



October 2025

Dear Parents,

The children have been enjoying many exciting Autumn activities, they have been painting, printing, loving lots of sensory experiences and will soon be embracing our Spider and Pumpkin week! 😊

Staffing news - Janice our new cook has started with us last month, she is already embracing the role and enjoying her role of cooking for the children.

Sophie has updated her paediatric 1st Aid training this month, and enjoyed refreshing her first aid skills.

Winter Menu - We will now be started our winter menu on Monday 6th October. You can view both our Summer (will be updated again next year) and Winter Menu's on our Abacus Website for any parents that wish to take a look.

Macmillan Coffee Morning- Our coffee morning was a HUGE success, and we have so far raised an amazing £310 for the charity. Staff, parents, children and extended family all enjoyed coming together to enjoy a slice of cake and a drink at nursery 😊

The donation box is in the porch, so if you wish to still donate we will leave it out until the end of the week.

Winter coats - Winter is nearly upon us so your child will need to come in a warm winter coat each day, even if you come by car (and they cannot wear in car seat) as we go outside every day, whatever the weather. If your child is going in a car seat when they leave we will not be putting their coats on as it is recommended that children do not wear big winter coats in car seats.

Further safety advice in car seats - It has been documented that the average child's puffy coat can add several inches of slack between your child and the harness straps (although this is not really noticeable until the seatbelt is put under pressure and compressed). In a collision, the coat could become compressed and could allow a child to be flung forward, or even ejected from the seat entirely. Also when the car gets warm, it is easy for your child/baby to overheat when wearing a thick coat.

Please also remember that the UK law dictates that a child must use a child car seat until they're 12-years-old or 135cm tall, whichever comes first.

Please can you also please provide a named winter hat and pair of gloves that can stay nursery for the winter months!

Applying for Schools- We have had a message from Somerset Council asking us to inform parents that you can now apply for you child school place, if they are starting school in September 2025. All information is on this link: [Apply to start school for the first time \(somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time)

Spider & Pumpkin Week- Week beginning Monday 27th October will be all about spiders and pumpkins - this is our take on 'Halloween' which we feel can be too scary for our age group. During this week children can dress up (in whatever they like) with staff dressing up too, we will learn all about spiders and pumpkins!

Children in Need- Week commencing 10th November! All children can wear spots if they wish and we will be fundraising all week - suggested donation £1 😊

Parent Chats - We are offering parent chats on November 11th between 6pm and 7.30pm! If you would like a quick catch up with your child's key person please choose a time slot and add your name to the form in the porch (form to go out soon) 😊 We appreciate for many of you that the regular Tapestry chats and end of day feedback will be enough but if you would like a more in depth conversation this is your opportunity.

Christmas Jumper Week- Save the Children's 'Christmas Jumper' week to take place w.c. the 8th December. We will be wearing Christmas jumpers for the whole week and suggest a donation of £1 to go towards Save the Children.

Christmas Parties- We will have Christmas parties on the last two afternoons before our Christmas closure, but if your child doesn't usually attend they will be invited to the Friday afternoon party (cost will be confirmed later). Watch this space for more information!

Christingle - This year our Christingle will be on Wednesday 10th December @ 6.15pm for 30/40 minutes at our local church (St Peter Church, Lyngford, Taunton)- we hope you can all make it! We feel this will be a lovely way to all get together and celebrate! Extended families are welcome 😊

Dates for the diary -

- **McMillan Coffee Morning** - Saturday 4th October 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 😊
- **Spider & Pumpkin Week** - W.C 27th October
- **Children in need** - Week commencing 10th November
- **Parent Chats** - Tuesday 11th 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** - Monday 17th November 4.30-5.15pm
- **Christmas Jumper Week** - w.c. 8th December
- **Christmas Church Service**- 10th December 2025 @ 6.15pm (Everyone welcome, including extended family)
- **Christmas party dates**- 19th & 22nd December- More info to follow!
- **Christmas 2025 closure**: Our last day will be Monday 22nd December 2025, and we will re-open on Monday 5th January 2026
- **Baby room stay and play** - February 2026 (Date to be confirmed)
- **World Book day** - Thursday 5th March 2026
- **Red Nose Day** - Friday 20th March 2026
- **Book Share for toddler & preschool room** - March 2026 (Date to be confirmed)
- **Pyjamarama** - May 2026 (Date to be confirmed)
- **Easter Break** - 3rd to 6th April (CLOSED)
- **May Bank Holidays** - 4th & 25th May (CLOSED)
- **School leavers Party/Graduation** - Friday 28th August
- **August Bank Holiday** - 31st August (CLOSED)

Please remember if you ever need a chat let us know!

Kind regards,

Sophie, Jordyn and the team 😊

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

Our contact details: abacuschildrensnursery@outlook.com

01823 288681