



SUMMER 2 – 2026

NEWSLETTER

A place to learn, achieve and grow

Dates for your diary

JULY

17th - Leavers' Graduation Party in the Park
WC 20th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (6 weeks)

SEPTEMBER

1st (Tuesday) - TRAINING DAY
2nd (Weds) - TRAINING DAY
3rd (Thurs) - Home visits for new starters / 'Stay and play' with parents for all children 1-3pm
4th (Fri) - 'Stay and play' with parents for all children 9-11am / Home visits for new starters
7th - Normal provision resumes—Back to nursery (autumn 1)
From 8th - New starters (see individual for start date and times)

OCTOBER

23rd - Break up for half term
26th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (1 week)

NOVEMBER

2nd - Back to nursery

DECEMBER

18th - Break up for Christmas holidays
21st - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (2 weeks)

JANUARY

4th - Back to nursery (spring 1)

FEBRUARY

12th—break up for half term holiday
15th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (1 week)

MARCH

3rd - TRAINING DAY (closed to all children)
25th - Break up for Easter holiday
26th - Bank holiday

Head Teacher's message



Dear Parents and Carers,

Well we have come to the end of another wonderful nursery year at Jakeman. It is my absolute pleasure and privilege, alongside the team here, to serve the community of families and children that we do.

Education never stands still and we do our best to keep abreast of changes and developments within the sector, keeping moving forwards and never losing sight of our aim to give our children the best start in nursery life. Thank you for coming on that journey with us.

It is an exciting time for the early years sector with the government's new *Best Start in Life* strategy, ensuring all children achieve and thrive, improving child development outcomes. We are passionate about doing our bit to support Birmingham's related city-wide initiative: '*Best Start Brum*' strategy, ensuring every child from pregnancy to age five receives the support and opportunities needed for a strong start in life.

Graduation: We look forward to seeing all leavers and families at our little graduation ceremony of fun on Friday 17th July at 10am.

Feedback from surveys: Thank you to the many of you who have completed our annual parent carer survey; it was humbling that you took the time out to share your experiences and views with us. We will be reviewing the responses fully when we return in September in order to celebrate successes with staff and make changes where possible to respond to improvement feedback.

New provision: Our Under 2s provision has now been running for 1 academic year. It has been a delight nurturing our 0-2year old children. We are really proud of the team for their commitment to learning, training and making our under 2s room 'home from home' for our youngest children, in partnership with parents. We have a few spaces left for January 2027—please spread the word!

Summer break: May it be a safe and enjoyable summer holiday period for you all.

If you need urgent help or support during the break, please see the contact numbers on page 3 of this newsletter.

Wishing all the children starting Reception the very best, and we look forward to seeing everyone else in September. *Sam*



Executive Head Teacher: Sam Richards

Nursery Manager: Janine Maidment

SENCO: Gail Goldberg

Teacher: Hannan Bagl

Office Manager: Amna Bibi

Admin Assistant: Shabnam Hussain

Nursery Practitioners: Kaneez Rafique, Naz Ali, Sabah Kabir, Shazeha Akhtar, Farkhanda Jabeen, Khfire Aldhubab, Farzana Bibi, Samira Bi & Shazia Badaruddin

WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.



Contact Us

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Birmingham, B12 9NX
☎ 0121 440 3066
enquiry@jakeman.bham.sch.uk

Follow us on
FACEBOOK

'Jakeman Local Authority
Maintained Nursery School'

Follow us on
INSTAGRAM

Jakeman_nursery_
school

CURRICULUM FOCUS

LEARNING

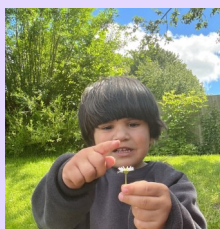
🧠 The children have explored the work of 'Yayoi Kusama' our first female artist, this has supported children to work with bright colours and mix colours. This extended in different areas of the nursery including the mud kitchen where they mixed potions and added other natural resources, layering their work and ideas.

🍳 In the working kitchen, children have gained new skills and knowledge. They are confident in making dough but have extended this to make intricate cinnamon rolls and bread, using fine motor skills and following recipes. This also included visiting the local shop to buy ingredients! Our 2yr olds have used picture recipes to make play dough, they are becoming confident in using a range of skills such as, kneading, rolling and pinching which all develop muscles in the hands for early writing.

🌱 Our vegetable garden has come to fruition allowing children to gain knowledge of where their food source comes from, using real vegetables that have been hand-picked for cooking and exploring in the mud kitchen. The herb garden is a well-used resource, that children enjoy picking from to enhance their play in the outdoor kitchen. A 'WOW' moment was following the life cycle of our caterpillars and releasing the butterflies into the garden. Children's faces were in awe of the beauty of the butterflies; they loved caring for them and learning about each stage of the cycle.

🎵 We definitely have some natural performers in our nursery who have enjoyed creating their own play list and making up dance routines with a range of different movement. Teachers struggled to keep up there have been so many different routines! The children's growing love for music this year and hearing them share what their family listens to at home has been truly joyful.

Our under 2's have enjoyed the rhythm and beat of different music, moving around in lots of ways. They used their feet to explore water, sand, paint and foam - this has been a shared experience amongst



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

2025/26 year to date	
	Attendance %
Big nursery	78%
Little nursery	81%
Under 2s	80%
All	80%
Attendance this half term	
	Attendance %
Big nursery	77.4%
Little nursery	84.2%
Under 2s	79%
All	80.2%

Please take the time to read our attendance policy and support approach, this can be found here:

<https://tinyurl.com/4jrnpxwr>

We want every child to access as much of their education entitlement as possible.

Our aspiration was to reach 90% attendance for the year. We will keep aiming high and promoting positive attendance patterns.

It can be tricky to know when to keep your child off school when they have signs of illness. The NHS guidance 'Too Ill For School?' on our website banner may help.

RRSA links:

UN Convention, Rights of the Child links = **Article 3:** best interests of the child

Article 28: right to an education

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



WOW, Wow, wow!

It's been magical watching our children's love for stories develop, and not only using favourite stories that have enabled them to explore a range of different characters and story lines, but creating their very own stories, using fictional character and story lines from their own experiences.

Children have extended on this creating their own illustrations to bring their stories to life.

Here is one of many examples we'd like to share with you:

The Glass Castle

Once upon a time, there was a little girl called Hannan, she lived in a glass castle. A naughty boy came to knock it down with a brick.

She was so sad, she could not do anything. Some helpers came and made Hannan a brick castle. They painted it a pink colour.

She lived happily ever after.

**MAGIC of
STORYTELLING**

July: National Picnic Month

National Picnic Month was formed to celebrate the history of coming together to share food both indoors and outdoors. It also celebrates the way that eating together brings people, cultures, and even countries together. The good news is that picnics can take place in your home, in the garden or in the park. You can have your lunch, snack, or teatime as a picnic. Having a picnic is a fun way to enjoy your environment and can encourage reluctant eaters to try new foods. There are lots of recipes for foods which would work well for picnics on the Startwell resources page. Remember to link in Micky Me Size to ensure we eat the right amount for us.

[Mickey Me Size](#)

Summer 6 week challenge:

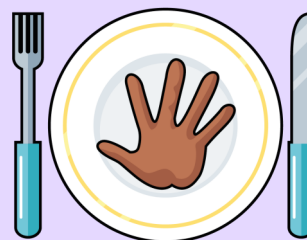
Head to the final 2 pages on this newsletter to view the Startwell 6 week summer challenge for physical activity and trying new foods.

Look at the Startwell website for more tips and advice:

[Welcome to Startwell Birmingham - Startwell 2020](#)



I'm Micky Me Size and I promote correct portion size according to children's age.



Startwell



SUPPORT SERVICES DURING THE SUMMER

SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS –
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

In an emergency, call 999.



**BIRMINGHAM
CHILDREN'S TRUST**

Birmingham Children's Advice and Support Service
(CASS)

Phone: 0121 303 1888

Monday to Thursday: 8:45am to 5:15pm / Friday: 8:45am – 4:15pm

Out of hours (emergency duty team):

Phone: 0121 675 4806

TWR
THE WAITING ROOM

Birmingham and Solihull Health & Wellbeing services at your finger tips

<https://the-waitingroom.org/>

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR FAMILIES

This website shares very important information and tips on keeping children safe.

You can sign up to receive info, resources and safety articles from them.

[Child Accident Prevention Trust](#) | A safer world for all our children

<https://capt.org.uk/summer-water-safety>

Summer water safety

Splashing around is a great way to relax and cool down in the summer. But drowning happens quickly and often silently. So, it's important you know how and where drowning happens and what you can do to prevent it.

Top tips:

Whether you're in the garden, at the beach or on holiday this summer please keep water safety in mind:

- Be a water watcher and actively supervise children in and around the water at all times. Don't rely on older children to supervise younger children.
- Even if you're not planning to be near the water, be alert to any water nearby. Be mindful of children wandering off.
- Expect children to do unexpected things. They can't be relied on to keep themselves safe.
- Pick a bright coloured swimsuit so it's easier to spot your child in or near the water.

Summer Water Safety

● Cool baths are great for very hot days, but stay with them at all times, just like you would with the paddling pool. Young children can drown in very little water, in seconds & there's no noise to alert you.

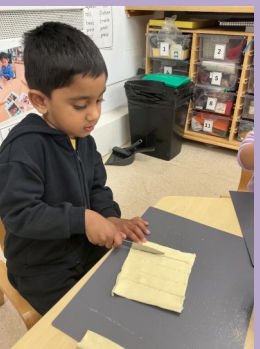
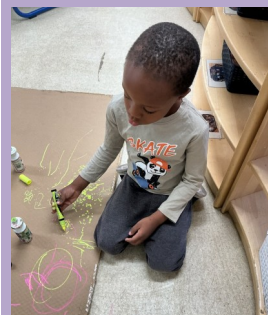
SEND LOCAL OFFER



Birmingham's SEND Local Offer has been updated and the new Early Years 'Ordinarily Available Guidance' interactive tool is now live. The OAG sets out the support all mainstream schools and settings should provide for children, including those with SEND. It provides a shared, citywide framework to support consistent and inclusive practice.

It can also support parent carers to understand what inclusive practice looks like in Birmingham and what should be ordinarily available in settings. For practical ways you can help your child at home too, visit the Early Years section within the 'Strategies and Resources' area [here](#)

[Ordinarily Available Guidance - Local Offer Birmingham](#)



Jakeman Nursery - A place to learn, achieve and grow

Physical Challenge

WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The World Athletics Championships is in Budapest this summer. This week introduce your children to lots of great athletics skills by creating a mini-championships outside with different events/ stations - running, jumping and throwing.



Focussed Skill: Locomotor - Running, Jumping, Manipulative - Throwing

THE ASHES ARE HERE!



This summer see's The Ashes (England vs Australia Cricket) come to England. This week get outside and practice your cricket. We want you to practice your throwing, hitting and catching.



Focussed Skill: Hand eye co-ordination

DEN MAKING

This week go to the woods and make your own den or if the weather is bad make an inside fort. Encourage your children to build, create and challenge their decisions.



Focussed Skill: Constructing on a large scale

GRASS PLAY

This week mow the lawn and ask the children to create anything they want with the grass clippings – you can even have teams and do mini competitions.



Focussed Skill: Transporting/ transferring



THE GOLF OPEN

The Golf Open comes to Liverpool this summer, so this is a great time to introduce manipulation skills to your children and get them to start practising aiming a ball at a target with their foot, hand, or even a mini golf club.



Focussed Skill: Manipulation skill - Aiming



WOMENS WORLD CUP

It is the women's World Cup this summer, so a great time to focus on those football skills with your children. This week focus on different activities which include balls of all sizes.



Focussed Skill: Manipulation Skills – sending away, receiving

Food Challenge

PREPARE SOME HEALTHY FOOD

Prepare one of the healthy recipes from the [Startwell Website](https://www.startwell.org.uk/).

Why not prepare a rainbow salad – remember it's important to eat a rainbow of colours to get a range of vitamins and minerals! Enjoy this refreshing snack outdoors in the warmer weather.



Focussed Skill: Peeling, Cutting

ROLE PLAY SHOP

Set up a shop at home with play foods or items from your cupboards. Look at the different types of fruit AND vegetables available, can the children name them?

Talk about size, texture and even taste.

Focussed Skill: Recognising Ingredients



FOOD SCIENCE

Which fruit and vegetables float/sink? Add food colouring to them in water – which change colour?

We have lots of Food Science activities pinned on the Startwell Birmingham [Pinterest](https://www.startwell.org.uk/) page.

Focussed Skill: Exploring Foods, Picking up, Releasing



GROW YOUR OWN FOOD

Give some food growing a go!

You can develop lots of great skills growing food, but we want you to focus on pouring. Food won't grow unless we water them. What different household items can the children use to water the growing foods.



Focussed Skill: Pouring

FOOD HUNT

Make a list of food items you have available and call them out at random for the children to find. Hide them outdoors if you can! Once foods have been found, have a discussion about which are the appropriate portion sizes for the children and adults.

Focussed Skill: Following rules or instructions



FIND, READ AND GET ACTIVE WITH FOOD BASED STORIES

Look on your bookshelf and see if you can find any healthy or food related stories for example Goldilocks and the three bears, Hungry Caterpillar, Handas Surprise. Make them into active stories and do actions together.

Focussed Skill: Developing knowledge and awareness of different foods



WEEK 1

WEEK 2

WEEK 3

WEEK 4

WEEK 6

Summer Challenge

Being active, eating well, achieving more.

6 Weeks

6 Challenges

...are you ready for the Startwell Summer Challenge?

Physical Challenges

Food Challenges

1. World Athletics Championships



Week 1

1. Make a fruit rainbow!



2. Crazy Cricket



Week 2



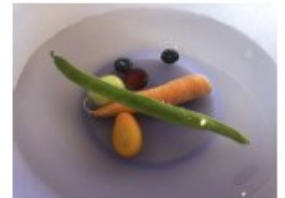
2. Role play food shop



3. Den Making

Week 3

3. Food Science



4. Go Golf Crazy



Week 4



4. Grow your own food

5. Summer walk



Week 5

5. Food Hunt



6. Football Fun

Week 6



6. Find, read and get active with food based stories