

Newsletter

January 2025

Happy New Year to you all! We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas break.

Throughout December, the children participated in many Christmas themed activities and I'm sure you will agree that they did extremely well in their concerts. Thank you to everyone who came along to watch these and joined in with the festivities.

Here are some of the highlights from each room:

Baby Room

For some of the children in the baby room, this was their first Christmas and we had so much fun decorating the tree and making Christmas crafts and ornaments. We made a tree of hand prints to decorate our room and Christmas cards for our families. The children joined in with their first Christmas concert and met Santa Claus.

Toddler Room

The children in the toddler room embraced the festive activities with joy and excitement. Decorating the tree as a group was a special day and we sang and danced our way through the month as we practiced for our concert. Meeting Santa in his grotto was a real highlight. The children made plenty of Christmas crafts and even helped to make the scenery for the concert.

Pre-School

We turned the pre-school in a Santa's workshop and had lots of fun wrapping presents to put under the tree. We wrote our letters to Santa and then, amazingly, he came to visit us! We got to sit and have a chat with him and then enjoyed a festive lunch afterwards.

We learned some new songs for Christmas and made star decorations out of lolly sticks.

Looking Forward: Our topic for January is Amazing Animals. We will also celebrate Chinese New Year.

Staffing updates

We are pleased to let you know that Christina is returning to her role of lead practitioner in the baby room. Christina has years of experience in this role and has some exciting ideas for activities to support the development of our youngest children. I'm sure you will join us in congratulating and welcoming her back to this position.

We have also appointed a new trainee for the pre-school room. Sadie will be joining us on Monday to Thursday each week and is hoping to gain her level three qualification in early years.

Winter clothing

Please provide a warm coat, gloves and a hat for your child to wear for outside play. We do go out in all weather and it is particularly cold at the moment. Items should be labelled with your child's name please as it is difficult to remember who each item belongs to when we are hanging everything up after playing outside.

To make it easier, you might want to consider getting some stick on labels made so that you can name everything quickly and easily.

Labels from 'Stikins' can go in the washing machine and dishwasher (So you can use them on clothes, water bottles, lunch boxes etc) [Name Labels](#) | [Clothes Name Labels For School](#) | [Name Tags](#) | [Stikins](#)
® I have tried and tested these, they're great.

New menus

We have made some adaptations to the menu and included some new dishes such as butter chicken, couscous, wraps and fishcakes. The menu is on a four-week rotation until April and we will always endeavour to let you know if we have to make changes to the lunch or tea for any reason. Menus can be found at the end of this newsletter and allergen charts are available on request.

If you have any tried and tested recipes that you would like to recommend for our next menu update, please let us know.

Food hygiene rating

As many of you will know from the day of the pre-school concert, we had a food hygiene inspection just before Christmas. These inspections are done via an unannounced visit. A thorough inspection was carried out and we are pleased to say that we have maintained our food hygiene rating of 5 out of 5. Details of the inspection have not yet been published on the Food Standards agency website but we expect this to be updated soon and will be found here: [Rubadubs | Rating Business Details | Food Hygiene Ratings](#)

Profile updates

We would be grateful if you can all take some time to update your child's 'about me' page on their Tapestry profile. We get notified when you update and do read these. It is helpful if this information is kept up to date, particularly with regards to the health and development section.

2025 INSET Days

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Google form regarding the Summer INSET day date change. Two thirds of you indicated that you would be happy for us to change the date to the 1st September, so we have done so. Hopefully this will be more manageable for those of you who have older children in school.

Therefore, the revised list of dates is shown below.

Friday 21st February – Maths and Literacy training

Thursday 17th April – First Aid training

Monday 1st September – Team building day

TBC – One further training day towards the end of the year

Fundraising update

Thank you for your support with our Christmas jumper day and giving tree fundraising events.

We raised £88 for Save the Children through our Christmas jumper day.

We don't get told the total number of toys donated via the giving tree but many of you took tags away to scan and the charity have asked us to thank you for your donations.

2025 Dates for your diary

- Friday 21st February – Maths and Literacy training, nursery closed.
- Thursday 17th April – First Aid training, nursery closed.
- Friday 18th April – Good Friday, nursery closed.
- Monday 21st April – Easter Monday, nursery closed.
- Monday 5th May – May bank holiday, nursery closed.
- Monday 26th May – Spring bank holiday, nursery closed.
- Monday 25th August – Summer bank holiday, nursery closed.
- Monday 1st September – Team building day, nursery closed.
- Wednesday 24th December – Early closure for Christmas
- Thursday 25th December to Thursday 1st January 2026 (inclusive) – Christmas closure.

Menus

January – April 2025
Week commencing 6th January is week one

Week 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water
Lunch Cheesy broccoli pasta with salad Rice pudding Fresh fruit	Lunch Cottage pie with broccoli and carrots Selection of fresh fruit	Lunch Butter chicken with rice, carrots and cabbage Seasonal poached fruit and custard Fresh fruit	Lunch Beef casserole with boiled potato, carrots and broccoli Selection of fresh fruit	Lunch Jacket Potato with cheese and baked beans Semolina pudding Fresh fruit
Tea Seasonal vegetable soup with buttered crackers Fresh fruit	Tea Cheesy pita with cucumber sticks Fresh Fruit	Tea Leek and potato soup with bread and butter Fresh fruit	Tea Butternut squash and sweet potato risotto Fresh fruit	Tea Pasta in tomato and basil sauce Fresh fruit

Week 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water
Lunch Tuna pasta bake with salad Semolina pudding Fresh fruit	Lunch Minced beef with couscous, peas and carrots Selection of fresh fruit	Lunch Chicken casserole with rice, carrots and cabbage Seasonal poached fruit and custard Fresh fruit	Lunch Spaghetti bolognese with salad Selection of fresh fruit	Lunch Fish cakes with spaghetti, bread and butter Selection of Fresh fruit
Tea Vegetable risotto Fresh fruit	Tea Baked beans on toast Fresh Fruit	Tea Selection of sandwiches Fresh fruit	Tea Seasonal vegetable soup with buttered crackers Fresh fruit	Tea Rice pudding Fresh fruit

Week 3

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	Breakfast Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water
Lunch Macaroni cheese with salad Poached fruit and custard	Lunch Chicken curry with rice, broccoli and carrots Selection of Fresh Fruit	Lunch Vegetarian sausages with creamed potatoes, gravy and mixed vegetables Selection of Fresh Fruit	Lunch Hidden vegetable pasta with salad Banana and custard	Lunch Fish fingers with potato wedges, peas and sweetcorn Semolina pudding Selection of fruit
Tea Leek and potato soup with bread sticks Fresh fruit	Tea Cream cheese wraps with cherry tomatoes Fresh fruit	Tea Rice pudding Fresh fruit	Tea Butternut squash and sweet potato soup with buttered crackers Fresh fruit	Tea Beans on toast Fresh fruit

Week 4

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>Breakfast</u> Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	<u>Breakfast</u> Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	<u>Breakfast</u> Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	<u>Breakfast</u> Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water	<u>Breakfast</u> Porridge or Cereal Toast Milk/Water
<u>Lunch</u> Creamy broccoli pasta with salad. Selection of fresh fruit	<u>Lunch</u> Beef hot pot with rice, carrots and broccoli Banana and custard Fresh fruit	<u>Lunch</u> Tuna pasta bake with salad Semolina pudding Fresh fruit	<u>Lunch</u> Beef casserole with rice, carrots and cabbage Selection of fresh fruit	<u>Lunch</u> Fish Pie with mixed vegetables Rice pudding Fresh fruit
<u>Tea</u> Mix vegetable couscous Fresh fruit	<u>Tea</u> Selection of sandwiches Fresh fruits	<u>Tea</u> Butternut squash and sweet potato risotto	<u>Tea</u> Veggie nuggets and beans Fresh fruit	<u>Tea</u> Sweet potato and carrot soup with bread and butter Fresh Fruit