



May 2022

Dear Parents,

The children at Abacus have been super busy! Our Pre-school and Toddler room children have been growing vegetables and flowers, we are looking forward to trying the lettuce later this week! Thank you for all the donations of plants and seeds we have received! Our Forest School/Gardening activities are proving to be very popular at the moment, the children are really enjoying planting, seeing the tadpoles grow and getting in touch with nature! The children in our Baby and Toddler room have enjoyed lots of physical activities, they have loved the ball pit and climbing frame, some of them are climbing with lots of confidence now which is lovely to see 😊

Staff - the ladies all embraced the Saturday training we held recently, we learnt about the curiosity approach, practiced our phonics and discussed outstanding practice! Thank you ladies for giving up your Saturday 😊 Lisa and Charlene have also completed a training course on 'Positive Outcomes' which they really enjoyed, they will feedback to the team in our next staff meeting. We have lots of extra training booked over the coming months - our ladies will be busy!

Milly is back from Uni soon and will be joining us again on the supply team over the summer, we can't wait to have her back with us.

We also have Caithlin joining us as a practitioner on a temporary contract later this month, she has just finished her level 3 training and will be with us until the end of the summer! If you see a new face please introduce yourself 😊

Clare - sadly will be off on long term sickness, she will hopefully be back at the end of October. We hope she feels better soon and wish her all the best, she will be missed over the summer but we are pleased she is putting herself first and we look forward to her returning later in the year.

Telephoning nursery - if you are ringing nursery please be aware that between 11.45 - 1 we may not get to the phone in time due to sitting up for lunch (please leave a message if urgent or ring back). If at all possible, please avoid this time for ringing and we can then give you more of our time before or after lunch.

Facebook page - thank you to the parents who have reviewed and recommended us on our Facebook page, your kind words are very much appreciated. If you find you have a spare moment please do add a review as many new parents do use the page to find out about us so your comments are valuable to them.

Starting School - Our school leavers have now found out their new schools for September, they have all been very excited (and a little nervous which is quite normal). We will be making a display with them over the next few weeks and will pop it up in the porch, this should show schools that they will be attending. If you didn't get your first choice of school and you would like some advice please call the office, try to remain positive in front of your little one so that they do not pick up on your worries. We popped a help sheet onto Tapestry so if you haven't noticed it please take a look, we hope you find it useful. We will continue with pre-school sessions over the summer term to help the transition be as smooth as possible 😊

Sessions for September - some sessions are now full so if you are considering changing or adding extra sessions please get in touch soon or you could be disappointed. Even if you will be thinking about increasing later in the year (when funding starts) it would be a good idea to get in touch now as we have limited availability! When children are on early years funding (universal and extended) we ask that you only make changes at the start of a new term (for September, January and April) - thank you for your anticipated support with this.

All About Me - we will be uploading this to Tapestry shortly. The 'All About Me' will allow us to be continually updated on your child's interests and are proving to be really valuable to the staff team when planning for your child.

Front Porch - We do have one parent who needs to leave a buggy in the porch but could we ask everyone else to please not leave a buggy/car seat etc in the porch as this is the fire assembly point for our babies and causes a health and safety risk. The older children also go into the porch to get ready for gardening/forest school so again we do need this space to be clear. If they are left we will have to move them outside of the porch to the end of the drive, to keep our little ones safe.

Reminder - sun cream - please can you remember to apply before coming to nursery. We will reapply after lunch for those children attending all day. Please make sure your sun cream does not contain nuts as we have children here with nut allergies. We also have a staff member with a bad allergy to **Aloe vera**, we would ask that you check sunscreen ingredients thoroughly to check for both ingredients! Almond oil is sometimes listed as - **Prunus Amygdalus Dulcis Oil** 😊

Sunglasses - If you would like your child to wear these we recommend a strap to keep them secure. Please be aware that they are fragile and may break so please do not send in expensive sunglasses! They do also need to be named and have a protective case. Please can you also bring in a sun hat to stay at nursery for the summer months. Thank you if you have already done so.

Dates for your diary:-

Photographer visiting - Monday 6th June 2021 (am)

School leavers Party - Wednesday 31st We will be charging £11.60 for anyone who attends just the party, if it is your child's normal day this is included in your fees for the day, so no payment necessary.

Spring and Jubilee Bank Holiday closure - June 2nd & 3rd

Bank Holiday closure - Aug 29th

Christmas Closure - Dec 22nd - we open again on Jan 3rd

Thank you for your continued support,

Claire, Shel & the Team 😊

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](tel:08088005000)

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