

# Little Beans

Weymouth



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## February Fun

.....is coming!

Where has this half term gone?! The Spring Term is such a short one, but it is the time we start to see our children reaching their milestones in their learning and those who have recently started, settled into our routine.

### Our Topics in February 2024

#### Week 1 – Gardening and Growing- Week Commencing 05/02/2024

The children will be planting their own flowers, growing cress and observing how seeds transform into fruits and flowers. The children will also have an opportunity to design their own gardens. If you have any old wellingtons or plant pots that you would like to donate for the children to plant seeds in, that would be great.

#### Week 2 – Valentines Week -Week Commencing 12/02/2024

The children will be designing cards

for Valentine’s Day, Roleplaying a restaurant dinner experience and learning all about friendships and kindness.

#### Week 3 – Sports Week - Week Commencing 19/02/2024

We will be looking at different sports and the children will have the chance to take part in obstacle courses in the garden. The children will be learning all about tennis, football, golf and many other sports in the garden.

#### Week 4 – My Body - 26/02/2024

The children will be learning about their bodies and observing the different features that we all have, e.g. hair colour, eye colour. We will learn how to take care of our bodies and how it is important to exercise.

### This month

We are learning about.....

Construction and vehicles!

This month your Little Bean will be exploring the world of construction and vehicles!

We will be looking at stories such as the three little pigs to see what we can learn about how best to build and balance with different materials!

We will be exploring how vehicles can assist in construction such as using cranes to build tall towers, diggers to create foundations and cement trucks to mix up materials!

We will be doing lots of junk modelling and building. **If you have any cereal boxes or kitchen roll tubes then please bring them in!**





Little Beans Weymouth – January 2024

# Little Beans Celebrates!

## Events in February 2024

**27<sup>th</sup> January - 4<sup>th</sup> February:** National Story Telling Week! A week for the promotion of the oral tradition of storytelling, the very first way of communicating life experiences and the creative imagination. We will be reading as many stories as we can during this week, discussing our favourite characters, plots and scenes!

**6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> February:** Children’s Mental Health Week! This week we will be exploring emotions and shine a spotlight on the importance of mental health and asking for help when it’s needed.

**6<sup>th</sup> February:** Safer Internet Day! On this day we will be talking all things technology and learning about how to stay safe online and to always have an adult with us when we are using the internet.

**13<sup>th</sup> February:** Shrove Tuesday! Pancake Day or Shrove Tuesday is the day before Lent begins, when people would traditionally use up all their fat and eggs by making pancakes. We will be talking about Lent and what it means.

**14<sup>th</sup> February:** Valentines Day! The annual celebration of love is the day when we take the opportunity to tell the people we love just how much they mean to us. We will be talking about love and happiness and who/what makes us feel happy or loved!

**14<sup>th</sup> February:** Ash Wednesday! The beginning of Lent. We will be learning that Lent lasts for forty days because that’s how long Jesus wandered in the desert.

**17<sup>th</sup> February:** Random Acts of Kindness Day! Spend the day doing random acts of kindness. The holiday was started by the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, which was founded in 1995. At Little Beans we will celebrate this on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February - we will be exploring what it means to be kind, and what we can do to be kind to others!

**27<sup>th</sup> February:** International Polar Bear Day! Every year, this global event draws attention to the challenges polar bears face in a warming Arctic and how each of us can help. We will be exploring the habitats where polar bears live, and talking about how we can help and do our bit for climate change!!



### Core Books

----- THIS MONTH

#### ‘The Gingerbread Man’

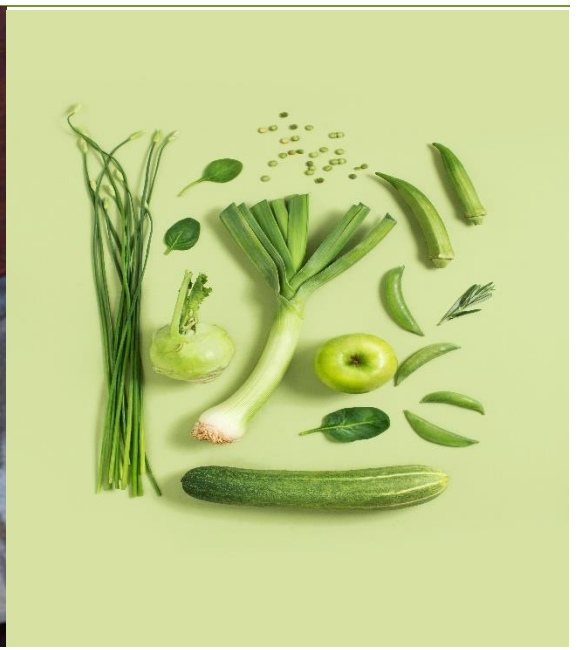
The children will explore the different feelings of the Gingerbread Man throughout the story. Naming a feeling and asking the children to experiment with showing the adults an expression on their face to represent that feeling.

We will then take photos of the children showing these feelings to create a display for children to use to help them express their emotions.

We will invite children to bring in any memorabilia or photos of their grandparents for show and tell.

We would also like to invite grandparents to read the story and talk about their life/childhood, including their favourite stories or recipes with the children.





# Little Bean's Recipe of the Month

## Leek and Cauliflower cheese bake

### ----- INGREDIENTS

- 1 leek
- 250g of peas
- 500g of cauliflower
- 200g of cheese
- 50g of butter
- 150g of plain flour
- 250ml of milk
- 150g of mushrooms
- 2 large carrots, grated
- 500g of potatoes

#### Top Tip:

Swap the potato wedges for pasta and make a delicious cheesy pasta bake!

### ----- METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 190.
2. Place grated carrot, sliced mushrooms, cauliflower, peas and leeks into a pot and bring to the boil.
3. Chop the potatoes into wedges and lightly drizzle with oil before putting into the oven for 30-45 mins.
4. In a separate pot, mix the milk and butter together to make a sauce and add flour to reach desired consistency.
5. Add half of the cheese to the sauce and mix well
6. Once vegetables are softened, place them into a casserole dish and pour over the sauce.
7. Sprinkle the remainder of the cheese on top and bake for 40 minutes until golden brown.

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Enjoy!

#### TERM DATES FOR TERM TIME ONLY (TTO) CHILDREN:

##### SPRING TERM

Term 1 - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Half term - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Term 2 - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Easter Holidays - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

##### SUMMER TERM

Term 1 - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Half term - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Term 2 - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

#### TERM DATES FOR ALL YEAR ROUND (AYR) CHILDREN:

Academic year - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Autumn term - 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 - 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2023 (16 weeks)

Spring term - 1<sup>st</sup> January - 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Summer term 1<sup>st</sup> April - 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Summer Holidays - Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024 - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024

#### Bank Holidays (nursery closed)

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2024



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## Notices and Housekeeping!

Please may we ask that all parents update us with any changes of their details, including contact numbers and addresses. This also applies to any changes to your emergency contact details – it's really important these are up to date. The emergency contact must be able to collect your child. We will of course always try to contact parents first.

### Parent meetings

This month, we will be holding Parent Progress Review meetings for the children who started with us after September. We will send out individual invites to you via Tapestry.

### Little Beans Uniform

Little Beans have some really lovely, embroidered uniform available to purchase. There are many positive benefits to having a uniform. 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. It also means that your lovely clothes stay clean from messy play!

We have a range of uniform items from hats to polo tops to jumpers! Ask a member of the team if you would like to place an order or look at what uniform we have available.

### 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.

You can also leave reviews!

<https://www.facebook.com/littlebeansweymouth>

Search on Instagram under 'Little Beans Day Care'

### Little Beans Website

Our website also has lots of useful information which we up-date each month. We put all newsletters, menus, and dates for the diary on it.

You can check the website to keep updated with what's going on [www.littlebeansdaycare.com](http://www.littlebeansdaycare.com)



