



April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have had a fabulous month and we hope you all enjoyed your Easter Break!

Thank you so much to all of the parents who came to the book share, we all had a fabulous time and were so pleased to have some wonderful feedback from our lovely parents 😊

The easter bonnet parade was brilliant, and all of the children who made an easter bonnet were so proud to parade them to all of their friends at nursery.

We hope you have all enjoyed the photos on Tapestry and on our Facebook page. We are all embracing Spring activities now, planting seeds, drawing flowers, going on bug hunts, making perfume and spending lots of time in the garden in the sunshine 😊

Sun cream and sunshine - we provide sun cream (Factor 50) for your child to have applied at nursery when it is sunny (unless you tell us differently). If your child is prone to allergic reactions/has very sensitive skin and you wish to provide your own, please provide this before the end of April. Please hand to a member of staff to be stored at nursery, paperwork will need to be completed (it cannot be left in your child's nursery bag and come backwards and forwards). However, we ask for your co-operation in applying sun cream prior to nursery so we are not held up getting outside first thing. We reapply after lunch on sunny days but as you can imagine it can take a very long time to correctly apply sun cream to all of the children so your support in the morning is very appreciated. We will soon pop some sunscreen in the porch for you, and if you have forgotten to pop some on to your child before nursery please help yourself (the ladies will remind you on hot/sunny days!).

Staffing - During March Tamzin updated her first aid training and lots of ladies have been completing CPD courses to update their knowledge and skills!

Jordyn has also started a BSL course and is making her way through the course learning lots of new skills.

As I'm sure you have all seen on Tapestry, Chloe will be leaving Abacus. She has recently moved house and her commute to work is now too long for her each morning, she is moving on to Uni to study Marketing! We will really miss Chloe, but wish her all the best with her new adventure.

We have however recruited 2 new ladies, Ringla who will be an assistant upstairs and Rachael who will be a practitioner downstairs- they are both super excited to get started at Abacus



Music Bugs & Mini Footy- Music Bugs is changing to Tuesday afternoon from May, and Mini Footy is changing to a Wednesday Afternoon also from May- which is really exciting! This will mean a different group of children can enjoy both sessions 😊

Parent chats - We are offering parent chats on Wednesday 10th April between 6pm and 7.30pm. We appreciate for many of you that the regular Tapestry chats and end of day feedback is enough but if you would like a longer chat with staff this is your opportunity! We have popped a form up in the porch so you can book your slot (only a few slots left now!). Please remember this is for adults only (no little ones) 😊

Speech & Language - Somerset Speech & Language have a 12-18 month waiting list! If you have any concerns about your child's speech please let us know straight away so we can help, of course if we have any niggles we would get in touch! This link could be helpful if you do have any concerns and is worth looking at even if you don't. It contains useful information and a video - [Help your baby learn to talk - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Government Funding - We would like to make you all aware that the Government 15 hours or 30 hours free childcare is presented misleadingly. The 15 or 30 hours are for term time only settings, and as we are open all year round, we stretch the funded hours over the year meaning you get fewer hours of funding (approx. 11 for the 15 hours, and approx. 22 for the 30 hours), we do also charge for meals etc so you would still get a charge/invoice. We hope this helps those who have been getting confused by the funding in place!

A few reminders -

Nappies/wet wipes - please make sure you provide enough items for your child and keep their bag well stocked. If there are none in your bag we will ask you to pop back with some.

Nursery clothing - If your child borrows nursery clothes. Please can you make sure these are washed and returned. Please have a look at home and if you have any of our nursery clothes, underwear or socks please put them in your child's bag to return and let us know they are in there.

Lost clothes - please try to label all clothing as this helps the ladies. If you think we have lost an item of clothing please let us know and we will do our best to find it. It is much easier to find lost clothing when named 😊

Non slip socks - could babies upstairs please have non slip socks everyday - it is sometimes not warm enough to remove socks completely and the lino end is not safe with tights/socks without the sticky spots.

Calpol - Please remember if your little one needs Calpol before nursery they probably are not well enough to be here - nursery is a busy environment, so if unwell please let them rest at home where it is quieter.

Menu - We are starting Summer Menu this week. If we need to make any tweaks we will update the Website next week 😊

Invoices - If you didn't amend your standing order for your April fees please make sure you do it for May, several payments have been wrong and this does cause difficulties for the

directors (thank you to everyone who did make the changes 😊). If your payment is wrong please let us know and make any extra payment. Can we remind everyone that fees are payable in advance and if late we can charge a late fee.

Our Facebook page - Please like, follow and review us! The reviews are so helpful to new prospective parents 😊 We do try to keep it updated with information and photographs for you all to enjoy.

Dates for the diary -

- **Parent Chats** - Wednesday 10th April 2024 (6-7.30pm, parents only please)
- **Pyjamarama** - Friday 17th May 2024!
- **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 😊
- **May Bank holidays** - 6th & 27th (closed)
- **Garden book share for our toddler and preschool children** - Tuesday 30th July
- **Baby room summer stay and play** - 20th August 4.30pm-5.15pm (pop in for a quick play at the end of the day - if it is your little ones usual day) 😊
- **Summer Bank holiday** - 26th August (closed)
- **School Leavers Party** (and last day) - 1.45-4.15pm (parents invited in between 3.30-4.15pm) - August 30th
- **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 all so much for your continued support,

Sophie, Jordyn and the Abacus 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