

Little Beans

Garland



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May Madness!

.....Join the Fun!

Welcome to the May 2026 edition of our Newsletter. We have an exciting month ahead with a whole host of activities planned for the Little Beans to enjoy!

As the flowers bloom, the sun shines brighter and April showers are on the wane, there are more smiles than ever to share around as we enjoy our outdoor spaces!

The cold nip in the air still means our Little Beans need warm gear for outside at times. However, hopefully the weather will continue to improve so be mindful that we will also need sunhats and suncream on those warmer days!



Parent’s Evening – we have moved the date to Wednesday 10th June 2026 6-8pm – more details will follow.

We are lucky to have two bank holidays in May. We hope you enjoy these long weekends and more time together 😊

Little Beans is closed on the May bank holidays:

Monday 4th May and Monday 25th May 2026



This month

We will be learning about.....

Nursery Rhymes!

We will be clearing the cobwebs from our singing lungs and exploring our favourite nursery rhymes!

Nursery rhymes provide bite-sized learning opportunities for young children to develop key developmental skills and can often be the trigger for hours of creative and open-ended play. They are a powerful learning source in early literacy and enable children to become interested in the rhythm and patterns of language!

At Little Beans we make learning fun by using props, music or musical instruments. Introducing children to a variety of nursery rhymes can help them understand and learn about different sounds. This is an important part of developing those early literacy skills. Listening to different sounds in the environment, as well as in nursery rhymes, provides children with the foundations to help them read and write.

We spark their imagination and stimulate curiosity, helping to develop their ability to focus, their concentration, as well as their social and communication skills.

Ideas for home: read and sing nursery rhymes with your children with props and pictures, we would love to see photos and videos of families participating at home, which can be uploaded onto Tapestry!



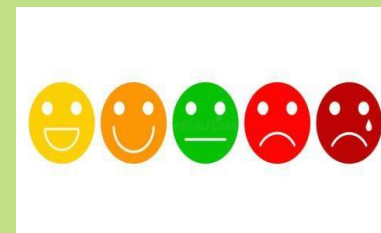
Children feel emotions differently...

----- in their early childhood years

If you've ever witnessed a temper tantrum, you know how devastated a toddler can seem over the smallest thing. But this isn't just for show—studies tell us that toddlers feel emotion in a more full-body way than adults do.

Children don't always know that emotions are temporary. They may feel trapped in a certain emotion, without the understanding that it can come and go. It might even be hard for them to articulate how they feel about a situation, making it more of a struggle for them to do anything about it.

At nursery, children learn to manage their emotions. Once they're in an environment with other children and a variety of adults, they'll have many more models of how to move and interact in the world!



Little Beans Celebrates! Special days in May 2026

4th – 10th May 2026: Screen Free Week: Annual event to encourage us to unplug from digital entertainment and spend all that free time playing, reading, daydreaming, creating, exploring, and connecting with family and friends! At Little Beans we will be using books and stories to find facts, and making up our own roleplays and putting on performances for each other.

3rd May 2026: World Laughter Day: (we will celebrate on **Tuesday 5th May**) The celebration of World Laughter Day is a positive manifestation for World Peace and it builds up a global consciousness of brotherhood and friendship through laughter. We will be doing all that we can to make each other laugh and smile on this day and remember the importance of being kind!

10th May 2026 National Children's Day: (we will celebrate it on **Monday 11th May**) National Children's Day UK is all about the importance of a healthy childhood and protecting the rights and freedoms of children so that they can grow into happy, healthy adults. At Little Beans we will be talking about rights and individual liberty and exploring how we are all unique!

15th May 2026 REDs 4 VEDS REDS4VEDS is a global campaign which takes place on the third Friday of May each year. The aim of the campaign is to help raise the profile of Vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (Vascular EDS), a rare life-limiting genetic disorder. **We will be fundraising – please wear Red and bring a donation if you can!**

18th – 22nd May 2026: Walk to School Week! Little Beans will be encouraging all that can to walk to nursery this week, we will also be talking about other ways we can help our planet!

20th May 2026: World Bee Day: The purpose of World Bee Day is to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators, at Little Beans we will be exploring how we can help our bees!

20th May 2026 National Numeracy Day: At Little Beans we will be discovering how numbers are everywhere and how important they are in our lives.

23rd May 2026: World Turtle Day! (we will celebrate on **Friday 22nd May 2026**) The aim of World Turtle Day is to bring attention to, and increase knowledge of and respect for, turtles and tortoises, and encourage human action to help them survive and thrive.



23rd May 2026: Elmer Day! (we will celebrate on **Tuesday 26th May 2026**) A celebration of reading, of elephants and of accepting yourself and others, just like Elmer the Patchwork Elephant, star of the Elmer books by David McKee.





Little Bean's Recipe of the Month

Tuna Fishcakes

INGREDIENTS

- 2 medium floury potatoes, peeled and quartered
- large knob of unsalted butter
- 1½ tbsp mayonnaise
- 1 unwaxed finely lemon grated zest only
- 3 spring onions thinly sliced
- 150g tin of tuna, drained
- 2 slices bread
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- Plain flour
- sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 200g of Rice or Noodles

Top Tip:

To freeze the fishcakes, once shaped, wrap them individually in cling film and freeze for up to 3 months. Defrost in the fridge, then cook for an extra 5 minutes to make sure the breadcrumb coating gets crispy in the oven.

METHOD

1. Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.
2. Put the potatoes in a saucepan, cover with cold water and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat to a simmer and cook for 15–20 minutes, or until tender.
3. Drain the potatoes and return them to the pan with the butter, mayonnaise, lemon zest, spring onions, salt and a generous amount of black pepper. Mash together until smooth. Stir in the tuna and set aside.
4. Put the bread in a food processor and pulse until it crumbs. Put the egg, flour and breadcrumbs into three separate shallow bowls.
5. Shape the tuna mixture into six fishcakes. Coat each first in flour, then in egg, then in breadcrumbs. (You can use one hand for the flour and breadcrumbs and another for the egg, to keep your fingers clean.)
6. Place on a baking tray and bake for 15 minutes, or until the breadcrumbs are just golden. Serve

Enjoy!

TERM DATES FOR TERM TIME ONLY (TTO) CHILDREN:

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

Summer Term

Term 1 – Monday 30th March 2026 – Friday 22nd May 2026

Half Term – Monday 25th May 2026 – Friday 29th May 2026

Term 2 – Monday 1st June 2026 – Friday 17th July 2026

Summer Holidays – Monday 20th July 2026 – Friday 28th August 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!

A note from the Manager ♥ ♥

“It’s been so lovely to finally see the sunshine making an appearance! As the days get brighter and warmer, the children are really enjoying spending more time outdoors – exploring the garden, getting messy, enjoying water play and making the most of the fresh air.

As we move into sunnier weather, please remember to send children in with named sun hats and water bottles, and apply sunscreen at home in the morning. We will of course reapply throughout the day as needed to keep everyone safe and comfortable.

Alongside all the fun, we continue to support the children’s emotional wellbeing, helping them to recognise and manage their feelings, show kindness to one another and grow in confidence as part of our Little Beans community.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support – it really does mean so much to the whole team. We’re very much looking forward to an exciting and happy May together, and to all the lovely things we have planned as we head towards summer.”

Tanya O’Brien

New Faces

A warm welcome to **Bethany** an apprentice joining the Baby Room and working towards her Level 2 Early Years.



“Growing up I have always had a passion for childcare, I am thrilled to start my journey as an apprentice with Little Beans. Working in childcare is a journey I am excited to embark upon. I am very kind hearted and look forward to working with everyone. I am good with creativity and like messy activities like painting and water play..”

Facebook and Instagram

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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



