

ILCHESTER EARLY YEARS NEWSLETTER

7th November 2025



“Children need the freedom and time to play. Play is not a luxury. Play is a necessity”.

-Kay Redfield Jamison

Tiggywinkles



This week, the Tiggywinkles have loved heading out on their park trips, spotting autumn leaves and talking about the changes in nature. Back in Pre-School, they enjoyed activities such as building dens in the garden, creating a bonfire, firework pictures, and painting pumpkins – all while practising their fine motor skills and exploring colour and texture. Their sound focus games have helped everyone tune in to the different sounds they hear each day, while The Gruffalo rhyming sessions brought lots of giggles and storytelling fun. The week finished with ribbon dancing and building obstacle courses, where the children worked together beautifully, showing teamwork, confidence, and growing independence.

Nutkins

This week, the week the Nutkins' learning has been filled with creativity, curiosity, and plenty of outdoor fun. The children loved going on park trips, spotting signs of autumn, and collecting natural treasures to use in their play. They have been busy building bonfires and eating s'mores, building fire engines, and even bus stations - showing great teamwork and imagination. The children have also been developing their fine motor skills through dough disco and creating beautiful firework art using paint, salt, and coloured paper. Their sound focus games have helped them explore the different sounds they hear around them, while rhyming bingo and story time encouraged lots of listening and laughter. The week ended with acorn domino matching and fire-themed creative activities – a perfect way to celebrate all their wonderful learning and growing confidence.

Puddleducks

This week the Puddleducks have enjoyed diving into their new topic all about doctors, nurses, and the people who help them. The children have loved exploring their role play doctor's surgery, taking turns to be doctors, nurses, and patients while using stethoscopes, bandages, and first aid kits. Their imagination and teamwork have shone through as they cared for their “patients” and learned how doctors help us feel better. In our creative area, the children had lots of fun making syringe paintings and colourful firework pictures using

pom poms and pipe cleaners, while developing their fine motor skills. They have also been practising their counting and matching skills through playful maths activities like rolling dice, counting tablets, and sorting medical tools. Their sound focus games have continued this week, helping everyone to listen carefully and explore new sounds. It's been a wonderful start to the new half term, full of curiosity, creativity, and caring for others.

School Applications

A reminder that school applications are now open for children due to start school in September 2026. Applications opened on the 29th of September and will close on the 15th of January. Please make sure to submit your application before the deadline.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/applying-for-school/apply-to-start-school-for-the-first-time/>



Hello Cold Weather!

This is a friendly reminder that we are now in Autumn meaning the colder months are quickly approaching! Please could you provide your child with suitable clothing, such as warm winter coats and wellies. We also ask that these come labelled with your child's name. It may be a good idea to bring a waterproof suit so your children can continue exploring the great outdoors without adding more laundry!



Reception 2026 Open Morning

We warmly welcome parents of the 2026 Reception class to visit the school and meet Mrs Katie Boon, our EYFS Lead, on Tuesday 11th November. Please contact the school office to book your visit.



www.ilchestercommunityprimary.com
