

Dear Parents & Carers,

June 2024

The children have been loving the sunshine and we are spending more time in the garden playing and exploring! Please remember suncream before arriving as we like to all get outside after breakfast (if you forget you can help yourself to the suncream on our post box). We have enjoyed lots of water play in the garden this last week, with boats, ducks, sensory resources, tipping, mixing and pouring!

Clothing - Please remember to put your child's name in all of their clothing, coats, jackets, shoes, pants etc for nursery. As you can imagine we have lots of children with lots of clothes and sometimes it all gets muddled. Having a child's name in a piece of clothing is a HUGE help!

Activities to try at home - Animal Yoga - It is the perfect activity to do in the garden, or before bedtime as it will help them unwind 😊 The children love yoga at nursery and will often make up their own poses!

Butterfly Pose: Encourage your little one to sit with the soles of their feet together, so the legs look like butterfly wings.

Mouse Pose: Kneel with forehead on the floor.

Snail Pose: Just like mouse pose, but the arms are straight out on the floor, above the head.

Sea Lion: Lay on the tummy and use the arms to push the body up off the floor.

Staff - Jordyn has now complete her BSL (British Sign Language) course and is putting her learning/training into everyday practice at Abacus.

All staff have either refresh or completed their Prevent Training this month- well done everyone! Some ladies have also refreshed their Safeguarding training.

We have a new lady called Bryony starting with us at the end of June to do some Relief work over the summer. She is currently at Southampton University and will be joining us on the relief team 😊

Sun safety advice (adults & children) - [Sunscreen and sun safety - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

During the summer months we are very fortunate to have our large sun canopies to help protect the children and ladies! We also re-apply suncream after lunch and ask that children

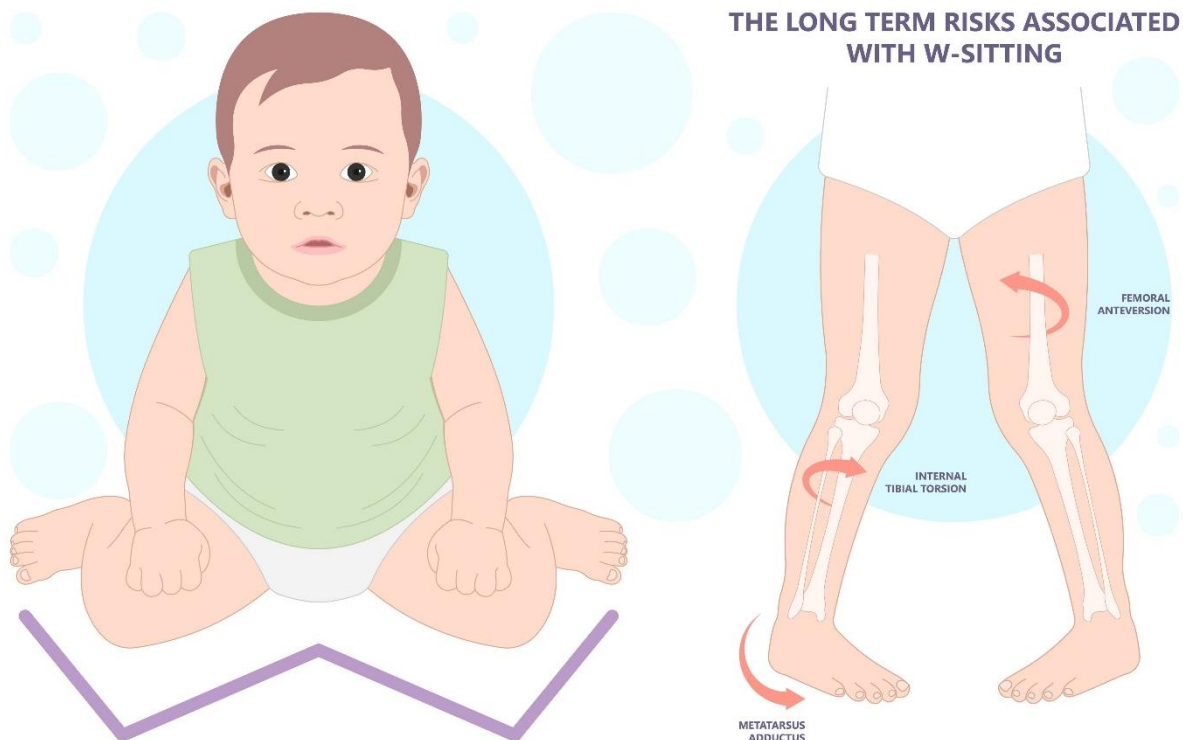
have shoulders covered for extra protection. They also wear hats and have lots of water to drink (and play with). When the sun is strong, we stay inside! We hope you find the link useful 😊

Safety - the preschool children downstairs will be having some '**Safety Sessions**' during June. They will be looking at how they can keep themselves safe at home and when you are out and about. Topics covered will include stranger danger, road safety, safety in the home and keeping our bodies safe. If you have any questions or do not wish your child to participate please get in touch this week.

Parking - please park and use the drive sensibly; be mindful of other parents trying to use the drive and remember that our children are very little and walk on the driveway. We would also like to remind you not to park directly outside nursery (near our driveway), or on the corner opposite as our neighbour then struggles getting in/out of her driveway - Thank you.

This is of course once the scaffolding work is complete, we have been told it should be complete within the next few weeks.

W Position sitting - At nursery we discourage children from sitting in a W position, as it can cause long term complications with their leg development, and ask them to bring their legs to the front of their body. Information below for any parents who may have children who also do this at home:



Late collection - just a reminder that we charge a £15 late fee for every 15 minutes that you are late collecting your child, from 1pm or 6pm. Being late at lunchtimes can mean we are out of ratio in a room, meaning we then need to juggle staff between rooms, it can prove quite difficult to manage. If after 6pm, two staff would need to remain (one senior) and they then lock up after you leave, which makes the day very long! Although all of our ladies

genuinely love their jobs, and the children, they do like to leave on time 😊 Thank you for your support with this, it is appreciated.

Report - this should come across on your child's Tapestry towards the end of June or beginning of July. This is not a long report (like you will get at school) but just a little extra to go over their development while with us. We know that the majority of our parents have regular chats with staff but feel that its something nice to round up their year with us.

Glastonbury celebrations - at Abacus we celebrate local festivals as well as world celebrations. Starting on Monday 24th June we will hold our own Glastonbury festival where we will all be dressing up in festival clothing (nothing special - colourful shorts and t-shirts), playing musical instruments, face- painting (please get in touch if you do not wish to have your child's face painted), dancing, large scale art and trying foods from around the world. We know this will all be great fun for everyone! If anyone can play a musical instrument or juggle, blow giant bubbles etc and would feel happy to play/perform for the children please let us know!

Head Bumps - Quite a few children have recently had existing head bumps (and we have had a few at nursery too) so thought this NHS link might be useful -[Head injury and concussion - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Graduation - We are all getting very excited about our graduation party for our school leavers, if you haven't already booked your place (if it is not your child's usual day/session) please can you do it before June 21st so that we know the numbers of children to expect and prepare for! If it is not your child's normal day/session there is a £13.75 charge for the party!

Questionnaire - we will soon be sending out a questionnaire for our school leavers to enable us to find out what we are doing well, see how we can improve and to gather your general thoughts/ideas. The questionnaires really help us to reflect, make changes and look at the forthcoming year 😊 We thank you in advance for your support with this.

Coat swap -If you have a good/clean child's coat that you would like to pass on please pop it on the pegs just inside of the porch so that another parent can take it home and use for their little one!

Dates for the diary -

- **Photographer** - 11th June (morning) If you wish to bring your child in or bring a sibling along (if not your normal day) please email the office 😊
- **Glastonbury Week!** - 24th - 28th June 2024 (Staff and children will wear 'festival' clothing for the whole week 😊)
- **Garden book share for our toddler and preschool children** - Tuesday 30th July
- **Summer Bank holiday** - 26th August (closed)
- **Baby room summer stay and play** - 27th August (please note date change) 4.30pm-5.15pm (pop in for a quick play at the end of the day - if it is your little ones usual day) 😊

- **School Leavers Party** (and last day) - 1.45-4.15pm (parents invited in between 3.30-4.15pm) - August 30th
- **Parent Chats** - Tuesday 12th November (6-7.30pm, **parents only please - no little ones!**) a form will go up in the porch during October to book!
- **Winter book share for our toddler and preschool children** - Tuesday 19th November.
- **Christmas Church Service**- Wednesday 11th December @ 6.15pm. St Peters Church, Eastwick Road, Taunton.
- **Christmas 2024**- Our last day will be Friday 20th December 2024, and we will re-open on Thursday 2nd January 2025

Thank you for your continued support,
Sophie, Jordyn & the Team 😊

Support/Advice contact numbers:

You can give Mindline (Somerset) a call 24 hours/day, 7 days/week ;

<https://www.mindinsomerset.org.uk/> 01823 276892

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247

OFSTED: 0300 1231231

Preventing Radicalisation & extremism in Somerset: prevent@somerset.gov.uk 01823359879

Somerset integrated domestic abuse services: 0800 694 9999

Men's advice line (domestic abuse): 0808 801 0327

Children's social care Somerset: 0300 123 2224

School leavers party - 30th August we will be holding a party at nursery for the school leavers! The party will start at 1.45pm, children will play traditional party games and we will hold a small graduation event (where all children will collect a certificate to celebrate their time with us, their younger nursery friends will be watching and cheering. At 3pm we will have a picnic tea 😊 From 3.30pm until 4.15pm we will be having free play and ice creams (from an ice cream van) in the garden, we would like to invite parents to pop in during this time to have an ice cream (bring your pennies) too! The stage will be decorated so this will offer the perfect opportunity for you to get some photographs of your child (with or without you/key person) and for you to say your goodbyes 😊

An ice cream van is visiting and will be parked on the drive, we will purchase a lolly or ice cream for the children but parents please bring your pennies if you think you would like one!

If it is not your child's normal day please contact the office to book them in (we need to know how many extra children to cater for). The cost of the school leavers party this year is **£13.75**

Please remember it is in our policy that parents will not add photographs to any social media platform that has other children in them. If taking photographs with other children please let staff know so that we can ensure you have the other parents agreement before taking the photograph. Can we ask that photographs are only taken on the stage (so that we can monitor for **safeguarding**) and that all mobile phones are put away at other times. Anyone using a mobile phone away from the stage area will be asked to pop it away. After the party last year several families went to the local park for an hour and they had a fabulous time - one parent has already suggested that this would be lovely to do again this year 😊

Please note this is parents/adults only- please do not bring your other children with you (unless they are already in nursery that day) as it gets to busy in the garden!

If you haven't been saving your Tapestry photos and posts please make sure you do this by September 1st, this is when your account will close!