



SPRING 2-2026

NEWSLETTER

A place to learn, achieve and grow

Dates for your diary

MARCH

27th - Break up for Easter holiday
WB 30th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (2 weeks)

APRIL

13th - Back to nursery (Summer 1)
29th - Parents and children library visit

MAY

4th - Bank holiday (nursery closed)
7th - Nursery CLOSED for voting day
(EXCEPT 2-4yr olds 30HOURS PROVISION)
20th - Early reading parent play & learn session

22nd - Break up for half term

WB 25th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (1 week)

JUNE

1st - Back to nursery (Summer 2)
3rd - AM provision only - Eid community celebration @Jakeman 1-3:15pm
12th - Community Autism Team (CAT) transition parent workshop/meeting 10:30-11:30 & 12:30-1:30
18th - Nursery & family trip to Twycross Zoo
24th - Big nursery school transition parent session

JULY

1st - SEND parent coffee morning -transition
6th - Parent consultations week
16th - Last day of provision
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

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

Head Teacher's message



Dear Parents and Carers,

Although this half term has been a shorter 5 week block, it has been wonderful and full to the brim: World Book Day, parent consultations & lots of exploration of nature 'springing' to life in our garden!

Parent governor election

I will write to you after the Easter break, but parents across the 9 of our Federation Nursery Schools have successfully elected 2 new parent governors. Governance of our group of schools is a huge but rewarding responsibility and we look forward to working with both Aimee and Rumman.

Collection times

Please accept my polite request of collecting children at either of our door opening times: 3pm or within the 3:25-3:30pm window. If you need to collect your child before 3:25pm due to finish times of older siblings, please come at 3pm.

As well as teaching staff and the wider group of children being interrupted during their story and song sessions, parents and children in and out in between our 2 door opening times poses a safeguarding risk, which we absolutely must keep as minimal as possible.

Car park restrictions

Thank you to all parent carers for respecting our carpark restrictions. We have arrangements in place for a small number of families with either a parent or child blue disabled parking badge but parking on site in the staff carpark is prohibited for all other families. We have noticed your commitment to finding parking elsewhere and our school site already feels like a safer place. I wish we could offer drop off/collection parking for the 100+ families we have, but sadly that isn't possible.

Big Walk and Wheel

On that note, children have been participating in the Big Walk and Wheel for the past fortnight and making an effort to walk or scoot to Nursery, or for part of the journey to Nursery where possible. This is great for getting children moving and also for playing our little part in air pollution and road congestion. Let's see if we can keep this momentum up, continuing with establishing these great habits and routines.

Screen time guidance

The government have released brand new guidance for screen time for children under 5 years old. Please read the section on page 3 to visit the link and find out more.

Finally, we say farewell to Zahida, who has completed almost 2 terms of teaching placement with us in Sycamore room. She'll be greatly missed and we wish her well.

Happy Easter to those celebrating, enjoy some family time together and look after yourselves. See you back on Monday 13th April. **Sam**



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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@JakemanSchool

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'Jakeman Local Authority
Maintained Nursery School'

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Jakeman_nursery_ school

CURRICULUM FOCUS

LEARNING

We recently introduced an 'act of kindness' and children came up with ideas such as: playing with each other, helping children learn about their rights, helping to tidy up, and telling a teacher if someone is doing something they don't like or is wrong.

There has been an interest in sensory play, such as exploring sound and how sound changes with different instruments, various acoustics inside and outside, listening to a wide range of music, and exploring making marks to different instrumental sounds. Children took on the role of being the conductor and musician and making their own music. They have worked closely with our visiting music specialist, Nicola.

Spring brought the start of planting and growing. Children have been learning about where their food source comes from and taking care of the plants to help them grow.

We celebrated World Book Day, with children and teachers dressing up as different characters in books, the activities within the environment linked to our favourite books, such as 'The Witches Kitchen' in the mud kitchen.

Our focus artist for spring 2 was Andy Warhol. We explored colour and print through a range of different media such as; ICT, painting and collage.

In our working kitchen, we have made pizza and fruit kebabs, following writing shopping lists and going to the local shops to buy ingredients.

In the construction area, children have shown an interest in exploring emotions such as being scared, anxious and the thrill of being chased. This has been closely linked to the story of 'Shark in the Park'. Our younger children have used the story 'The Very Busy Spider' to explore emotions such as overcoming fear, building webs and creating environments for spiders to live. They have shown curiosity and wonder in a range of different insects.



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

2025/26 year to date	
	Attendance %
Big nursery	78.5%
Little nursery	79%
Under 2s	83%
All	79%
Attendance this half term	
	Attendance %
Big nursery	79%
Little nursery	83%
Under 2s	79%
All	80.3%

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

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

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

Our aspiration is to reach 90% attendance this year.

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.

RRSA links:

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child links = **Article 3:** best interests of the child

Article 28: right to an education

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason. If the phone is engaged, please leave a message.

'180 Katie' has helped children understand the importance of keeping active, particularly within the outside environment, through active games and learning, using equipment and moving to music.

Within Willow Room (9mths to 2yrs), children have had the opportunity to learn with our visiting music specialist, exploring different sounds and instruments. Children have also enjoyed fitting into dens and boxes, exploring different ways of moving their whole bodies. This has included using their feet to explore sensory play! They have enjoyed a range of stories including 'Five Little Pirates' and 'Baby chick' which has promoted counting to 5 as well as sensory exploration through touch and sound.

NEXT HALF TERM...

We'll be bringing stories to life through music as this continues to be an interest. We'll explore through a variety of medias: using books, ICT, small world, musical instruments and themed music.

Growing & planting will be a focus linked with our working kitchen, where children will have opportunities to cook fresh produce.



We will be observing the full life cycle of butterflies and stick insects through real life hands-on experiences, and we'll link this with 'The Hungry Caterpillar' story.

We will explore the art work of Andy Goldsworthy, exploring texture and layering of natural materials.

We're planning a library visit where parents can join in a story with their children.

EASTER ACTIVITIES WITH SAMMY SKILLS

Startwell is promoting Easter holiday activities that focus on lots of physical movement.

Visit the webpage to find out more detail of at-home easy to set up activities:

[Easter Activities with Sammy Skills and the Startwell](#)

[Characters - Startwell 2020](#)

Many families enjoy cultural traditions at Easter, such as Easter eggs, which symbolise **new life and new beginnings**.

The Easter Bunny is also used as a symbol of springtime, growth, and renewal.

This year, why not use Easter as an opportunity

to introduce new **active, engaging, and developmental games** with **Sammy Skills** and

the other Startwell characters. Visit the link above for more fun ideas. Here's a few to get you started!

Sammy Skills Action Egg Hunt

Hide paper eggs. On the back of each egg, write a movement challenge such as:

- Sammy Skills says – 5 star jumps
- Sammy Skills says – Fly like a bird
- Sammy skills says – Stand on 1 leg
- Sammy skills says – Hop like a lamb

I'm Sammy Skills and I promote the importance of skills based play.



Springtime Yoga with Sammy Skills

Try simple poses inspired by:

- Bunnies, chicks, flowers and seeds growing

Try Spring and Easter yoga with Cosmic Kids on YouTube:

[Spring & Easter Yoga For Kids 🧘 Yoga Club \(Week 30\) | Cosmic Kids](#)

(Starting 6 minutes in)

SCHOOL PLACES FOR CHILDREN GOING INTO RECEPTION IN SEPTEMBER

Families that submitted a school application (by the deadline of 15th January 2026) will receive a **SCHOOL PLACE OFFER** on Thursday 16th April 2026.

To enable smooth transition processes to schools and sharing of information, please inform the office of the school offered to your child.



GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE: SCREENRTIME

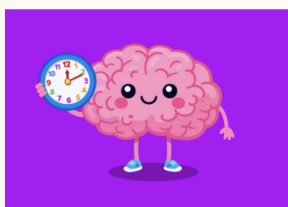
The government, through the Best Start in Life Strategy, have released new screentime guidance for children under 5.

Please visit the guidance summary and full document here:

[Baby and toddler screen time guidance - Best Start in Life](#)

The guidance shares information on the maximum

advised screentime is advised at different age groups, the types of content that are recommended and not recommended, the affects of adults screen use and the affects of screentime on young children's development.



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](#)

SPRING AND EASTER SAFETY

Visit the link here for spring safety tips:

[Spring safety guide: Top tips for keeping children safe](#)

There are many tips within this webpage, but the **MOST SIGNIFICANT RISK** we share for our families is the risk of Mini Eggs or similar.

Did you know Mini Eggs are the perfect size and shape to completely block a small child's airway and choke them? Did you know that their hard shell can make it difficult to dislodge with standard first aid techniques? *That's why they aren't recommended for small children. So, please stay safe and choose another treat for your little one this Easter.*

Larger, hollow eggs are much safer.



How much screen time should my child have?

Limit total screen time for young children, wherever possible.

- **Under 2 years:** Avoid screen time other than for shared activities with family that encourage bonding, interaction and conversation.
- **2-5 years:** Try to keep it to 1 hour a day. Less if possible.



A place to learn, achieve and grow

If you don't yet follow us on **INSTAGRAM**, please do! Janine, Hannan and Sam enjoy posting photos and videos to share what we get up to each week!