

Little Beans

Garland



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Marching on! Spring is in the air

Welcome to the March 2026 edition of our newsletter!

Spring has finally arrived! This wonderful season brings a fresh sense of renewal and optimism as nature begins to blossom and brighter, warmer days lie ahead.

With longer, sunnier days approaching, we're looking forward to spending more time outdoors — exploring, playing, and discovering the beauty of blooming flowers such as daffodils and crocuses.

And of course, spring wouldn't be complete without a little seasonal tidy-up and refresh!

March is a busy month, with exciting events like World Book Day, Red Nose Day, and World Down Syndrome Day. Be sure to check out below for all the details!

As always, if you have any questions, feel free to reach out to any member of the Little Beans Team.



This month

We will be learning about.....

Animals!

This month, we'll be diving into the fascinating world of animals and their habitats!

We'll compare different animals, learning fun facts and spotting similarities and differences between them. Together, we'll explore which animals live in the water, which roam the land, and which take to the skies.

Some big questions we'll be asking:

- How big is a whale? 🐳
- Which animal is the fastest? 🐆
- Are there creatures that thrive in extreme heat or freezing cold? ❄️💧
- Why are flamingos pink?!

We'll also discover how animals spend their days—some are awake when we are, while others sleep all day and come to life at night!

We'll talk about pets and why some animals, like cats and dogs, make great companions, while others, like lions and tigers, are best admired from afar!

Lastly, we'll have fun learning the special names for baby animals—how many can we remember?

It's going to be an exciting adventure into the animal kingdom!





Little Beans Celebrates! Events in March 2026

1st March: St David's Day We will be celebrating on Monday 2nd March, the patron saint of Wales by looking at the Welsh flag and making daffodils to wear! We will also look at the Welsh landscape and seeing if we can find similarities and differences between our own!

5th March: World Book Day Annual celebration of books and reading celebrated by reading, book related activities and dressing up as characters from books. At Little Beans we will be encouraging all to dress up as their favourite book or nursery rhyme character! We will be looking at all types of books and stories and seeing if we can make up any stories of our own!

8th March: International Women's Day - we will celebrate on Monday 9th March. This annual event celebrates all the amazing things women have achieved. It is a way to show how women have and continue to influence the world. We will celebrate it on 10th March and talk about and celebrate the brilliant women we know in our Little Beans circle of families and friends.

15th March: Mother's Day At Little Beans in the run up to Mother's Day we will be thinking all about the special women in our lives and thinking of kind ways to show our appreciation for them!

18th March: Global Recycling Day We are asking all Little Beans to bring something in for a junk modelling competition! We love to reuse and recycle here at Little Beans and will be working together to use junk modelling to make some fantastic creations!

20th March: Red Nose Day At Little Beans we will be fundraising for Comic Relief by dressing up in something red! We will be doing lots of fun activities through the day to make us smile and laugh like telling jokes, playing group games and doing some baking!

20th March: Spring Equinox @ 2.46pm The equinox marks the day when day and night are the same lengths all over the world, with the word equinox literally meaning 'equal night' in Latin. Spring begins!

21st March: World Down Syndrome Day - we will celebrate this day on Monday 23rd March. Little Beans will be fundraising for Down syndrome association. We are asking that you let your child pick the craziest socks to help raise money for this fantastic charity, who support children with down syndrome and their families.

28th March: Wear a Hat Day: This fundraising day is in aid of Brain Tumour Research. Wear A Hat Day arrives as the culmination of weeks of awareness and campaigning as part of Brain Tumour Awareness Month. We will all wear fun hats on Friday 27th March 2026!



29th March: Daylight saving begins today, so remember that the clocks go forward 1 hour at 1am in the morning!

Play!

----- The importance of play in early childhood

In the early years, play is your child's primary way of learning and growing. It's not just fun—it's how they explore, observe, experiment, and solve problems, all while learning from their mistakes.

Your support and encouragement are essential, but finding the right balance is key. Allowing your child to try things on their own—even if they make mistakes—helps them develop confidence and independence.

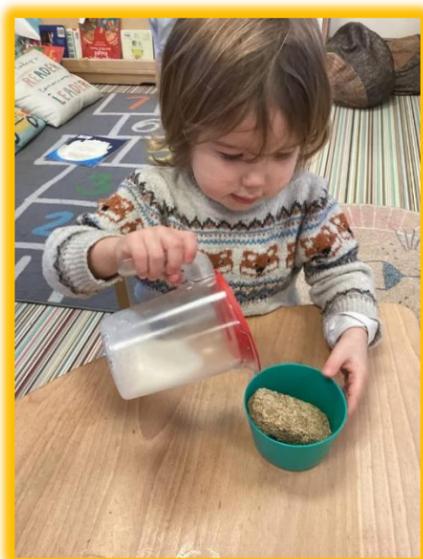
Discovering how the world works through hands-on experiences is a vital part of their learning journey.

Engaging in play, conversation, and interaction with you builds essential life skills and strengthens your bond.

Play is also a powerful way to nurture your relationship. When you spend time playing together, you send a simple but meaningful message: "You are important to me."

This sense of belonging helps your child understand who they are and where they fit in the world.





Little Bean's Recipe of the Month

Lemon Drizzle Cake

INGREDIENTS

- 250g Butter
- 250g Sugar
- 250g Self Raising Flour
- 3 Eggs
- 2 Lemons
- 100g Icing Sugar
- 5g Baking Powder

Top Tip:

Swap the lemons for oranges and make an Orange Drizzle Cake instead!

METHOD

1. Preheat oven to gas mark 5 or 200 degrees.
2. Mix the butter, sugar and eggs together.
3. Grate 2 lemon zests and add to the mixture.
4. Add the juice of 1 lemon.
5. Fold in the flour and baking powder.
6. Bake in oven for 20 minutes or until golden brown!
7. Juice the second lemon and add the icing sugar.
8. Make fork pricks in the cake to allow for better absorption.
9. Drizzle the lemon icing sugar over the top of the cake once cooked.

-----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 2026 (nursery closed)

Thursday 1st January 2026

Friday 3rd April 2026

Monday 6th April 2026

Monday 4th May 2026

Monday 25th May 2026

Monday 31st August 2026

Friday 25th December 2026

Monday 28th December 2026



Housekeeping!

Welcome Julie and Daisy

We welcome Julie to Little Beans working in our Kitchen to make up some tasty meals for your Little Beans. We also welcome Daisy to Little Beans, she is also a dance teacher so we are looking forward to her energy and enthusiasm in Preschool!

Heather and Grace Leaving

We say a very sad farewell to our lovely Heather. She has made the decision to spend some time with her family. We are going to miss her dearly, but we are also so happy for her as she begins this exciting new journey. Heather shared that she has truly loved her time at Little Beans, and that this was not an easy decision to make, as she will miss all of the children and families. We wish Heather all the very best for the future.

We are also saying goodbye to Grace. She has made the decision to work closer to home. We will miss Grace so much but we are also very happy for her and this new chapter. Grace will work alongside Daisy to ensure a smooth handover. We wish Grace the best of luck for her future.

Control of Infectious Diseases – Exclusion Periods at Little Beans Garland

We are seeing an increase in seasonal illnesses. To protect the wellbeing of all children and staff, we must strictly follow our Little Beans Control of Infectious Diseases procedures. These guidelines are based on national public health advice, including the **Spotty Book – Notes on Infectious Diseases in Schools and Early Years Settings**.

Exclusion Periods – What Parents Need to Know

If your child is sent home with a temperature, they must remain at home for 24 hours after their temperature has returned to normal without the use of medication.

This helps ensure the fever has genuinely resolved and reduces the risk of spreading infection. If you call to inform us your child is unwell at home, they must stay off for 48 hours from the onset of symptoms. This is because many bugs (especially sickness, diarrhoea, and viral fevers) remain contagious even after symptoms begin to ease. If your child has started antibiotics, they must remain at home for 48 hours after the first dose. Why? Antibiotics take time to begin working, and during the first 48 hours children are often still contagious. They may also experience side effects such as tiredness, upset stomach, or reduced immunity, meaning they are not yet well enough to participate safely in nursery activities.

Further Guidance – For more detailed information on specific illnesses, symptoms, and exclusion periods, please refer to the official Spotty Book used by early years settings across the UK: [The Spotty Book - Notes on infectious diseases in schools and nurseries | Swindon Borough Council](https://www.swindon.gov.uk/parents-and-carers/childcare/childcare-articles/the-spotty-book-notes-on-infectious-diseases-in-schools-and-nurseries)

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