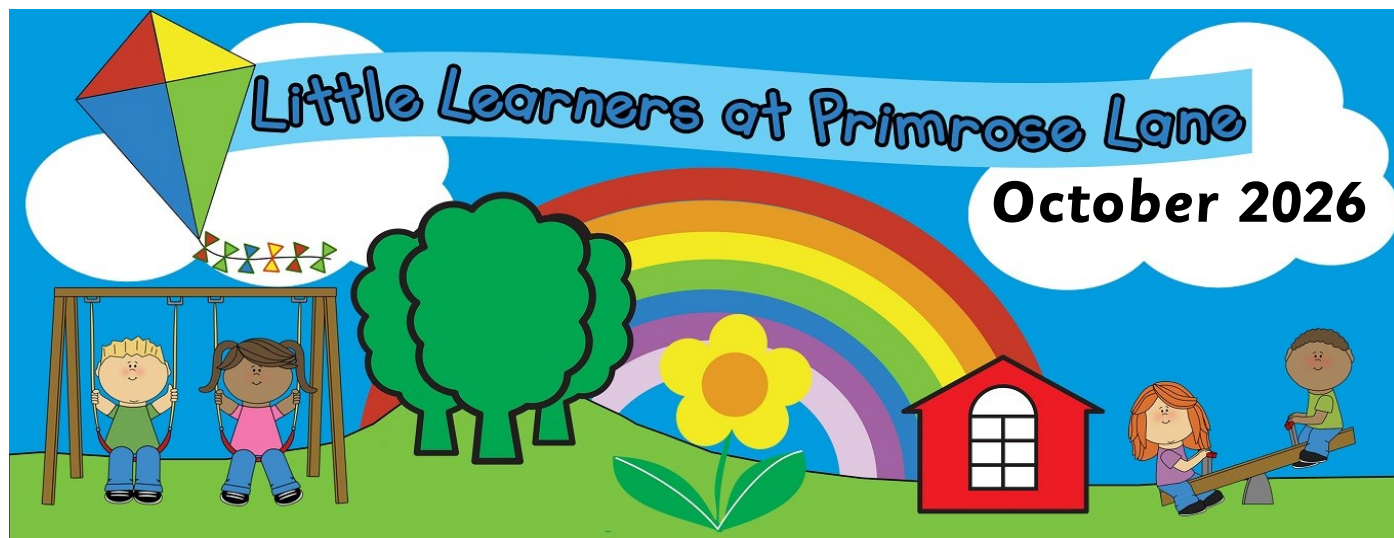




Little Learners at Primrose Lane

October 2026

Welcome to our first Newsletter of the year. What a busy half term we have had - I have been looking through the photographs and we have done so many exciting things.

We started with getting to know to the children and had lots of different toys out. The children settled in really well and were soon knowing the routines of the day. We measured all the children and we will measure again at the end of the year to see how much they have grown.

We have enjoyed the outside area whilst the sun has been shining and explored the toys and equipment that we have on offer.

We talked and did lots of activities around the Family. We made a lovely display with our family leaves. We drew, painted, did sticking, and used playdough to make our families.

Some children went to the harvest festival assembly with the whole school - they were very good and enjoyed the singing and clapping.

We then talked about Autumn and looked at the falling of the leaves and the weather. We carved some pumpkins and talked a little bit about Halloween.

Have a lovely Half term break.

Regards

Mrs Reed



Topics

We have a loose topic based curriculum that we follow each term. This half term the topics have been: All about me and Autumn.

Maths activities—We are looking at counting and reciting numbers to and past five, sizing, positional language, counting and matching objects, knowing the total, fast recognition of up to three and using more and fewer.

Letters and Sounds activities are taking place daily for all children starting school next year. This term the topic is environmental and voice sounds and listening.

Next half-term our topics will be Diwali, “Owl Babies”, Science and Christmas.



Important Dates

Half term 24th October—1st November

November—

Inset day 2nd November (Little Learners Closed)

3rd November—Little Learners return

11th November—Remembrance Day in School

17th November—Individual & Sibling School photos (ONLY for those children usually in on this day)

17th—20th November - Scholastic Book Fair

20th November—Mufti day for Hamper food donations

27th November—Mufti day for Hamper food Donations

December—

4th December—Mufti day for gift donations

9th December—School Christmas Lunch and Christmas jumper day

Christmas holiday 19th December— 3rd January

January—

4th January—Little Learners return

15th January—Primary School application deadline



Starting School in September 2027

For Children due to start school for the first time in September 2027, applications opened on 28th September 2026 and the deadline for applications is

15th January 2027.

You can apply by visiting

www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions

or by contacting

Somerset Direct on

0300 123 2224 if a paper application is required.



Warm clothing



The preschool children spend a lot of time learning in the outside environment. Please could



you ensure your child attends preschool with appropriate clothing for the weather conditions.

Named wellies that can be kept at preschool would also be very helpful.



Drinking Water The school policy is that children have water in their water bottles. Please could you support us to promote healthy lifestyles by ensuring your child is bringing water in their bottles to pre-school.



Please could we remind you that, due to allergies, Primrose Lane is a NUT FREE SCHOOL.

This includes products like Nutella and Pesto and cakes like Battenburg, Bakewells and some chocolates.

Please ensure that you do not send any items including nuts in your child's lunchbox.

Staff News We are saying goodbye to Miss Sansom and wish her well in her new adventure.

Mrs Bond is covering some of her hours. Key children will be swapped around a bit and you will be notified if this affects your child.

Labelling of Clothes etc.

Please remember to name all your child's belongings they bring to preschool: bottles, lunch boxes, clothes and coats.

Also be aware that currently the children are learning to be independent and collect their



personal items at home time. The children come with; water bottles, lunchboxes, coats, jumpers, medication and some personal items. This is a lot to gather together and on occasion we do miss things. We ask that you support us by helping your child to recognise and gather some of their personal items at home ready for their session at Little Learners.



PE At the start of every morning and afternoon, all Little Learners children join in with a “wake and shake” session.

The children who will start school next year have PE on Monday and Wednesday mornings.

For these children, please could you send in a named PE kit consisting of t-shirt and shorts.



Parent Evenings & Learning Stories

Each term your child's keyperson will send home your Child's Learning Story to show what your child has been busy learning and having fun with at Little learners.

Parent's evenings will take place during the week beginning 9th November. There is a sign-up sheet available on the gate for you to book a time to see your child's keyworker.

Scholastic Book Fair

Just in time for Christmas, we will be holding a pop-up book fair in the school from Tuesday 17th—Friday 20th November. The book fair will be open from 3.30—4.30pm. If you wish to purchase any books you can come with or without your child. Payment can be made using a QR code or by cash.





COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR

and earn
FREE BOOKS
for our school!



Illustrations © Jamie Gregory 2020

Christmas Hampers

Each year we invite parents to make donations towards a Christmas Food Hamper, which we then raffle.



We are inviting the children to bring in hamper food donations on **Friday 20th November** and **Friday 27th November** (the rest of the school are having non-uniform days on these dates).

Donations can include non perishable food items (crisps, chocolates, tins, bottles etc).

We will send home Hamper Square sheets on 1st December. The children can then sell squares for 20p each, which are then entered into a draw to win a fantastic hamper full of goodies for Christmas.

There will be a winner for each class (including Little Learners).

Please return any sheets by **Monday 14th December** with money in a sealed envelope.

The draw will take place on **Wednesday 16th December**.

Extra Hamper Square sheets will be available from the office.



Reporting Absence

If your child will be absent from Little Learners for illness or any other reason, please ensure that you contact the school office to report this by **9am (or 12.30pm for afternoon only attendance) on each day of absence**.



Please either telephone the office on 01935 475693 or email: office@plps.yacat.org

For longer term-time holidays, or to give notice of planned absences, please email the office in advance to advise the dates and reason of absence.

School Meals

If you want to book a hot meal for your child, you can do this through My Child at School (MCAS). The charge for Little Learners is £2.25 per meal.



Please remember to book your meals by the Tuesday for the following week via MCAS. Unfortunately, if you miss the cut off you will need to provide a packed lunch for your child for the following week.



Christmas Gifts

The main school will be holding another non-uniform day on 4th



December and asking for donations of small gifts like candles, toiletries etc. for our Christmas Gift event.

For a small donation of £2, children can then choose a small gift for a parent which they will wrap whilst at school and bring home with them. Although this is mostly aimed at the school-age



children, Little Learners are welcome to join in with this too if they would like and we would welcome donations whether you want your child to "buy" a gift or not!

Free School Meals

Did you know that if you receive Universal Credit or a few other benefits, your child may be eligible for Free School Meals?

You can check the criteria and apply via the Somerset Council website here:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/school-life/free-school-meals/>

If you are eligible, your child may be able to have a free school meal at lunchtime on any days they are at Little Learners for the full day or morning session. Contact Mrs Neville if you apply and are eligible.

Breakfast at Little Learners

If your child is booked in for Breakfast at Little Learners, please note that **we only offer breakfast until 8.30am so they must arrive before this time.**

Breakfast is charged at £1 per day and is booked and invoiced half-termly in advance via Mrs Neville.



School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day Wednesday 9th December



If your child is at Little Learners on Wednesday mornings and you want them to have the school Christmas Dinner with their classmates, please book and pay for this via MCAS as soon as possible. The cost of this meal will be £3.35.



The final deadline for booking is Tuesday 1st December.

Your child can also wear a Christmas Jumper to preschool on this day if they would like!



Important Health Information This time of year there are often many cases of respiratory illnesses in children. Parents are encouraged to look out for symptoms of severe respiratory infection in at-risk children, including a high temperature of 37.8°C or above (fever), a dry and persistent cough, difficulty feeding, rapid or noisy breathing (wheezing).

For most children, these illnesses will not be serious, and they will soon recover following rest and plenty of fluids, but parents should contact their GP or call NHS 111 if:

- Their child struggles to breathe
- Their child has taken less than half their usual amount during the last 2 or 3 feeds, or they have had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more
- The child has a persistent high temperature of 37.8°C or above.

Find out more about the symptoms and what to do at :

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/bronchiolitis/causes>



Administering Medication at Preschool We would like to clarify our legal requirement for administering medication. The Early Years Foundation Stage states that:

3.47. Medicine (both prescription and non-prescription) must only be administered to a child where written permission for that particular medicine has been obtained from the child's parent and/or carer. Providers must keep a written record each time a medicine is administered to a child, and inform the child's parents and/or carers on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

At this time of year there are lots of coughs and colds around. However, if your child is poorly enough to need Calpol re-administered during the day, we feel they are not well enough to attend Little Learners.

It is also our duty to take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.

If your child requires any medication to be administered whilst at preschool (including eczema creams or asthma inhalers), please speak to a member of staff and ensure that you complete the relevant form (giving full details and permission) before leaving your child and their medication at Little Learners. This will help us ensure that we can give the appropriate care to your children and keep everyone safe.



Half Term Home Learning

When out walking during half term, please point out signs of Autumn to your child. Use this Autumn Scavenger hunt to tick the signs of Autumn that you see.



Feel free to copy and share this for personal and educational use -
and don't forget there are loads more brilliant activities to download on our website!

f Search for 'nature detectives' |  #NatureDetectives

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 Forestry Commission

WOODLAND
TRUST

