

April 2021 Newsletter



Communication during Covid

We apologise for not being able to give you our usual warm welcome, but we must take the current situation very seriously and look after the welfare of our children and staff. We actively encourage parents to write on Tapestry to their child's keyworker for a two-way communication. Please also email or call us – we still want to hear from you!



This month the Little Beans that are still attending will be learning about...

Our Theme – Books and Stories –

Your Little Beans will be learning about books and stories, from turning pages of a book correctly to writing our own stories! We will be looking at our 'Core Books' which are: Goldilocks & The Three Bears, Going On A Bear Hunt, The Hungry Caterpillar, The Gruffalo and Brown Bear, Brown Bear.

Sharing stories every day helps children's development in many ways. It helps them get to know sounds, words and language, and develop early literacy skills as they learn to value books and stories. This sparks their imagination and stimulates curiosity, helping to develop your child's brain, their ability to focus, as well as their concentration, social and communication skills. Idea for home: Look at books and read stories with your children, we would love to see photos and videos of family story times at home which can be uploaded onto Tapestry. You could also go on a bear hunt! You may even find the bear peeking through the Little Beans window!

Easter –

The Little Beans will also be learning about the festival Easter. They will be going on egg hunts in the garden and they will be doing lots of Easter arts and crafts! We will look at how Christians celebrate Easter and whether our Little Beans celebrate this festival differently, as we recognise that we all have different faiths and beliefs. Our curriculum values the role that festivals and celebrations play in supporting children's learning and development and we can encourage children to understand one another's cultures and beliefs in a world that's diverse and vibrant.



Thank you to all our parents and carers who donated to Red Nose Day. We raised a total of £47.90!!

Uniform – New Cardigans Available

Little Beans have NEW brown unisex cardigans! These are the same price as our jumpers – Only £12. Order yours today!... Just ask a member of the team for our Uniform Booklet.

Little Beans uniform is gorgeous, embroidered and pretty indestructible too! Our uniform also has many other positive benefits, first and foremost it helps your child feel like they belong – they recognise the logo, and they associate it with a place where they feel safe, happy and secure. Uniform also helps to prepare your child for school and means that your own lovely clothes stay clean! We have a range of uniform items from hats to polo tops to jumpers! Get your order in today!



Spare Clothing—Please ensure you are bringing in spare clothes in a labelled bag. Please encourage your child to carry their own bag to promote independence. The staff member will support your child to hang their bag up in the correct area/bubble. All spare clothing should be labelled. Even if you do not think your child needs spare clothing there will be occasions when they will need to be changed due to messy/water play/spillages.

Toys, water bottles and communication books—We are asking that parents **do not** bring in toys, water bottles or communication books. The children will be given specific cups to drink from and the information that would usually be included into the communication books will be put onto Tapestry for you. Children under the age of 2 years, can still bring bottles in if they cannot drink from a cup. This is to help us minimise the number of items coming in from children's homes.



Facebook and Instagram

Please check out our Facebook and Instagram page, give us a 'like' and 'follow' to keep updated with dates and reminders. We also add photos regularly of what your Little Beans have been up to. Please also leave reviews! <https://www.facebook.com/littlebeansgarland> search on Instagram; Little Beans.

Website

Our website has lots of useful information that is updated each month. We put all newsletters, menus, and dates for the diary on it. Please regularly check the website to keep updated with what's going on www.littlebeansdaycare.com



Little Beans Lunches & Teas

We have a rolling hot lunch and tea menu - this can be accessed on our website. Our delicious hot lunches are freshly made every day by our own on-site nursery cook Claire. If you would like your child to start having hot lunches (£2.70 per day) or tea (£2.20), then please speak to a member of staff who can provide you with further information.

Eating a balanced meal at lunchtime is so important for concentration. Did you know that children often try a new food if they see their friends eat it? This is a great way to introduce new foods. Research by the Children's Food Trust shows that nursery meals are now consistently more nutritious than packed lunches, giving the children who eat them a better foundation for good health.

Table manners and cutlery skills come from everyday use and by seeing how other people eat. Keep practising those knife and fork skills at home!

Recipe of the month - Root Vegetable Bake

Ingredients

- 400g swede - cubed
- 400g carrot - cubed
- 500g sweet potato - chopped
- 500g parsnips - chopped
- 1 courgette - cubed
- 1 red onion - chopped small
- 4 tbsp vitalite
- 2 tbsp mixed herbs
- 2 tbsp ground garlic
- 50g vegetable gravy powder
- 500ml boiling water
- 75g cornflour
- 100ml water

Method

1. Place swede, carrot, sweet potato, onion and parsnip into the pot and just cover with boiling water.
2. Bring to the boil, then simmer for 10 minutes.
3. Add the courgette, vitalite/butter, mixed herbs and garlic, then simmer for 10 minutes.
4. Add the oat/soya/milk and simmer for 10 minutes.
5. Make the gravy with 200ml boiling water and the gravy powder, then add to the vegetable mix
6. Mix the cornflour and water together in a jug, then add to the vegetable mix. More cornflour and water mixture may be needed to thicken the sauce.
7. Bring to the boil, making sure to stir well.
8. Once the sauce has thickened, remove from heat and serve.



SOMETHING NEW

THE PARENTING MAGAZINE FOR DORSET FAMILIES



Have you seen the Something New magazine! The parenting magazine for Dorset families!

There will be a new magazine every term with something new and interesting! There are lots of vouchers, tips and interesting articles for parents. Copies are kept in the reception area! Get your free magazine today! Just ask a member of our team!

Little Beans Organic Clothing Company

Home to organic baby clothes and accessories for your little beans, our beautiful collection is made from the highest quality organic cotton and bamboo as well as other sustainable materials. Hand-sewn by our resident seamstresses using our signature fabric, we provide nothing but the best for your treasured ones.

Have a look at <https://thelittlebeansorganicclothingcompany.co.uk/>



2021 Term Dates – Term time Only (TTO) children:

Term 2 – Monday 22nd February – Friday 2nd April 2021

Half term – Monday 5th April 2021 – Friday 16th April 2021

Term 1 – Monday 19th April 2021 – Friday 28th May 2021

Half term – Monday 31st May 2021 – Friday 4th June 2021

Term 2 – Monday 7th June 2021 – Friday 23rd July 2021

Summer Holidays – Monday 26th July 2021 – Friday 3rd September 2021

Term time only children are back on 6th September 2021.

2020/21 Term dates – All year round (AYR) children:

Monday 31st August 2020 – Friday 27th August 2021

Bank Holidays (nursery closed)

Friday 2nd April 2021

Monday 5th April 2021

Monday 3rd May 2021

Monday 31st May 2021

Monday 30th August 2021

If you have any questions or concerns, then please speak to a member of the Little Beans Team who will be happy to help.

From The Little Beans Team

