



July 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

Glastonbury - our festival week was a great success - the children had lots of fun splashing in muddy puddles, creating artwork, face painting, snuggling up in tents, listening to music, playing basketball, blowing big bubbles, and much more 😊

We are now embracing the summer and the children are participating in lots of exciting activities including - picnics, ice/paint play, collages, animals under the sea and much more!

Staffing - We have now found a new apprentice for Abacus, her name is Lia and she started with us a few weeks ago. She is already settling in well and doing a great job. If you see her around, please say a big Hello.

Milly and Natalie have recently completed their pediatric first aid training, and had a great time learning on their course.

Sophie and Jordyn hosted a Taunton Managers meeting at Abacus in June, it was a huge success and all of the other Taunton setting Managers and Deputy's loved our setting which is a credit to all of the wonderful ladies 😊

Graduation - A reminder that the graduation party (August 30th) will be the last day for our school leavers. We are looking forward to the party and know that the children will have a great time, we have lots planned and are really looking forward to making this a special memory for your child to cherish.

Please can you send an email to office to let us know how many parents etc will be coming for each child so we can get ourselves organised- thanks.

School leavers - We will be sending across the Summer Reports to all teachers later this week. If you would like us not to do this please get in touch, we know the teachers really like to see them and appreciate the information as it can help them to settle children in their new school 😊

They have also been published onto Tapestry so you can also have a read yourself.

Summer Report (non-school leavers) - your child's key person has written a short development update that was popped onto Tapestry this week. We hope you enjoy it, if you

have any questions after reading it please reply to the Tapestry post and your child's key person (or room supervisor) will respond.

September Sessions - Every Session is full until September 2025 for the baby room and September 2026 for the pre-school room! If you wish to increase or change days/sessions please get in touch sooner rather than later, you might need to go on our ever growing waiting list! Even if you are thinking you would like to increase after September 2025/2026 this would need to be arranged now to secure a place!

Coffee Morning- After such a huge success with the coffee morning at the beginning of last year, we will be hosting another McMillan Coffee Morning for everyone at Nursery (extended family included). The date for this event will be Saturday 5th October 2024, 10am-11.30am. Please pop the date in your diary, and come and join us for a coffee and slice of cake! All proceed will go towards this amazing Charity!

If you will be joining us, please pop an email to the office to let us know, so we can make sure we cater for everyone and have an idea of numbers 😊

Transitions - We have lots of children getting very excited about transitioning to school, we will be providing ongoing support to these children, not only in our pre-school sessions but throughout the rest of their time with us.

We are also busy sorting settling in sessions for the toddlers transitioning to the toddler & preschool room in September. We have recently sent out a factsheet to parents of children transitioning rooms but if you would like more information/support please email the office - we will be happy to help. We will then have another group transitioning to the toddler room at the start of 2025! Please do not worry about which room your child is in, we take many things into consideration when moving children and all children will receive a high quality level of care and learning whichever room they are in. We will let you know when your child is due to be transitioning 😊

Car Seats - please ensure that your little one has an appropriate car seat - it is part of our safeguarding responsibility to ensure that children are safe travelling to and from nursery.

If we notice little ones not in car seats we do have a duty of care to question this.

Taxis and minicabs (private hire vehicles)- If the driver doesn't provide the correct child car seat, children can travel without one - but only if they travel on a rear seat and wear an adult seat belt if they're 3 or older or without a seat belt if they're under 3.

Children should use a child car seat until they're 12 years old or 135 centimetres tall, whichever comes first.

Unexpected journeys - If the correct child car seat isn't available, a child aged 3 or older can use an adult seat belt if the journey is **all** of the following:

- unexpected
- necessary
- over a short distance

You can't take children under 3 on an unexpected journey in a vehicle without the correct child car seat, unless both of the following apply:

- it's a licensed taxi or minicab and the child travels on a rear seat without a seat belt.

The consequences of ignoring the legal requirements for car seats could be expensive (at best) or fatal (at worst). Police are able to administer a fine of up to £500 if children are not in the correct car child seats.

Photos - Can all **photo proofs** be returned by **Monday 8th** please, all orders must be placed and paid online before returning. Please make sure you return the proofs even if you are not buying any photos.

We hope you agree that they were beautiful - we smiled lots when looking at them all 😊

Polite reminders -

- Can children please not bring pull ups to nursery. As per our policy we ask that nappies are provided.
- Birthday Cakes, we do love to celebrate birthdays and know the children love to share their cake at nursery but please only bring shop bought cakes in their original packaging and remember that our babies and toddlers cannot have milk chocolate! All birthday cakes **must not** contain nuts, or traces of nuts as we are a nut free nursery. We do only give a small slice to each child!
- Suncream - Please remember to apply before your child comes into nursery
- Breakfast finishes at 9am, if you would like your little one to have some breakfast with us they really do need to be in and settled before 8.50am - thank you

Dates for the diary -

- **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
- **McMillan Coffee Morning** - 10am-11.30am. Pop the date in your diary and come and join us for a slice of cake and a coffee! All raising money for a fantastic charity 😊
- **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 😊

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!

Support/Advice contact numbers;

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

<https://www.mindlinsomerset.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