



Happy New Year!

Tiggywinkles

It has been lovely welcoming the children back for their first week of the new year, settling gently into Pre-School routines and reconnecting with familiar faces. This week, their learning has been full of hands-on, playful experiences designed to help everyone feel confident and secure. The children have enjoyed exploring play dough, gloop and paint, strengthening fine motor skills through cutting, sticking, peg boards and drawing, and taking part in lots of movement through yoga and dance. Small world and imaginative play have focused on winter themes, with animals, ice trays, castles and train sets inspiring rich conversations and storytelling. Stories, puppets, nursery rhymes and songs have been shared each day to support communication and language development, while maths has been naturally embedded through colour matching, patterns and simple counting games. Outdoor play has been enjoyed daily, giving the children plenty of opportunities to explore, move and build confidence after the holiday break. It has been a calm and positive start to the term, setting a happy foundation for the weeks ahead.



Nutkins

It has been an exciting and energetic start to the term for the children in Nutkins, who have returned ready for new adventures and challenges. This week's learning has centred around action and adventure, with lots of opportunities for movement, exploration and imaginative play. The children have enjoyed comparing objects, singing familiar songs, following instructions and taking part in games that encourage listening, language and teamwork. Creative experiences such as colour mixing, painting, printing and mark making have supported self expression, while fine motor activities including cutting, threading and play

doh have helped to build strength and control. Small world and sensory play have sparked curiosity, with cars, trains, animals, ice and different textures encouraging the children to explore and investigate. Outdoors, the children have been especially excited to explore the new mud kitchen area in the garden, where they have been mixing, pouring, scooping and creating together, developing both social skills and imaginative thinking. Daily outdoor play and movement activities have supported physical development and confidence, making it a positive and engaging first week back.

Puddleducks

It has been a week of change and new beginnings in Puddleducks as the children have settled back after the break. They have been busy welcoming new children to the room, helping them feel safe and secure as they explore their new surroundings, while also proudly waving off friends who have moved up to Nutkins. Through calm, familiar routines and plenty of reassurance, the children have been supported to build confidence and a sense of belonging. This week's activities have focused on self-care, independence and exploration, with opportunities to practise everyday skills such as washing hands, brushing teeth and putting on coats. Sensory play, music, movement and creative experiences have encouraged curiosity and enjoyment, while small world play, puzzles and construction have supported problem-solving and early communication. The children have also enjoyed lots of singing, dancing and free play, helping to strengthen relationships and support emotional wellbeing during this period of transition. It has been a warm and positive start to the term, with the children showing growing confidence as they settle into their routines.

Deadline for School Applications

The deadline for school applications for September 2026 is the **15th of January**. Please ensure applications are submitted before this date.

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



Cold and Rainy Weather

Please can children arrive at Pre-School with suitable winter clothing to enable them to still partake in all our fun outdoor activities and opportunities. A warm winter coat, wellies, hat and gloves would be perfect.



