

May 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!

Your child's transition to school 2021

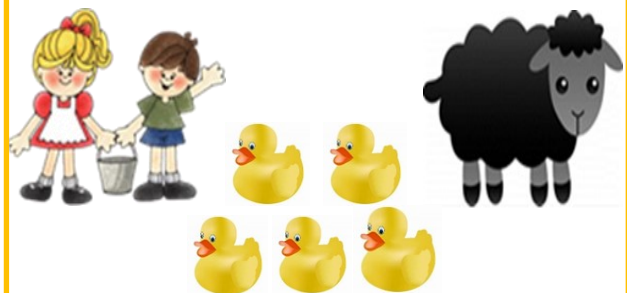
As school places have been released can you please let us know your child's placement and give consent to share information. Paperwork will be sent to you shortly (electronically) in order to aid a smooth transition into school. Some good activities to be doing at home to boost school readiness include: being able to dress and undress themselves; eating with a knife and fork and recognising their name. There are many school readiness ideas on Tapestry but please get in touch if you have any queries.



This month the Little Beans will be learning about...

Our Theme – Nursery Rhymes

Singing nursery rhymes and songs to children helps to develop their language and communication skills from an early age. At Little Beans we make learning fun by using props, music or musical instruments! Introducing children to a variety of nursery rhymes can help them understand and learn about different sounds. This is an important part of developing those early literacy skills. Listening to different sounds in the environment, as well as in nursery rhymes, provides children with the foundations to help them read and write. We spark their imagination and stimulate curiosity, helping to develop their ability to focus, their concentration, as well as their social and communication skills. Ideas for home: read and sing nursery rhymes with your children with props and pictures, we would love to see photos and videos of families participating at home, which can be uploaded onto Tapestry.



Toys, water bottles and communication books – Thank you for resisting the urge to send in toys, water bottles or communication books. The children are given specific cups to drink from and the information that would usually be included in the communication books is all on 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 outside for Covid purposes.



Uniform – Cardigans Now Available

If you want your child to know when it is a Little Beans day then buy some uniform! Cardigans and jumpers are 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 such as helping 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. Staff will support your child to hang their bag up in the correct area or on their peg. 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 or spillages.



Facebook and Instagram

Please check out our Facebook and Instagram page, give us a 'like' and 'follow' to keep up dated 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 up dated with what's going on www.littlebeansdaycare.com



Little Beans Lunches & Teas

Have you seen the menus now displayed outside the front of nursery? Check it out as we will shortly be moving onto our Summer menu. 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 - Ratatouille Risotto

Ingredients

400g risotto rice

- 1 tbsp butter/Vitalite
- 1 courgette - finely chopped or grated
- 1 pepper - finely chopped or grated
- 1 aubergine (small) - finely chopped or grated
- 1 onion - finely chopped or grated
- 1 carton of tomato passata
- 1 tin chopped tomato
- 1 tbsp ground garlic
- 1 vegetable stock cube
- Boiling water

Method

1. Simmer the rice with the vitalite for several minutes in a pot, stirring often to prevent sticking.
2. Add the stock cube to 200ml boiling water, then add to the rice and mix well.
3. Once the rice has absorbed the water, add chopped tomato.
4. Once the rice has absorbed the tomato water, add tomato passata.
5. Cook for several minutes, then add the vegetables and ground garlic.
6. Continue simmering and adding boiling water in small quantities, allowing the rice to absorb the water before adding more water, until the rice is at the desired consistency and cooked.



Little Beans Celebrations Events & Special Days in May 2021

3rd May to 9th May 2021 National Sun Awareness Week

Raising awareness of the dangers of excessive sun exposure and how to avoid sunburn.

12th May 2021 International Nurses Day

Held on the birthday of Florence Nightingale to mark the contributions that nurses make to society.

16th May 2021 National Children's Day UK

National Children's Day UK is all about the importance of a healthy childhood and protecting the rights and freedoms of children so that they can grow into happy, healthy adults.

19th May 2021 National Numeracy Day

An annual celebration of the importance of numbers in everyday life and will bring together individuals, employers, educators and influencers to improve numeracy.

20th May 2021 World Bee Day

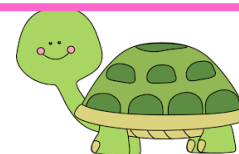
The purpose of World Bee Day is to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators, the threats they face and their contribution to sustainable development.

23rd May 2021 World Turtle Day

World Turtle Day's aim is to bring attention to, and increase knowledge of and respect for, turtles and tortoises, and encourage human action to help them survive and thrive.

29th May 2021 Elmer Day

A celebration of reading, of elephants and of accepting yourself and others, just like Elmer the Patchwork Elephant, star of the Elmer books by David McKee.



Bank Holidays (nursery closed)

Monday 3rd May 2021

Monday 31st May 2021

Monday 30th August 2021

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

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.

Term 1—Monday 6th September 2021—Friday 22nd October 2021

Half term—Monday 25th October 2021—Friday 29th October 2021

Term 2—Monday 1st November 2021 —Friday 17th December 2021

** Please remember, if your child is starting school and you require childcare during the first week of September, you must book early to avoid disappointment. Holiday Club for 5-12 year olds will run during the school summer holidays also.

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

