

August 2022



## 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.

020 7332 1002

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

[www.fyi.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.fyi.cityoflondon.gov.uk)

### Makaton

Talking does not just involve speaking. Watch someone talking, they will also be using gestures, facial expression, eye contact and body language. All this is communication. Makaton uses speech with signs (gestures) and symbols (pictures) to help people communicate. Would you like to learn some useful signs to use with your child?

As part of our Coltale programme (City of London Talks and Listens Enthusiastically) we post Makaton videos every Wednesday on our social media platforms. Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter or search [#ColtalesTopTips](#)

To find out more about Makaton, please visit their website by clicking [here](#).

### City of London Childcare Accessibility Scheme

Do you have a child under five attending a childcare setting? You might qualify for financial support with childcare cost under the Childcare Accessibility Scheme.

The Scheme aims to support resident families to access early education and childcare.

For more information contact your childcare provider. If the setting your child attends is not yet part of the scheme then email:

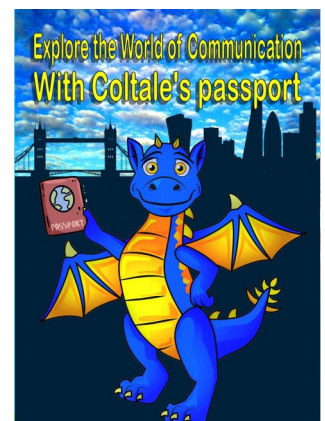
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### Coltale's Passport Coming Soon!

You will be able to pick up a COLTALE passport from city libraries soon.

Use your Coltale passport to help improve your child's communication skills by discovering and talking about exciting sites in the City of London

Follow [@SqMileFamilies](#) for more Information.



## Free books

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 high-quality books, sent via the post and best of all it is free of charge.

To register please click [here](#)

## Tips for Reading with young children

1. Children love to hear stories about themselves. So, don't hesitate to substitute their name in place of character names in a story. You can even make up stories about your family.
2. Children's vocabulary develops rapidly. So each book you read broadens that vocabulary.
3. Also, encourage your child to notice the fine details in illustrations. Let them look at the pictures and encourage them to tell their own story!

## Green Spaces To Visit For A Picnic

There are a number of wonderful places near to the City of London where you can take your children for an outdoor feast!



Coram's Fields, 93 Guilford Street, WC1N 1DN  
[www.coramsfields.org](http://www.coramsfields.org)

St Luke's Parochial Trust, 90 Central Street, EC1V 8AJ  
[www.slpt.org.uk](http://www.slpt.org.uk)

Fortune Street Park, EC2Y 8DQ  
[www.fortunestreetpark.com](http://www.fortunestreetpark.com)

Spitalfields City Farm, Buxton Street, E1 5AR  
[www.spitalfieldscityfarm.org](http://www.spitalfieldscityfarm.org)



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