



May 2026

Dear Parents/carers,

This month the children at Abacus have been enjoying planting different fruits and vegetables in the front garden.

We have also been enjoying some of the lovely sunshine we have been having, and have enjoyed splashing in water play and showing everyone their new sunhats.

Forest school is still proving to be very popular and the residents are still enjoying watching and joining in with the activities. The residents will also be joining us at nursery for a few sessions of music bugs in the summer months, which will be really lovely 😊

**Drop off/Pick up-** Please ensure that you are dropping off and collecting your child at the designated time.

If your child starts at 8am, then we will open the door at 8am, but ensure you join the queue and we will get to you as soon as possible. If your child starts at 1pm, then we will open the door at 1pm, after all of the AM children have gone home.

If your child finishes at 1pm, they need to be gone by 1pm (not after) and if they finish at 6pm, they need to be gone by 6pm (not after).

Bare in mind that there is often a queue on pick up (at 1pm & 6pm), so please ensure you allow enough time to get here and wait without it getting to 1pm or 6pm as otherwise you will be issued with a £15 late fee for every 15 minutes.

**Parking-** Please make sure that you are parking considerately when you are using the driveway. Staff park at the top of the drive and are finding that they are not able to get on the drive to park when they arrive in the morning as parents are already parked right in the middle of the driveway! Please also park considerately to allow other parents to get on and off the driveway safely, and so as many parents as possible can use the driveway for dropping off their children.

Please also do not park on the path outside of the nursery as this blocks the neighbor's driveway when they are parking and we have had complaints from them about this in the past.

**Staff news** - Kira has updated her first aid, so is refreshed in everything she needs to know. Gemma & Ruby has both started with us now and are doing amazingly well, we are so happy they have joined us at Abacus.

Anais will be returning to our bank staff team, she has missed us all so much that she wants to come and work with us all and see all of the children whenever she can- we can't wait to have her back! 😊

### **Spring Activities to try at home -**

**Twig hunt** - when you are out and about at the weekend, can your little one find any fallen twigs or sticks? Who can find the largest, shortest, thickest, spikiest, roughest, tickliest or smoothest? If you are somewhere where there are lots of trees around you, why not lie on the ground and see how many sticks it takes to make a circle/square around you (tip for the grown-ups - this is a very good way for you take a lie down and be still, or vice-versa). Have a fun time!

**Freezing Nature** - on your next walk help your little one to collect leaves, seeds, flowers, pebbles or anything that catches their eye. Then, when you get home, put all the 'nature treasure' on a tray to explore and talk about it. Next, fill a container with water, place the items in the water and freeze! Once it's frozen, bring the block back out and talk about what has happened. Then, as the ice begins to melt, talk about what's happening. Why not add spoons or a little more water? How does the ice feel - cold, wet, slippery?

**Shadow Tracing** - when the sun shines, why not do some shadow tracing around the shadows of your little one's favourite toys? It's a great way to develop their hand-eye coordination, fine motor control and learn a little science too! All you need are interesting objects, chalks or felt tip pens and paper. Make sure the chosen toys are lined up in the sun (plastic dinosaurs/animals are great!) and casting a shadow onto the paper and there you have it, just simply draw around the shadows!

If you try any of the activities we would love to see your photos on Tapestry 😊

**Telephoning nursery** - if you are ringing nursery please be aware that between 11.30 - 12.45 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.

**Mental Health Awareness Week** - 12<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May! Staff will be wearing green on Monday 11th May to support this event and we will be providing them with extra wellbeing support and treats. We will also do extra Yoga and mindful activities with the children 😊

**Warmer weather** - As the weather has started to warm up a little please remember sun hats and we ask that children do not wear strappy tops (so that shoulders are covered). If you wish for your child to wear sunglasses they would need to have the strap to secure them, however we do have plenty of shade in the garden so they shouldn't be needed (we cannot guarantee that if taken off they will remain safe). Shoes should have backs on them (not flip flops) as the children love to ride the bikes etc and flip flops do seem to cause accidents.  
**If your child gets sent home in Nursery clothes please ensure you return them ASAP.**

**Reminder - sun cream** - please can you remember to apply before coming to nursery (there will be a bottle in the porch for you to use if you do accidentally forget to apply at home). 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 - Thank you

**Fees** - Could we ask all parents to check their standing orders and ensure they are paying full fees in advance. This month a lots of payments were either very late or wrong amounts (over/under paid). Please remember that our policy states - a £15 charge will be levied for

each week this is not addressed. So please make sure your amounts/dates of standing order etc are correct. As per our policy fees are due in advance for the month. We appreciate your support with this - it is very time consuming and not pleasant having to chase fees. If you are having problems with paying fees it is always best to get in touch promptly so we can try to help. Name: Abacus, Bank: HSBC, Sort code: 40-14-13, Account number: 64038525

**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 have made a display with them which is on the swing board 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 will continue with pre-school sessions over the summer term to help the transition be as smooth as possible, and we will soon be inviting teachers in to visit!

**Tapestry**- If you haven't been saving your child's Tapestry photos and posts please make sure you do this by September 1<sup>st</sup>, this is when your/their account will close! Tapestry are now offering a 'Printed journal' to parents. If you wish to purchase one, please follow the link: [Printed Journals | Tapestry UK](#)

**Sessions for September** - most sessions are now full so if you are considering changing or adding extra sessions please get in touch soon or you will be disappointed. Even if you will be thinking about increasing later in the year, it would be a good idea to get in touch now as we have limited availability until Sept 2027!

**Funding** - For children already receiving funding (2 year or 3/4year 15/30 hour) please remember to ensure that you reconfirm your funding with County, if you forget this may impact the funding you are entitled to.

When children are on early years funding please remember that you can only make changes to their sessions/days at the start of a new term (with a minimum months notice for September, January and April) - thank you for your anticipated support with this.

**Healthy Start** (Get help to buy food and milk) - If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk! To find out more please follow the link - [Get help to buy food and milk \(Healthy Start\)](#)

**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 really valuable to the staff team when planning for your child. If you haven't completed one before and would like a bit more information please let us know - we are happy to help!

**Dates for the diary** -

- **May Bank Holidays** - 4<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> May (CLOSED)
- **Wear it Green Day for Mental Health** - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May
- **Pyjamarama** - 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026

- **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 😊
- **Festival Week!** - 22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026 (Staff and children can wear 'festival' clothing for the whole week 😊)
- **Summer book share toddler & preschool room** - July 22<sup>nd</sup> 4.30pm-5.15pm (if it is your little ones normal day please pop in for a play) 😊
- **Baby room summer stay and play** - 11<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> August
- **August Bank Holiday** - 31<sup>st</sup> August (CLOSED)
- **Christmas Church Service-** 16<sup>th</sup> December 2026 @ 6.15pm (Everyone welcome, including extended family)
- **Christmas 2026 closure:** Our last day will be Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2026, and we will re-open on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2027

Thank you for your continued support,  
Sophie, Jordyn & the Team 😊

**School leavers party** - 28th 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 in the garden and ice creams (from an ice cream van), we would like to invite parents to pop in during this time (3.30-4.15) 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 😊

The ice cream van will be parked on the drive, we will purchase a lolly or ice cream for all of the children but parents please bring your pennies if you think you would like one!

If it is not your child's normal day, and they are a school leaver, 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 **£15.50** 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 too busy in the garden!

**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 😊

If you haven't been saving your Tapestry photos and posts please make sure you do this by September 1<sup>st</sup>, this is when your account will close!

Our contact details; [abacuschildrensnursery@outlook.com](mailto: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](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/)

National Domestic Abuse Helpline: [0808 2000 247](https://www.ndah.org.uk/)

OFSTED: 0300 1231231

Preventing Radicalisation & extremism in Somerset: [prevent@somerset.gov.uk](mailto: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