

Little Beans

Garland



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Autumnal October!

This month our learning focus will be about **People Who Help Us**.

The Big Beans will be drawing on a variety of our wonderful resources to enrich learning and support the Little Beans in exploring the topic *'People Who Help Us'*. This will be brought to life through games, activities, stories, role play, adult modelling, as well as engaging displays and posters.

Together, we'll be learning about the many different people who play important roles in our community and how they help and support us. If you have any photos of your Little Beans with community helpers, we would love for you to upload them to Tapestry. These can be used to extend their learning and spark meaningful discussions during circle times.



At home, you could help your Little Bean learn about keeping safe by showing them where the phone is kept and teaching them the three important numbers to call in an emergency – **999**. You might also practise key details such as your road name and house number. These simple pieces of information could make all the difference in an emergency. At nursery, we role model this through our play, which supports children of all ages and stages in their early development.

This month, we'll also be exploring the different services that support our community – from the bin collectors to the people who water the flowers in the local parks. We'll be helping the children recognise those who care for us when we are unwell, including doctors, nurses, dentists, police officers, and many more.

If you have a role in the community and would be happy to share it with the children, we'd love to hear from you. Please feel free to email us to arrange a visit – we would especially welcome visits from police, dentists, doctors, firefighters, and anyone else who helps to make our community a better place.

Giving it a Go!

.....Self determination

For children in the Early Years, these are the first steps toward self-independence. By building confidence in their abilities through a safe, supportive environment with positive feedback and role modelling, children develop strong foundations to grow, achieve milestones, and build resilience as they progress toward independence in later life.

At Little Beans we do so many things to promote independence, such as scraping their plates, pouring their own drinks, laying the table, freedom of choice, giving it a go, making healthy choices, trying to put their own shoes and coats on and off, this looks very different through the rooms and age groups.

Ways to Support Your Little Bean's Independence:

- **Give time:** Pause and count to 10 before helping.
- **Use simple language:** Short, clear instructions help them understand.
- **Choosing and dressing themselves:** Let them pick clothes and dress on their own.
- **Making breakfast or lunch:** Encourage simple tasks like pouring milk or spreading butter.
- **Brushing teeth:** Teach them to prepare the toothbrush, apply toothpaste, brush carefully, and tidy up.
- **Setting and clearing the table:** Involve them in family meals to develop teamwork, responsibility, and independence.



Little Beans Celebrates!

Events in October 2025

1st to 31st October - The Big Draw Festival Month This is a month-long festival of drawing activities which supports all ages and stages of development. We will be providing numerous mark making activities which will enhance those fine motor skills.

4th to 10th October - Space Week! We will be exploring the world around ours, looking at the solar system and even creating our very own Little Beans planet! We will enhance this through our role play too.

Friday 3rd October - World Smile Day This day was created by Harvey Ball who was the creator of the smiley! We will be thinking about all the things which put a smile on our face and understanding how this links to our emotions, for example when we are happy we smile! We love bringing smiles to you and your Little Beans. Please feel free to post on Tapestry examples of toys, activities, pet, food etc which make your Little Beans smile.

Thursday 2nd October - National Poetry Day A day for celebrating the wonderful words of poetry which bring people together. We will be exploring our favourite nursery rhymes and having a go at creating our own rhymes, exploring words which rhyme together and sound similar.

Sunday 5th October Grandparents Day -too special not to celebrate – we will celebrate on **Monday 6th October!** The UK's celebration of all grandparents! We will be celebrating by making personalised artwork to show our appreciation!

Saturday 18th October - World Singing Day. We will be singing all day **Friday 17th October to prepare our Little Beans for this day!** We are very excited to break out the microphones and to create our Little Beans music show, using musical instruments, puppets, and many more exciting props!

Wednesday 29th October - National Cat Day! A day to celebrate our feline friends! We will be learning about cats and exploring the differences for example, colours, shapes, sizes, and habitats too. If you have cats or any pets at home, please upload photos to Tapestry for us to share.

Friday 31st October - Halloween! We will be dressing up, creating our own Little Bean's magic potions, carving pumpkins and decorating delicious Halloween sweet treats! We cannot wait to see every Little Bean's favourite Halloween costume.



Big School places.....

-----**September 2026!**

This year the application opening date for 2026 has changed from previous years to give you more time to decide on the right school for your Little Bean before applications open.

For children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, parents need to start applying from **1 November 2025** for a school place for September 2026.

The closing date for applications for reception places is **15th January 2026**.

Outcomes of school applications are on **16 April 2026** for those that apply on time.

Information on the application process can be found here:

[Apply for a primary infant or first school place | BCP](#)

Please ask any of the Little Beans staff for any further information or advice about applying for school places for your child!





Little Bean’s Recipe of the Month

Sausage, mash and minted peas

What you will need:

- Desired amount of sausages
- Desired amount of potatoes
- 100g peas
- 40g lemon juice
- 80ml vinegar
- 100ml boiling water
- 40g sugar
- 1 packet of fresh mint

Top Tip:

- This goes well with lamb, also try mixing the mint sauce in with the gravy depending how strong you like the taste.
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How to Make them:

- Place the sausages in the oven to cook on gas mark 6 for 25 minutes.
- Whilst they are cooking chop the potatoes and place in a pot to boil. (peeling them is optional)
- Place the peas in a different pot to boil.
- During the time they are boiling finely chop the mint and put in a jug, add the lemon juice, water, vinegar and sugar and mix well.
- Drain the peas and add the minted mixture to them and leave on the hob for 5 minutes to simmer.
- When serving use a slotted spoon so the excess water drains of the peas.
- Once the potatoes are cooked, drain and mash with some butter and milk.
- Take the sausages from the oven when cooked and serve alongside the mash and peas!
- Serve and devour

ENJOY!-----

TERM DATES FOR TERM TIME ONLY (TTO) CHILDREN:
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
Autumn Term
Term 1 – Monday 1st September 2025 – Friday 24th October 2025
Half term – Monday 27th October 2025 – Friday 31st October 2025
Term 2 – Monday 3rd November 2025 – Friday 12th December 2025

TERM DATES FOR ALL YEAR ROUND (AYR) CHILDREN:
Academic year 2024/2025
Monday 2nd Sept 2024 – Friday 29th Aug 2025
Summer Term
31st March 2025 – 29th August 2025 (22 weeks)
Academic year 2025/2026
Monday 1st Sept 2025 -Friday 28th Aug 2026
Autumn term 1st September 2025 – Friday 19th December 2025 (16 weeks)
Spring Term 22nd December 2025 - January 2026 – 28th March 2026 (13 weeks)
Summer Term 31st March 2026 – 29th August 2026 (22 weeks)

Bank Holidays (nursery closed)

Monday 5th May 2025
Monday 26th May 2025
Monday 25th August 2025
Thursday 25th December 2025
Friday 26th December 2025
Closed for Christmas! 🥳
Wednesday 24th December 2025 – Tuesday 31st December 2025 inclusive and Monday 1st January 2026 (Bank holiday closed)
Re-open on the Friday 2nd January 2026

We're delighted to share that following our inspection by Environmental Health in September, Little Beans has been awarded a Food Hygiene rating of 5 – again!

This is the highest possible rating and reflects our commitment to excellent hygiene standards, including the condition of our premises, safe food handling practices, and strong management confidence. Congratulations to our wonderful Nursery Chef Heather on maintaining our rating – she really is a superstar!



Housekeeping!

Welcomes and Farewells



We're thrilled to welcome **Annette Davies** who joined us in September as **Room Leader for our 2-Year-Olds and Second Deputy**. Passionate about helping children become confident, independent learners, Annette loves supporting Little Beans to make choices, try new things, and take pride in their

achievements. We're so excited for our children to benefit from their experience and dedication—please join us in giving her a warm welcome!



We are also very excited to introduce **Tarnya O'Brien**, the new Manager at Little Beans Garland. Tarnya joins us in October and brings with her over a decade of experience in early years education and nursery leadership. She has a wealth of knowledge and a passion for creating inclusive, nurturing environments where

children can thrive and staff feel supported.

Tarnya believes in transparency, fairness, and collaboration, and is committed to building strong relationships with families and ensuring every child feels safe, confident, and inspired to explore. Over the coming weeks, she looks forward to meeting each of you, learning more about your children's individual interests, and working together. She welcomes your thoughts and encourages you to reach out at any time—she's looking forward to connecting with all our families!

In September, we said goodbye to **Chiara** who has been on long-term sick leave, and made the decision not to return to Little Beans. We are sad to see her go, but fully support her decision and would like to take this opportunity to wish her all the very best for the future— in both health and happiness.

'Meet the Manager' Wine & Cheese Night

Join us on **15th October 2025, 6:30–7:30 PM**, to meet our new manager, **Tarnya**! Please let us know if you'll be coming so we can make sure there's enough food and drinks for everyone. We can't wait to see you all!

Parent's Evening

Date to be announced shortly for November 2025.

Half Term reminder

Half term dates – **Monday 27th October 2025 – Friday 31st October 2025**

Facebook and Instagram

Stay connected with us by visiting our Facebook and Instagram pages!

Be sure to give us a 'like' and 'follow' to stay updated on important dates, reminders, and to see regular photos of what your Little Beans have been up to. Don't forget, you can also leave us a review!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/littlebeansgarland/>
Instagram: Search for 'Little Beans Day Care'

Little Beans Website

For more information, visit our website where we regularly update newsletters, menus, and important dates. Check it out at: www.littlebeansdaycare.com

