

# Little Beans

Garland



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## Joyous June!

Welcome to the June 2024 edition of our Newsletter.

This month we will be having a graduation photo day on **23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024** for our preschoolers. We will be holding a graduation ceremony at Longfleet school on **20<sup>th</sup> July 2024**. More details on graduation will be posted on our website soon!

Remember to pack for all four seasons when packing your Little Beans' bags at this time of year! Despite the summer arriving, the weather can still be quite changeable. Sun hats, sunscreen (unless you have opted to use Little Beans sunscreen!), wellie boots and lightweight raincoats are a good idea so that our Little Beans can get outside to play whatever the weather.

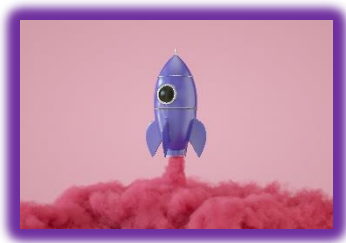
This month we will be stretching our imaginations as Little Beans will enjoy a fun filled month of space exploration.

The baby beans will: create a sensory den incorporating a space light show; make rough and ready play dough to

represent the surface of the moon; be surrounded by space artwork and images in the garden to inspire their understanding together with intention cards to stimulate interest.

The 2's room are going to be creating their own planets on paper plates, mixing the paint colours together then using a sponge to print the mixed colours to create their own planets – building on colour recognition. There will also be galaxy messy play with shaving foam and glitter building on the children's sensory development.

Preschool room will be junk modelling rocket ships to send up to space! We hope to make some paper mâché planets too which the children can paint and hang up together to create their very own solar system.



### This month.....

We will be learning about.....

### Space and Planets!

By learning about space and planets your Little Bean will nurture their appreciation of the world we live in and discover what they can do to continue to preserve and respect our natural resources!

Learning about space is about venturing into the unknown, promoting creative thinking, 'what if' scenarios and expanding curious minds.

It provides opportunities for experimentation, to explain why some things occur and to talk about how and why things change, by learning to make observations.

We will be seeking to answer questions such as which is the biggest planet, and is the moon really made of cheese?

Your Little Bean will be exploring the world of non-fiction as discovering where and how they can access resources to teach us facts about our world. We will be using books, videos, and the internet to find out the names of our planets and fun facts about the planets such as how Saturn has over 60 moons!

We will be discovering how space and planets are important to us, from giving us daytime and nighttime to how Jupiter filters the solar system of comets!







# What's happening?

## Events we are celebrating in June 2024

### 3<sup>rd</sup> June to 9<sup>th</sup> June: Child Safety Week:

Organised by the Child Accident Prevention Trust to promote safety issues for children.

**5<sup>th</sup> June 2024: World Environment Day:** A day the United Nations set aside to stimulate worldwide awareness and action for the protection of our environment.

**8<sup>th</sup> June 2024: World Ocean Day!** Event organised by The Ocean Project to raise awareness of the oceans and the living creatures that make their home there. The Little Beans will be exploring all things under the sea and looking at not only who lives there but how we can help the animals who live there!

**10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024: Healthy eating week:** Organised by the British Nutrition Foundation, this week aims to connect people, food and science and provide impartial, evidence-based information to people so they can adopt healthy, sustainable diets - for life. Little Beans will be making some delicious healthy food with Laura during cooking classes too.

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2024: King's Official birthday.** Celebrations of the monarch's official birthday are held in June across the Commonwealth and include the Trooping of the Colour in London.

**16<sup>th</sup> June 2024: Father's Day!** The Little Beans will be making cards for those special male figures in our lives and talking all about kindness and appreciating those we love!

**19<sup>th</sup> June 2024: National writing day:** A day for everybody across the UK to put pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard), unleash their imagination and make their voices heard. We will be making marks in lots of wonderful ways throughout the day.

**20<sup>th</sup> June 2024: Summer Solstice** This day is the first day of astronomical summer in the northern hemisphere.

**23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024: Graduation photo day –** Our school leavers will have a photo day at Little Beans, leading up to a graduation ceremony at Longfleet School on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – more details to follow!



### Understanding Handwriting skills.....

Handwriting is an incredibly complex skill. Before children can hold a pencil, they need to be able to sit up and move their arm independently of their body. They need to be able to isolate their fingers to hold their pencil.

Sitting requires adequate postural control. Postural control is our ability to keep our bodies stable when we are stationary and when we move. It is essential for us to be able to use our arms, hands and fingers with good control. Postural control starts developing from the moment a child is born. Initially, babies have no postural control. Even their heads need to be held and supported. Over time a baby can hold their head up and then push up on their arms and roll over. Tummy time helps to develop these skills and helps with shoulder stability.

To hold their pencil with their finger's children first need to be able to isolate their fingers from their palm. Initially, when they hold a pencil, a child will grasp their entire hand around it. This is because they have not developed the hand control to isolate their fingers from their palm. As they have more experience with fine motor activities, children establish more control over their fingers. This is what allows them to hold their pencil with their fingers and eventually develop a dynamic pencil grasp.

Playdough and messy play are great tools to help develop these skills as well as singing finger songs like "Two Little Dickie Birds". Pre-writing skills or 'mark making' skills are the things a child needs to be able to do before they are ready to write. This includes being able to colour and trace inside lines, and to draw certain shapes. Shapes such as vertical and horizontal lines and circles form the foundation of most letters.







# Little Bean’s Recipe of the Month

## Pizza Pin Wheels

----- **INGREDIENTS**

- Pack of puff pastry
- 1 tin of chopped tomatoes
- 1 tbsp tomato puree
- 100g cheese
- 1 pepper
- 1 tin of sweetcorn
- 1 pineapple
- 1 packet of ham
- 1 packet of mushrooms
- 1 packet of cherry tomatoes chopped
- Non-stick baking tray

### Top Tip

If you have any left over toppings you can put them on skewers and cook them in the oven or BBQ them to make a delicious snack.

----- **METHOD**

1. Preheat the oven on 180 degrees, gas mark 4.
2. Cut the ready rolled puff pastry into thin strips.
3. Pour the tin tomatoes into a bowl and mix in the tomato puree. Use a fork to break up the big chunks of chopped tomatoes.
4. Use a spoon to place some of the tomato mix onto each strip of pastry.
5. Grate the cheese and sprinkle on top of the tomato mixture.
6. Then it’s time to add your toppings, cut up your choice of toppings into small pieces and place them on top.
7. Starting from one end, roll the pastry up into a wheel.
8. Place on the baking tray and cook in the oven for 20 mins or until the cheese is melted.

**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

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



Little Beans Garland

## Notices and housekeeping

### Welcome to Sophie!

A warm welcome to Sophie, who has recently joined the Little Beans team as a Level 3 practitioner who is passionate about her work and has a huge amount of experience in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

As a SEND practitioner, Sophie will be working closely with our team to provide additional support for specific children as well as brightening our days with her cheerfulness to all our Little Beans children and families!

### Something New Magazine

The latest edition is out now filled with lots of new and interesting things! There are lots of vouchers, tips and interesting articles for parents. Copies are kept in our reception area! Get your free magazine today!

### Car Park area

Please take care when parking out the front and not to reverse over the bollards. These were installed to try and deter people from using the spaces that we need for staff and parents, but this hasn't worked as well as we wanted! We have removed most of the bollards now and we are making plans to have the whole driveway re-done to improve this space for all of us. We will keep you posted!

Please park within the white lines of the car park spaces and ensure that the yellow highlighted area in front of the front entrance is not parked on. This is important to allow our children and families to have access in and out of the front door safely!

### 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 to the setting!

### Shoes

Please can you make sure you label all shoes and clothes!!

### 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/littlebeansgarland/>

Search on Instagram under 'Little Beans Day Care'

### Little Beans Website

Our website also has lots of useful information which we update each month. We put all newsletters, menus, and dates for the diary on it. [www.littlebeansdaycare.com](http://www.littlebeansdaycare.com)

