

Little Beans

Garland



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Happy New Year - 2026

Welcome back Little Beans

We would like to extend a very warm welcome back to all of our children, families, and staff following the Christmas break, and a special welcome to the new families joining us. We hope you all enjoyed a restful and joyful holiday, spending special time with those closest to you.

As we settle back into our nursery routine, we will be exploring themes of friendship and celebration, giving the children opportunities to talk about their experiences during the holidays. The children love sharing their stories, and we always enjoy listening and learning alongside them.



As we head into 2026, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful Little Beans teachers for everything they do each day to support and inspire the children.

We are also so grateful to our families for your continued support and partnership — it truly means so much to us and helps us build strong, caring relationships together.



This month

----- Weather and Seasons

This month, we will be learning all about the different types of weather and how it can vary across the world!

We'll explore the four seasons, discussing the *typical* weather we might expect in each one, while also thinking about just how unpredictable weather can sometimes be.

Together, we'll seek to answer questions like:

- Why do leaves fall off the trees?
- Where do insects and animals go when it gets chilly outside?
- How do they stay cool in the summer?
- Why do some plants only bloom in the summer?
- How can we keep ourselves warm during colder weather?
- What should we do to stay safe when the weather is warm?





January's Fun Fact!

----- Imagination

When children pretend, they use their imaginations to move beyond the bounds of reality.

At Little Beans, we celebrate and nurture this creativity, allowing children to extend their learning by taking their play in any direction they choose!

A simple game in the sandpit can quickly turn into a daring mission to save animals from a giant sand volcano about to erupt!

A stick can become stick man, a sock can transform into a puppet, and a small child can become a superhero.

You can encourage your child's imagination by using your own!

Spend time playing together —sip that imaginary cup of tea, or head outside for a walk to search for hidden fairies.

Let your imagination run wild and watch theirs flourish!



25th January 2026 — Burns Night! A Scottish celebration to commemorate Scotland's national poet Robert Burns! In the run up to Burns Night, we will be talking about traditional dishes eaten on this night such as fish soup, as well as exploring Scottish traditions and customs such as tartan patterning and the sound of bagpipes!

26th January 2026 — Australia Day! We will be learning all about Australia and the land down under and discussing the different animals, weather patterns and traditions they have!



28th January 2026 — Lego Day! The date which marks when the first 2x4 Lego brick was patented and to celebrate the fantastic journey of imagination which a simple Lego brick can take us on! We will be building and creating all day using lots of different materials and resources to show the power of the imagination and bricks!

31st January 2026 — International Zebra Day! (we will celebrate on Friday 30th January 2026). On this day we will be celebrating all that is stripey and learning about these fantastic black and white beasts! We will be learning all sorts of fun facts such as how each Zebra's stripes are unique just like our fingerprints are!



21st January 2026 — Red Squirrel Appreciation Day! Red squirrels are native to the UK but at risk, on this day we will be exploring these colourful fluffy animals and talking about their habitats as well as ways to protect them! Did you know that Brownsea Island is one of the few places left in the UK where you can catch a glimpse of a red squirrel?





Little Bean's Recipe of the Month

Basic Quiche that you can turn into Queen of Quiche's

----- INGREDIENTS -----

- 9oz plain flour
- 4 oz butter
- 4-5 tbsp iced water
- 3 onions
- 5 eggs
- 350l milk or cream
- 100g cheese

Top Tip:

If you're not a fan of onion; try switching it out for something else. Once you have mastered this basic recipe, make your Queen of Quiche by adding the things you love to eat - like tomatoes, bacon, broccoli or even a different type of cheese or two!

----- METHOD -----

1. Place the butter and flour into a bowl and mix into breadcrumbs.
2. Once in breadcrumb form, slowly add the water and mix until it makes a dough.
3. Place into a baking dish and bake for 20 mins on gas mark 7.
4. Whilst the base is cooking; put the milk/cheese and eggs into a bowl along with the onions (chopped) and cheese (grated).
5. Use a whisk to mix the ingredients together until lightly fluffy.
6. Add the mixture to the part baked base and place back in the oven for a further 30 mins.

Enjoy hot or cold with salad and/or chips.

----- Enjoy! -----

TERM DATES FOR TERM TIME ONLY (TTO) CHILDREN:

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

Spring Term

Term 1 – Monday 5th January 2026 – Friday 13th February 2026
Half Term – Monday 16th February 2026 – Friday 20th February 2026
Term 2 – Monday 23rd February 2026 – Friday 27th March 2026
Easter Holiday – Monday 30th March 2026 – Friday 10th April 2026

TERM DATES FOR ALL YEAR ROUND (AYR) CHILDREN:

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 - 5th January 2026 – 28th March 2026 (13 weeks)

Summer Term 31st March 2026 – 29th August 2026 (22 weeks)

Bank Holidays (nursery closed)

Thursday 25th December 2025
Friday 26th December 2025
Thursday 1st January 2026
Friday 3rd April 2026
Monday 6th April 2026
Monday 25th May 2026
Monday 31st August 2026

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



Can you spot Brownsea Island where the red squirrels live?!

Housekeeping!

Farewell to Sophie

This month, we're bidding a fond farewell to the amazing Sophie, who will be moving on to new adventures. Over the time she spent with us, Sophie has been an invaluable part of our team—bringing dedication, passion, and a positive energy.

The big outdoors

As you know, we are strong advocates for giving children daily access to fresh air and outdoor play in our nursery garden. Spending time outside not only supports children's physical and emotional wellbeing, but also helps them develop a meaningful connection with nature. Being outdoors can enhance concentration, self-regulation, and positive behaviour, while also supporting teamwork, social skills, and learning how to manage and resolve conflicts.

With this in mind, please ensure your child comes to nursery dressed appropriately for outdoor play, including a warm coat and hat. As we will continue to enjoy the garden in all types of weather, we would also appreciate it if you could provide a waterproof all-in-one and a pair of wellies where possible. **Please can all items be clearly labelled!** Thank you for your continued support in helping us make outdoor learning a fun and valuable part of each day.

Tapestry

Just a polite reminder to please check Tapestry regularly for updates. We try to be quite eco conscious of how much paper we are printing which is why we use Tapestry as a communication method to share letters, important dates and newsletters.

Also we love to hear from parents on Tapestry, to see photos of things you do at home so please do remember to share and make comments. This is really important as it tells us what your child is interested at home, which we use as a starting point for their learning at Little Beans.

We look forward to seeing our All Year-Round children from Friday 2nd January 2026, and our Term Time Only children from Monday 5th January 2026.

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

