulldhal Art Gallery,  
Gulldhal Yard, EC2V 5AE  
T: 020 7332 3700  
E: tanya.dean@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Gulldhal West Wing,  
71 Basinghall Street EC2V 7HH  
T: 0207 608 2753/0207 332 1231  
E: adult.education@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Baby Clinic - Appointment Only</b> With City Health Visitor (020 76834151) 4th Monday of the month 1 - 3 pm	<b>Stay &amp; Play</b> Ages 0 - 5 9 - 11 am	<b>Breast &amp; Infant Feeding Group</b> 1st Wednesday of the month 10 am - 12 pm	<b>Rhyme Time</b> Ages 0 - 5 10 - 10.30 am	<b>Stay &amp; Play</b> Ages 0 - 5 9 - 11 am	<b>Rhyme Time</b> 0 - 5 years old 10.45 - 11.15 am
<b>Pick and Play Puzzles</b> Ages 0 - 11 3 - 6.30 pm	<b>Stay &amp; Play</b> Ages 0 - 5 1 - 3.15 pm	<b>Calm Colouring</b> All welcome 3.30 - 5 pm	<b>Stay &amp; Play</b> Ages 0 - 5 10.30 - 11.30 am	<b>Rhyme Time</b> 0 - 5 years old 10.45 - 11.15 am	<b>Saturday Monster Art Club</b> All welcome 2 - 3.30 pm
<b>Care To Dance</b> From 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 2025 Ages 6 - 11, 4 - 7 pm E: debby.riggby@cityoflondon.gov.uk	<b>Rhyme Time</b> Ages 0 - 5 10.30 - 11.30 am	<b>Stay and Play</b> Ages 0 - 5 1.30 - 2.30 pm	<b>Messy Play for under 5s</b> Ages 0 - 5 Last Thursday of the month 10.30 - 11.30 am	<b>Friday Monster Art Club</b> All welcome 4 - 5 pm	<b>Family Activities</b> Stories, arts and craft sessions Ages 3 - 13 2nd Saturday of month 11 am - 4 pm
<b>Baby Massage</b> From 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 2025 9.45 - 11.15 am To book call 020 7236 1000	<b>Pick and Play Puzzles</b> All welcome Ages 0 - 9 2 - 6 pm	<b>Rhythm &amp; Wiggles</b> Ages 0 - 5 2.30 - 3 pm	<b>Games Club</b> All welcome 5.30 - 7 pm	<b>SEND Activity Programme</b> Football (Ages 7 - 14) 4.30 - 5.30 pm Gym (Ages 15 - 21) 5.30 - 6.30 pm E: SCD-Col@fusion-lifestyle.com	
<b>Calm Colouring</b> All welcome Ages 5+ 3 - 5 pm	<b>IT Help Drop-in</b> All welcome 5.30 - 7 pm	<b>Rhyme Time</b> Ages 0 - 5 10.30 - 11.30 am	<b>Professional Development and Employability: First Steps Into Computing</b> (Enrolment required) 1.30 - 4.30 pm	<b>Adult Skills &amp; Education: Functional Skills Level 2 English</b> (Enrolment required) 9.30 am - 3.30 pm	
<b>Rhyme Time</b> Ages 0 - 5 10.45 - 11.15 am	<b>SEND Activity Programme</b> Ages 5 - 18 Swimming - small group & 1-2-1 E: SCD-Col@fusion-lifestyle.com	<b>Breast &amp; Infant Feeding Group</b> 3rd Wednesday of the month 10 am - 12 pm	<b>Bumps And Babies</b> 3rd Thursday of the month Ages Pre-birth - 5 10 - 11.30 am	<b>Sensory Room</b> From 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 2025 To book a morning 30 mins slot call 020 7236 1000	
<b>Story Time</b> Ages 3+ 4 - 4.30 pm	<b>Adult Skills &amp; Education: English - ESOL entry 1</b> (Enrolment required) 10 am - 1 pm	<b>Toy Time</b> Ages 0 - 5 12 - 2 pm	<b>Zumba Classes for girls</b> Ages Under 16 (booking essential) 5 - 6 pm E: sports@cityoflondon.gov.uk		
<b>SEND Activity Programme</b> Ages 5 - 18 Swimming - small group & 1-2-1 E: SCD-Col@fusion-lifestyle.com	<b>Adult Skills &amp; Education: English - ESOL entry 2</b> (Enrolment required) 2 - 4.30 pm	<b>City Sports</b> Football Ages 8 - 18 5 - 6 pm	<b>Zumba Classes for women</b> Ages 16+ (booking essential) 6 - 7 pm E: sports@cityoflondon.gov.uk		



**Speech and Language Therapy**  
Concerned about your child's speech or language development call 020 7683 4262 - places booked by appointment only. Catch Clinic, Thomas Fairchild Children's Centre, Cropley Street, N1 7HT

Toynbee City Advice Surgeries are on local estates. For more information please go to: <https://www.toynbeehall.org.uk/whats-on/>

DISCLAIMER: Please note that times and locations of sessions may change due to unforeseen circumstances. The City of London Corporation and providers cannot accept responsibility for such changes.

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](mailto:EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk) | [www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk](https://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk)

