



Dear Parents,

January 2023

We would love to wish you all a very Happy New Year! We hope you all had a relaxing Christmas and if you haven't popped some photos onto Tapestry please do, we love to see the little ones enjoying Christmas!

We would also like to say a big thank you for your generous gifts and Christmas wishes - we were delighted to receive so many lovely boxes of chocolates and biscuits, they are really appreciated at our team meetings and we also managed to do a lovely staff raffle where everyone took something home!

Christmas cards/stars - A big thank you to all of you who decorated a Christmas star, the tree in the porch looked beautiful. The children really enjoyed the raffle at our parties so thank you for the donations and buying your tickets! Cheeky request - If you have any 'unwanted' gifts from Christmas please consider up-cycling them to our raffle prize collection for our raffles during the year. If anyone was lucky enough to get a new tablet/ipad and they have an old one not being used please consider donating it to nursery (again very cheeky but would be appreciated).

Christmas Raffle - we raised £77.20 😊 The children loved the raffle again this year! The money will be split between resources for the children and our chosen charity Charlies Gift - Thank you all 😊

Christmas Children's Church Service - We sadly had a very low turnout for this event, only 6 families attended (from 70+ families). We are unsure if this will go ahead next year but we will decide nearer the time. If this is something you missed and would have attended (would like to do next year) please let us know as it will help us to make our decision. The children really enjoyed going (and the few parents who did 😊) it was a lovely way to get together outside of nursery and celebrate Christmas.

Staff - Lisa has made the difficult decision not to return to Abacus after her six months sick leave. Her leg is healing well but she would like to work school hours so she is now moving on. We will miss you Lisa and wish you all the best. Charlene has been covering Lisa's senior support role while Lisa has been off and has now accepted this role on a permanent basis - Congratulations Charlene 😊

Reminder late Fee increase - please remember our late fee has increased to £15

Reminder new Bank Details - We have a new bank account so please make sure you have changed your standing order

Name: Abacus, Bank: HSBC, Sort code: 40-14-13, Account number: 64038525

Fees - The directors have asked us to remind you to check your payments for this term, some of you have paid last terms amount which is now not correct. If you have made the wrong payment could you please make any extra payments by the end of the week and amend your standing order for your next payment.

Tapestry - Please don't forget you can add comments and photos yourselves for us to see, the team genuinely love getting your updates. During your early days with us, the staff will endeavour to put photos on promptly with their Early Day Assessment forms to help you with the settling in process. Tapestry is very time consuming for staff please turn a blind eye to the odd spelling mistake or missed capital letter etc.

Social Media - please don't forget we do not endorse staff and parents being 'friends' on social media unless family or friends prior to nursery. This is to ensure we maintain professional partnerships and do not blur the boundaries or make it difficult for either side. Thank you for your support in this.

Birthday Cakes - A quick reminder that although the children do love sharing their birthday cakes at nursery can you please check the ingredients, we ask that they do not come in if they contain nuts (please double check the ingredient's, we will have to check at the door and send home if it even contains traces). Our baby and toddler room cannot have chocolate cake due to the recommendations around babies not having chocolate in their diet, thank you for your anticipated support with this.

Nappies/Wipes - Please remember to top your childs bag up if empty, otherwise we may ask you to pop to the shop 😊

Contacting Abacus - Please remember that if you have to inform us of changes or any other important information please do this via email and not on Tapestry. Tapestry is for general chat with your key person and development but the management team need to know if you won't be in, if your child has dietary changes, if you have concerns etc.

Dates for the diary -

- **Coffee Morning** - Saturday 11th February 10-11.30 - People all over the UK host their own Coffee Mornings to support the Macmillan Trust, we have decided this year to hold our own event to help raise money for this very worthy charity. We have several staff members and families who have faced the struggles of a cancer diagnosis so the team are delighted to be able to help raise funds - pop the date in your diary and join us for a slice of cake!
- **School Transition meeting** - Monday 6th March 6-7pm (Parents only please)
- **Parent Chats** - Tuesday 21st March (6-7.30pm, parents only please)

- **Spring book share for our toddler and preschool children** - between 4.30pm and 5.15pm (please arrive at 4.30pm if you wish to join in!) we are inviting you in (sorry but limited to one adult) to share a book (or two) and have a drink/biscuit with your little one (if it is there normal nursery day) - Monday 24th April.
- **Easter break** - 7th to 10th April (closed)
- **Extra Bank Holiday** - 8th May
- **May Bank Holidays** - 1st & 29th (closed)
- **Garden book share for our toddler and preschool children** - between 4.30pm and 5.15pm (please arrive at 4.30pm if you wish to join in!) we are inviting you in (sorry but limited to one adult) to share a book (or two) and have a drink/biscuit with your little one (if it is there normal nursery day) - Tuesday 4th July
- **Summer Bank Holiday** - 28th August (closed)
- **School Leavers Party** (and last day) - 1.45-4.15pm (parents invited in between 3.30-4.15pm) - August 31st
- **Christmas closure** - Our last day is Thursday 21st December 2023 and we will reopen on Tuesday 4th January 2024!

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Here's to a very happy and hopefully healthy 2023 😊

Claire, Shel and the Team

PS. Should we be impacted by the weather we will keep you updated via Tapestry

Our contact details: abacuschildrensnursery@outlook.com
01823 288681

Support/Advice contact numbers;

You can give Mindline (Somerset) a call 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. No one should face poor mental health alone; <https://www.mindinsomerset.org.uk/> 01823 276892

NSPCC: [0808 800 5000](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/)

National Domestic Abuse Helpline: [0808 2000 247](https://www.ndah.org.uk/)

OFSTED: [0300 1231231](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/)

Preventing Radicalisation & extremism in Somerset: [prevent@somerset.gov.uk](https://www.prevent.gov.uk/) 01823359879

Somerset integrated domestic abuse services: [0800 694 9999](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/)

Men's advice line (domestic abuse): [0808 801 0327](https://www.menline.org.uk/)

Children's social care Somerset: [0300 123 2224](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/)