



## Did you know?

### Children are the first scientists.

Play gives children many opportunities to think and solve problems. Children can learn by playing with pots and pans, cups and spoons, and other clean and safe household items. They learn by banging, dropping and putting things in and taking things out of containers. Children learn by stacking things up and watching things fall and testing the sounds of different objects by hitting them together. Play is like children's "work".

## Tiggywinkles

This week, the Tiggywinkles have enjoyed a fun mix of activities that encouraged creativity, problem solving and lots of movement. The children explored patterns, shapes and numbers through jumping trails, movement games, and sorting activities - developing their confidence with early maths in playful ways. Fine-motor skills were strengthened with dough disco sessions, threading cards, and tweezer treasure hunts, which kept everyone focused and eager to take part. Creative opportunities were a big highlight of the week, with large painting, drag mark making, and action art giving the children the freedom to explore colour and texture on a bigger scale. Our daily sound games also helped to build listening and communication skills through fun, interactive routines. Overall, it has been a bright, energetic week full of exploration, imagination, and joyful learning for our Tiggywinkles.



## Nutkins

This week, the Nutkins have enjoyed exploring lots of hands on activities linked to their shopkeeper theme. The children loved creating their own little shops, arranging items, taking turns as shopkeepers, and pretending to buy and sell, a lovely way to build early language, social skills, and confidence. They also experimented with floating and sinking, filling and pouring using jugs and pipettes, and matching and connecting puzzles, helping to build early problem-solving and fine motor skills. Threading beads, whiteboard mark making, and drag drawing added even more opportunities for careful hand movements and creative expression.

A highlight of the week was our visit to the local shop, where the children were excited to spot real items they recognised. We ended the week with musical instrument making using tubes, balloons, and rice. Lots of sound, rhythm, and giggles!

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## Puddleducks

This week, the Puddleducks have been busy learning all about firefighters and how they help our community. The children enjoyed counting flames, matching fire buckets and building tall structures to put out pretend fires. These activities were great for early maths and problem solving in action. They practised mark making with red and yellow crayons, created fire engines and helmets and loved using orange playdough and paint to make fiery patterns. Our sound game with sirens added lots of excitement, and the children showed great confidence during role play, dressing up as firefighters and calling 999 in pretend emergencies. Water play at the end of the week was a big hit, as the children worked together to put out fires, developing teamwork and early physical skills. We also continued supporting independence with coat finding and putting on. There were lots of proud faces all round! It's been an energetic week full of imagination and learning through play!

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## School Applications

A reminder that school applications are now open for children due to start school in September 2026. Applications opened on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September and will close on the 15<sup>th</sup> 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/>

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## 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!



## Nativity Reminder

Tiggywinkle and Nutkin children will have brought home a letter discussing the infant production of 'Ned's Christmas Discovery'. This will have stated what part your child will be playing and what they will need. Please ensure costumes have been brought into Pre-School by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December at the latest.



