



March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have had a wonderful month at Abacus! All of the children loved Shrove Tuesday, eating pancakes was great fun! Please take a look at our Facebook page and your child's Tapestry for regular updates and photos on various different things!

Staff - The team have all been busy completing online courses, and are either learning new things or refreshing their already existing knowledge.

We also have a new member of staff Gemma starting with us in April, she will be working in the downstairs team and is already looking forward to meeting you all.

Key person - Please remember that all staff care and nurture for all children on each floor and all staff are familiar with all children in the nursery due to how we run our days so if your child has a change in key person please do not worry. Apart from the parent chats and Tapestry updates you should not be aware of any change and of course the children are not even aware who their key person is so there will be no change to the high level of care they receive.

Concept Photography- We have our photographers returning again this year for the morning on Wednesday 17th June. If your child already attends nursery on a Wednesday morning, they will automatically have their photos taken. If your child is not in on a Wednesday morning and you would like them to have a photo, or would like them to have a photo with their sibling who doesn't attend Abacus, then please pop and email to the office and we will give you a time slot for this.

Non-Slip Socks- If your child is in the baby room, please can you ensure that they are wearing non-slip socks for when they are on the Lino flooring. Thank you.

Pupil Premium - If your child receives 15/30 hour funding you might be eligible to apply for Pupil Premium, please look at the link below. The forms only take a few minutes to complete and the nursery would be given the payments directly. Any money claimed through pupil premium would go directly to supporting your child's nursery experience and needs.

[Early Years pupil premium information for parents](#)

Tapestry – Please remember to save any photos/posts you like on Tapestry as your child's account closes when they leave. We would recommend saving things throughout their time with us rather than waiting until they leave as this could be a lengthy process!

New Menu/Food – Our Summer Menu, this will start on April 10th. Our menu is planned to meet all the nutritional needs of your little ones and it is delicious.

Just a little reminder that we are a nut free setting so if buying a birthday cake please ensure it contains no nuts, and that for babies/toddlers upstairs no chocolate!

Clothing for all weather! – With the weather warming up a little on some days please remember to pack suitable clothing, it's that tricky time of year where its warm one day and really cold the next! We appreciate your support with this.

Sickness – If contacted because your little one is poorly we ask that you collect them (or arrange for someone else to collect them) within 30 minutes. We have had several times recently where it has taken parents a lot longer to arrive, (an hour/ hour and a half) and although we understand that on occasions you might be slightly over the 30 minutes we do ask that you try to and adhere to this. We appreciate that some of you work away but we do ask that an emergency contact is also added to paperwork to help with this type of situation. Once a child is sick they isolate with a staff member until collected which impacts the rest of the nursery, and sometimes the longer a little one waits the more anxious/unwell they become. Can we also add that if your child needs regular Calpol to help them feel well enough for nursery then they should be at home resting. Thank you for your anticipated support.

Tax Free Childcare – Please follow the link to see if you are eligible for Tax Free Childcare. If you already have an account please make sure we have the reference, and if you are going to set one up, again please provide us with the reference number. [Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare)

Funding– Please can we remind you to reconfirm your funding eligibility codes every 3 months to continue to have eligibility for this funding. If your circumstances change and you are no longer eligible please make sure you let us know so that we can make the necessary changes to invoices/paperwork! If you forget to reconfirm and your funding runs out this could impact your invoice and full fees may need to be paid so please let us know.

Easter – We will be having our yearly Easter bonnet parades during the week prior to Easter from the Monday 30th March. Children can make their Easter bonnets at home (if they wish) and bring them in to wear. Please do not go to any expense – its more about the taking part and having fun! It is lovely to watch our children grow in confidence as they march around the nursery each day to music. If you need some help with making a hat please let us know but remember we do not expect amazing creations!

Invoices – Please remember to review your standing order for April fees as this is a new term and to check you are paying into the new Abacus bank account! You should receive your new invoice soon (hopefully next week). **Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.**

Fees - This year, due to rises in wages (minimum wage) and utility bills we are having to make a rise in line with inflation and the cost of living this year. This increase will help us to maintain our outstanding provision. Additional charges have stayed the same to help out. Please see below for Fees from April 1st 2025 -

Fees from April 1st:

<i>Full Fee Paying - NON FUNDED places</i>		
Session	Under 2 years	2 years +
Morning (8-1pm)	47.25	46.00
Afternoon (1-6pm)	42.55	41.35
Daily (8-6pm)	82.95	80.45
Full time	390.00	378.00
<i>Funded Places Fees</i>		
Additional Hours over Funded Hours	5.80	5.50
Lunch	5.05	5.05
Breakfast	3.60	3.60
Tea	3.60	3.60
AM / PM Additional	3.80	6.00
All DAY Additional	7.60	12.00

Hair Bands - Could we ask that you do not to use the tiny hair rubber bands (also known as mini elastics) at nursery as they can be a choking hazard for our younger children and babies. Children do quite often take their hair out/down during the day and then we find bands on the floor! Normal hairbands are fine as quite visual but the tiny elastics can get missed and are then dangerous. We would also ask that you try not to use bobbles with beads on as again if they break this can be a choking hazard. Thank You 😊

Events - Please check the dates below! We have several events coming up - World Book day, Red Nose Day, Easter Bonnet Parade, Parent Chats & Book Share! We wouldn't want you to miss anything 😊

Dates for the diary -

- **World Book Day**- Thursday 5th March 2026
- **Book Share for toddler & preschool room** - March 17th 2026
- **Red Nose Day** - Friday 20th March 2026
- **Easter Bonnet Parades** - W.C. Monday 30th March 2026
- **Easter Break** - 3rd - 6th April 2026 (CLOSED)
- **Parent Chats** Thursday 23rd April 2026 (6-7.30 pm, parents only please)
- **Pyjamarama** - May 2026 (Date to be confirmed)
- **May Bank Holidays** - 4th & 25th May (CLOSED)
- **Photographer** - 17th June (morning) If you wish to bring your child in or bring a sibling along (if not your normal day) then please email the office 😊
- **Summer book share toddler & preschool room** - July 22nd 4.30pm-5.15pm (if it is your little ones normal day please pop in for a play) 😊
- **Baby room summer stay and play** - 11th 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) 😊

- **School leavers Party/Graduation-** Friday 28th August
- **August Bank Holiday** - 31st August (CLOSED)
- **Christmas Church Service-** 16th December 2026 @ 6.15pm (Everyone welcome, including extended family)
- **Christmas 2026 closure:** Our last day will be Monday 21st December 2026, and we will re-open on Monday 4th January 2027

Thank you all so much for your continued support,

Sophie, Jordyn and the Abacus 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 this winter; <https://www.mindinsomerset.org.uk/> 01823 276892

Somerset Coronavirus Helpline: 0300 790 6275

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

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