

Jakeman Nursery School with Daycare

AUTUMN 1–2026

NEWSLETTER

A place to learn, achieve and grow

Dates for your diary

OCTOBER

WB 26th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (1 week)

NOVEMBER

2nd - Back to nursery (Autumn 2)

11th - Children in Need (wear pyjamas & donations welcomed)

20th - United Nations World Children's Day—wear blue to promote 'My day, my rights'

25th - STAFF TRAINING DAY (nursery closed)

DECEMBER

3rd - Afternoon trip to the MAC—theatre production 'Tales from Acorn Wood'

11th - Morning trip to the MAC—theatre production 'Tales from Acorn Wood'

16th - Christmas party day for children (special visitor!)

18th - Break up for Christmas holiday

WB 21st - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (2 weeks)

JANUARY

4th - Back to nursery (spring 1)

15th - Reception place application deadline

FEBRUARY

5th - NSPCC Number Day

9th - Safer Internet Day

12th—break up for half term holiday

15th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (1 week)

22nd - Back to nursery (spring 2)

MARCH

3rd - STAFF TRAINING DAY (nursery closed)

4th - World Book Day celebrations&dress up

25th - Break up for Easter holiday

26th - Bank holiday

WB 29th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (2 weeks)

Executive Head Teacher: Sam Richards
Nursery Manager: Janine Maidment
SENCO: Sofia Ahmad
Teacher: Hannan Bagl
Office Manager: Amna Bibi
Admin Assistant: Shabnam Hussain
Nursery Practitioners: Kaneez Rafique, Naz Ali, Shazeha Akhtar, Farkhanda Jabeen, Khfire Aldhubab, Shazia Badaruddin, Anika Ali & Samira Bi

Head Teacher's message



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for reading our first newsletter of the year. We've all had a wonderful time seeing the children settle in and supporting them with this since September. This term, we've welcomed Anika—Nursery Officer and also Sofia Ahmad, our new SENCO. Gail Goldberg continues in the role of SENCO at Gracelands NS, and alongside Janine, will be supporting Sofia in her new role. Conversely, we said goodbye to Sabah in early October, who has been with us just short of 10 years, since 2017. We wish her all the best & will miss her lots!

Home activity ideas: We share our fortnightly home activity ideas with parent carers, which helps to embed and further develop what the children are doing and learning in nursery. We send you the link via text message fortnightly, but the documents can all be accessed on our website under the 'parents' section, then 'home learning ideas'.

Upcoming key dates: After half term, we will be taking part in Children in Need, World Children's Day and plenty of Christmas festivities. All our key dates (including training days and term dates) can also be found on our website home page, at the bottom.

Walk & Wheel Wednesday: Newly launched… Please try to travel to school on foot / scooter / bike with your child every WEDNESDAY, or park a little further away and walk the last part of the journey, contributing to cleaner air. We'll be discussing how we all travelled to school on Weds mornings/afternoons, linked to greener-living learning.

School applications: Action is required for children who will be 4 by 31st August 2026 and going to school in September 2026. See page 3 for details.

Weather: We want children to enjoy outside learning all year round. Please can we ask that parents provide warm and water-proof clothing for their child/ren.

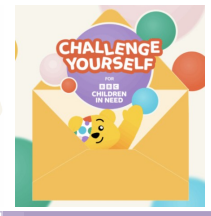
Stay and Play: Our community 'stay and play' session for children 3 and under (and their parent carer) continues to take place weekly on Tuesdays, 9:15-10:45am.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We hope you had some family time outdoors to enjoy all that autumn has to offer this half term. *Sam*



Children in Need - children can wear pyjamas to nursery on Wednesday 11th November. We'll be collecting voluntary donations.





World Children's Day... 'My day - my rights'. We'll be supporting children to talk about their lives, their hopes and their rights.

Children can wear blue on Thursday 20th November to mark this important day.

unicef | for every child

2024 – 2027 Rights Respecting Schools UNITED KINGDOM unicef Gold Rights Respecting

WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

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

2024 – 2027 Rights Respecting Schools UNITED KINGDOM unicef Gold Rights Respecting

Contact Us

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Follow us on FACEBOOK

'Jakeman Local Authority Maintained Nursery School'

Follow us on INSTAGRAM

Jakeman_nursery_school

AUTUMN CURRICULUM



Over recent weeks, the working kitchen has been a busy place! We have been learning the process for making playdough, this has ignited children's own experiences and extended to making pizzas; sharing what they like and dislike for the toppings. And voilà… *'Jakeman Pizzas and Delivery Service'* was created! Children have been using money, number, order notepads and order records.

'Are you going to collect or do you want a delivery?' -'3 minutes waiting!' - 'Would you like a small or big pizza?'

In the construction area, children have been building different structures for transport: cars, trains, buses and aeroplanes. Children shared experiences of their own holidays and travel. They've explored maps and flags of countries, which also led to discussions on where children have visited & where they'd like to go.

'I've been to Morocco on a plane.' - 'I have 2 Bibi's, one lives here and my other Bibi lives in Afghanistan. I see her on the phone.'

In the studio, children have explored the work of Jackson Pollock. We have an artist (Sally) working with us each fortnight to help support children's creativity. Children have been mixing paints, adding different materials to change textures, noticing change and naming colours. This extended to using a range of tools to print and mark make.

Our 2-year-olds have used their prior experiences within role play scenarios, showing great care for babies and nurturing them. They have explored paint through using large movements and mixing. Children have enjoyed the change in weather and exploring natural resources.

'It's sticky.' - 'I made bubbles!'

Our younger children are gaining confidence in using the physical equipment outside, climbing, balancing and jumping. *'I can do it by myself' - 'I jump big' - 'I climb up to the sky.'*

Our under 2s have been exploring dens, enjoying hiding and peek-a-boo games. They have explored foam and sand using their whole bodies. There's been lots of enjoyment using physical equipment - going up and over, with repetitive play &showing joy in using their body in different ways.

All children have explored Mental Health Awareness week, accessing a mini spa, learning breathing techniques and exploring feelings through the Colour Monster Story.

Children right across nursery have learnt about Healthy Living, learning about healthy foods, exercise, keeping ourselves clean and brushing our teeth. Children have also been finding out more about their environment; learning how to save water and how to recycle.

'Chocolate just sometimes.' - 'I turned off the tap' - 'Hannan, the water is running, I turned it off.'

We have celebrated Harvest Festival and collected for our local food bank. Thank you to all for the donations.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Attendance last year (2025/26)	
	Attendance %
3-4 year olds	78%
2-3 year olds	81%
Under 2s	80%
All	**80%**
Attendance this half term	
	Attendance %
3-4 year olds	87%
2-3 year olds	85%
Under 2s	85.2%
All	**86.2%**

Wow! It has been a great start to the year for attendance at Jakeman Nursery School. Thank you to all parents for prioritising nursery attendance and consistency in routine for your children. We want every child to access as much of their education entitlement as possible.

We are especially proud of our older children; this great start will really help to build positive attendance habits in readiness for primary school. Let's keep it up and see if we can reach our target of 90% :-)

Please do take the time to read our attendance policy and support approach, which can be found here: https://tinyurl.com/4jrnpwxr

It can be tricky, especially at this time of year, to know when to keep your child off school when they have signs of winter colds. Hopefully the NHS guidance 'Too Ill For School?' below will help.

This is also available to view in a clear table through the rolling banner along the bottom of our website home page, for quick access should you need to check it at any point this school year. The direct link is:

Jakeman Nursery School - Is your child too ill for school today? NHS guidance here

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child links =

Article 3: best interests of the child **Article 28**: right to an education

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone nursery. Let the office know that your child won't be in and give them the reason. Any problems, please leave a voice message.

IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

NHS

https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK.

Coughs, colds or sore throat - It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough, cold or sore throat. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Conjunctivitis - You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

Ringworm - If your child has ringworm, see a pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case, see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

Vomiting and diarrhoea - Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

High temperature - If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away. **Chickenpox -** If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

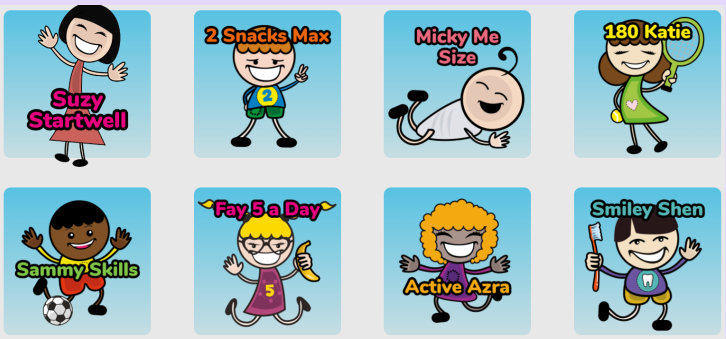
Ear infection - If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

STARTWELL

For those of you who are new to Jakeman, let us introduce you to Startwell.

What is Startwell all about? Well, the early years of life is a vital time to set healthy foundations to prevent obesity later on in life. Our lifestyles are significantly influenced by early life experiences. Healthy lifestyle intervention at a young age can influence food choices, physical activity levels and leisure activity choices and these are likely to continue into adulthood. Startwell is an NHS funded initiative.

The Startwell characters are ➔



<u>Sugar Awareness Week: 2nd - 8th Nov</u>

Eating too much sugar can cause us to gain weight, has a detrimental effect on our teeth and can contribute to tooth decay. 2 snacks Max promotes having 2 healthy snacks per day. Smiley Shen helps promote keeping our teeth healthy by brushing and reducing intake of sugary foods and drinks.

Did you know, the recommendation for children, their health and their little teeth, is just 1 sugary treat per week?

World Nursery Rhyme week also takes place in November (9th-13th). Active nursery rhymes with actions encourage movement! Check out Startwell's *Character Karaoke* here: <u>Startwell Character Songs - Startwell_2020</u>

Visit the Startwell website for more tips and advice: <u>https://startwellbirmingham.co.uk/about-startwell/</u>

THE WAITING ROOM

TWR
THE WAITING ROOM
Birmingham and Solihull Health & Wellbeing services at your finger tips

https://the-waitingroom.org/

This website is a go-to for any well-being services families may need. These are just a few of the categories:



There are helpful websites, helpline numbers and social media links for everything you could possibly need as a family.
We are always here to help in any way we can as a nursery school, but if you prefer to find support for your family yourself, this website is one to remember.

WE NEED YOU!



We are looking for parent volunteers to join a parent 'Children's Rights Champion Group' and help us protect, support and celebrate our children's rights. This would involve half termly meetings with the teacher and nursery manager, to learning more about how children rights are embedded within nursery, as well as share ideas for how Jakeman parents can build on this further. ***Please let us know if you can help.***

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR FAMILIES

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

With Bonfire Night and Diwali approaching, this is one of the most exciting times of the year for children. But it can also bring additional safety challenges. So, to help keep children safe this season, the Child Accident Prevention Trust have got some key safety tips and resources. Did you know sparklers can burn 16 times hotter than a kettle? Or how easy it is to buy powerful rockets unsuited to family back gardens?

child accident prevention trust

The CAPT fireworks advice hub covers all the safety essentials. <u>https://capt.org.uk/firework-safety/</u>

SCHOOL RECEPTION PLACE APPLICATIONS

Birmingham City Council

<u>Apply online for your child to start Reception class in September 2027</u>

For those of you whose child turned 3 on or before August 31st 2026, your child is due to start Reception in September. Every child requires an application for their move to school and a place to be offered by the Local Authority.

Please let us know if you need any help with signing up, signing in, or completing the online application.

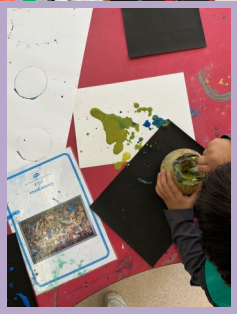
www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

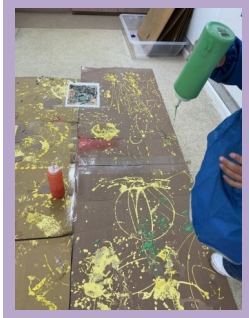
You can visit your preferred school's website or call them to find out when you can look around. The deadline for completing the application is: **15th Jan 2027**

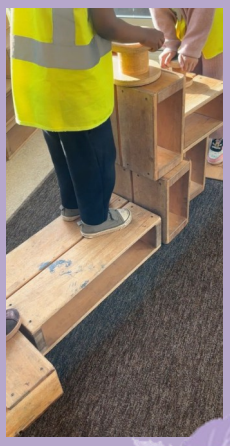










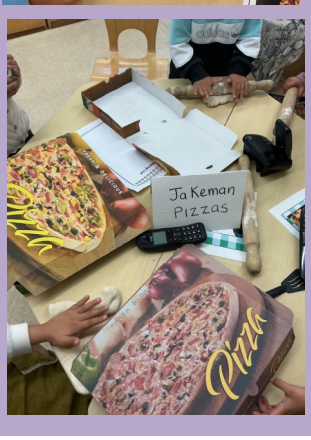













Jakeman
Nursery School with Daycare