

Little Beans

Garland



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Butterfly July!

July is a magical month, especially if you love butterflies! During this time, many butterflies are at their most active, fluttering through gardens, parks, and countryside, showing off their beautiful colours, like these ones:

Red Admiral: This butterfly has striking black wings with red bands and white spots. You can often see them basking in the sun or feeding on flowers.

Peacock: With its eye-catching eye spots on its wings, the Peacock butterfly is hard to miss. These spots are not just for show; they help scare away predators.

Small Tortoiseshell: Sporting a mix of orange, black, and yellow, the Small Tortoiseshell is a common sight in July. They love to sip nectar from flowers like buddleia, also known as the butterfly bush.

Comma: This butterfly gets its name from the small, white 'comma' shape on the underside of its wings. Its jagged wing edges make it look like a dried leaf when its wings are closed.

Brimstone: With their pale yellow wings, male Brimstones look like flying leaves. They are often seen near woodlands and gardens, flitting from flower to flower.

Where to Find Them

Gardens: Butterflies love gardens with lots of flowers. Planting butterfly-friendly flowers like lavender, marigolds, and verbena can attract these lovely creatures.

Parks and Countryside: Open spaces with wildflowers are perfect spots to see butterflies. Meadows, hedgerows, and woodland edges are great places to explore.

Fun Facts

Lifecycle: Butterflies go through four stages in their life: egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, and adult. July is often when you see the adults out and about.

Pollinators: Butterflies help pollinate flowers. When they feed on nectar, they transfer pollen from one flower to another, helping plants grow.

Migration: Some butterflies, like the Painted Lady, migrate to Britain from as far away as Africa. They travel thousands of miles to reach our shores.

Fun Butterfly Activities!

Butterfly Watching: Take a walk with a notebook and try to spot and identify different butterflies. You can draw pictures of the ones you see.

Create a Butterfly Garden: With the help of an adult, plant some butterfly-friendly flowers in your garden. You can create a haven for these beautiful insects.

Craft Time: Make your own butterfly out of paper. You can colour it with bright, vibrant patterns just like real butterflies.

July is a wonderful time to enjoy the beauty of butterflies in Britain. So grab your hat, head outside, and see how many butterflies you can spot!





This Month the Little Beans will be learning about..... Big School!

Children preparing to start school will be learning about school readiness and practicing their skills.

School readiness includes not only physical abilities like dressing themselves and managing personal hygiene but also involves emotional preparedness. We will have many discussions about school to help ensure a smooth transition and address any feelings your Little Bean may have about moving to big school, whether excitement or nervousness!

It's essential to work on a variety of gross motor skills to help develop fine motor skills. Activities like crawling or doing teddy bear rolls engage both sides of the brain, which is crucial for developing more refined skills like drawing and writing.

Children who are not yet starting school will focus on building their independence, such as putting on and taking off their shoes and engaging in plenty of mark-making activities. These are fundamental steps towards school readiness!

We'll also be helping children become more aware of transitions and changes. Many will be moving rooms soon, and we want them to feel as confident as possible during these transitions.



What's going on?

Events we are celebrating in July 2024

1st July – Canada Day!

Canada Day celebrates the anniversary of July 1, 1867, when the Constitution Act came into effect. We will be exploring Canada and some of its native treasures, such as the maple tree!

3rd July – Alice's Day!

Annual celebration of the much-loved classic children's book Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll! We will be looking at the story, characters and making potions and tea all day!

4th July - America's Independence Day!

Celebration of the independence of the United States of America! We will be learning about America and how their country is both similar and different to ours!

7th July – World Chocolate Day! (we will celebrate this on Monday, 8th July)

Celebrations of all things chocolate! We will be discussing balanced diets and how important it is to have a good amount of each food group!



14th July – French Independence Day!

Also known as Bastille Day, this date is the celebration of the French independence! We will celebrate this on Monday, 15th July. We will be learning about France and trying some of their delicious foods!

29th July – Tiger Day!

An annual celebration to raise awareness for the plight of tigers and the urgent need for tiger conservation. We will be learning about Tigers, their habitats and how important it is for us to try to protect and preserve them!



31st July – Harry Potter's Birthday

Harry shares his birthday with author J.K. Rowling. It is a day when you can indulge a love of the wizard by reading, watching a movie, sipping a butterbeer or munching on a bag of Bertie Bott's Every-Flavour Beans.



REMINDER!!

Graduation Ceremony for Little Beans going to Big School in September 2024

Longfleet School on Saturday 20th July 2024 at 9.30am



Little Bean's Recipe of the Month

Turkey Spaghetti Bolognese

INGREDIENTS

- 300g minced turkey
- 100g green lentils
- 200ml water
- 1 cartons tomato passata
- 1 tin of chopped tomato
- 2 carrots - grated
- 1 courgette - grated
- 1 pepper - grated
- 1 tsp ground garlic
- 1 tsp mixed herbs
- 1 vegetable stock cube
- 25ml cold water
- 25g plain flour
- 25g cornflour

Top Tip

Serve with a sprinkling of grated parmesan and a nice chunk of hot garlic bread!

METHOD

1. Brown the minced turkey over a low heat with the 200ml water.
2. Once the turkey is browned, add the green lentils and simmer for 30 minutes.
3. Add the tomato passata, chopped tomato, carrot, pepper, courgette, ground garlic, mixed herbs, and stock cubes. Mix well and bring to a boil.
4. Simmer on a medium heat for a minimum of 15 minutes.
5. In a jug, mix the plain flour, cornflour, and cold water, then add to the turkey mixture. More flour and water mixture may be needed to reach the desired consistency.
6. Boil the spaghetti according to packet instructions, and when cooked drain to serve with a good dollop of the Bolognese sauce on top.

TERM DATES FOR TERM TIME ONLY (TTO) CHILDREN:

Autumn Term

Term 1 – Monday 2nd September 2024 – Friday 25th October 2024

Half term – Monday 28th October 2024 – Friday 1st November 2024

Term 2 – Monday 4th November 2024 – Friday 13th December 2024

Spring term

Term 1 - Monday 6th January 2025 – Friday 14th February 2025

Half term – Monday 17th February 2025 – Friday 21st February 2025

Term 2 – Monday 24th February 2025 – Friday 4th April 2025

Summer term

Easter Holidays – Monday 7th April 2025 – Friday 18th April 2025

Term 1 – Monday 21st April 2025 – Friday 23rd May 2025

Half term – Monday 26th May 2025 – Friday 30th May 2025

Term 2 – Monday 2nd June 2025 – Friday 18th July 2025

Summer Holidays – Monday 21st July 2025 – Friday 29th August 2025

TERM DATES FOR ALL YEAR ROUND (AYR) CHILDREN:

Academic year

Monday 2nd September 2024 – Friday 29th August 2025

Autumn term

2nd September 2024 – 24th December 2024

Spring Term

1st January 2025 – 28th March 2025 (13 weeks)

Summer Term

31st March 2025 – 29th August 2025 (22 weeks)

Closed for Christmas

Wednesday 25th December 2024 – Wednesday 1st January 2025 (Inclusive)

Bank Holidays (nursery closed)

Monday 26th August 2024

Wednesday 25th December 2024

Thursday 26th December 2024

Wednesday 1st January 2025

Friday 18th April 2025

Monday 21st April 2025

Monday 5th May 2025

Monday 26th May 2025

Monday 25th August 2025

Thursday 25th December 2025

Friday 26th December 2025



Little Beans Garland

Notices and housekeeping

Staff Changes



Tash is now on Maternity Leave preparing to welcome her own bundle of joy into the world! Thank you to Tash for all her amazing hard work over the last 3 years and we wish her all the very best for her journey into motherhood!



Natasha will be stepping up into the role of 2's Room Leader and has been having a thorough handover with Tash over the last couple of months. Natasha is a highly competent member of our Little Beans team and has thrived in her position as deputy room leader. She knows all the staff and your wonderful Little Beans very well and is enthusiastic about taking on the role of room leader to provide the best care and support for your Little Beans.

Tapestry

Your key person has updated your child's next steps on Tapestry! Please share what you have been working on at home, what activities your child has enjoyed recently, and any specific areas you would like us to focus on. This collaboration is a key part of our parent partnership, helping us work together to achieve your child's goals.

Make sure to regularly check Tapestry for updates, as we use it to keep parents and carers informed with important information and to share the wonderful experiences your Little Beans have with us!

Your child's transition to school - 2024

Please check the documents on Tapestry for a wealth of information on school readiness, including activities your children can do at home, like Fiddly Things for Little Fingers! We will keep adding new resources to help prepare your children for school, which you can participate in at home.

The Family Hub also offers various support programs, including those for starting school, communication and language, parenting, and many other early help programs.

Spare Clothing and Lost Property

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 Team 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!

We have lots of lost property in the tub inside the main entrance – we will place it outside in good weather around pick up times. Please ensure you are checking through this regularly as we will be taking any remaining items to the charity shop by the end of July!

Emergency Contacts

May we ask that all parents update us with any changes of their details, including contact numbers and addresses. May we also ask that parents provide us with additional emergency contact details as many of the emergency contacts we have for children are currently shielding and therefore cannot be an emergency contact. The emergency contact must be able to collect your child. We will of course always try to contact parents first.

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



