



SUMMER 2 – 2025

NEWSLETTER

A place to learn, achieve and grow

Dates for your diary

2024/25

17th - Last day of provision
18th - Graduation event at Cannon Hill Park
10am-12noon
(provision closed for all children)

2025/26

SEPTEMBER

1st&2nd - Staff TRAINING DAYS (1&2 OF 5)
3rd - Home visits for new starters
4th - Stay and play AM
5th - Stay and play PM
8th - Usual provision commences (Aut 1)
9th - Weekly 'stay and play' resumes (09:30)
WB 22nd - Home Reading Link begins

OCTOBER

1st - Tapestry parent workshop/meeting
WB 6th - Harvest Festival food bank donations
8th - Staff TRAINING DAY (3 OF 5)
WB 13th - Parent consultation meetings
24th - Break up for half term
WB 27th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (1 week)

NOVEMBER

3rd - Back to nursery (Autumn 2)
24th - Staff TRAINING DAY (4 OF 5)

DECEMBER

19th - Break up for Christmas holiday
WB 22nd - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (2 weeks)

JANUARY

5th - Back to nursery (Spring 1)

FEBRUARY

13th - Break up for half term
WB 16th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (1 week)

Head Teacher's message



Dear Parents and Carers,

News

Thank you for coming over to the final newsletter of the year.

Firstly, we'd like to say a massive thank you to Jason, who is leaving us this week and heading over to teach at one of our Federation Nursery Schools, Allens Croft. Jason has been teaching at Jakeman since January 2022 and has been wonderful! He'll be greatly missed.



With a goodbye always comes a new 'hello'! We are lucky enough to be expanding our team and welcoming 4 new staff to Jakeman in September. Welcome to Hannan and Khfire, who will both be in Sycamore room (3&4 year olds), Farzana who will be in Elm (2yr old room) and Samira who will be supporting children at lunchtimes.

Feedback

Having reviewed the parent survey responses, we thought it would be nice to share some of your lovely responses:

'We will miss Jakeman nursery and all the teachers.'

'The nursery have been fantastic at helping my child settle into a school setting.'

'My child adores all the staff and loves coming in every day and has never had anything negative to say since starting!'

'My son loves to attend this nursery. Thank you so much for all of your support.'

'I really appreciate the professionalism of the staff members, including teaching and supporting staff.'

Fantastic nursery and staff are wonderful.'

'It would be great if air-con can be installed in the classroom so that children don't need to skip school and can learn more consistently. Thank you.' (We hear you! This is all linked to our boiler issues that have heightened this year—we are on the waiting list to have it all replaced by Birmingham City Council).

If you haven't responded yet and would like to, you can find it here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/KuLnEmZiDC>

Thank you

Well that brings another academic year to a close! I am going into the summer holiday absolutely full of gratitude. Jakeman is a place to learn, achieve and grow every single day and it is our whole staff team that make this a reality. Thank you.

For those of you leaving as your child embarks on a new journey, please come back to see us! I wish you all a lovely summer break. Remember, making the happiest of memories often comes as a result of doing the things that come free in life: a little bit of dedicated time, playing together and being in the great outdoors. Thank you parents for your continued support.

Sam and the Jakeman team x



Executive Head Teacher: Sam Richards

Nursery Manager: Janine Maidment

SENCO: Gail Goldberg

Teacher: Jason Lee

Office Manager: Amna Bibi

Admin Assistant: Shabnam Hussain

Nursery Practitioners: Kaneez Rafique,
Naz Ali, Sabah Kabir, Shazeha Akhtar,
Farkhanda Jabeen & Shazia Badaruddin

50 THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU'RE 5 (IN BIRMINGHAM!)

<https://birmingham.50thingstodo.org/app/os#!/before-youre-five>

Follow the link to a menu of fun, affordable ideas for play and learning with your child under 5 in Birmingham. Visit the webpage above or download the mobile app for the full experience (it has had a revamp!).



Contact Us

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school

CURRICULUM FOCUS



SUMMER 2

Recently, there has been a heightened focus on maths and mathematical language. Children have explored maps of the local area, google maps, explored distance and looked at different ways of travelling. They have considered the importance of walking where we can to be healthy and some have even started to understand the impact of clean air zones.

Children have gained confidence in their early writing skills and beginning to form some letter-like shapes; some children are now confident in writing their full name.

We had a large number of families from across the nursery attend Attwell Farm on our nursery trip in June - this led to further interest in cows, and where milk comes from. Children had hands on experiences of touching the animals and overcoming fears of handling insects. Children explored books and YouTube to find out more about the animals at the farm.

Some of the children's questions:

'Where does milk come from?'

'What do cows eat?'

'Where do cows live?'

'It's spiky!' (a child who touched a spider)

'Why is it so big?' (one child asked when touching an African snail)

Over 80% of families attended our Eid celebration and also families from stay and play and the local community joined us. Children enjoyed face painting, cultural music, balloons, arts and crafts and not forgetting 'soak the teacher'!

All funds will go back into curriculum resourcing.



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Attendance this year (2024/25)

	Attendance %
Big nursery	83.2%
Little nursery	80.4%
All	82.4%

Attendance summer term

	Attendance %
Big nursery	85.2%
Little nursery	80%
All	83.4%

Attendance was brilliant in the first half of the summer term. It has gone down slightly this half term but our overall year attendance sits at 82.4%... in comparison to last year's 79%.

We are all working hard together to help children access as much early education in nursery as possible.

Our aspiration is to reach 90% attendance.

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?' is useful to refer to if you are unsure:

Too ill for school?

RRSA links

United Nations Convention on the

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.

AUTUMN 1

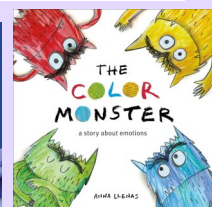
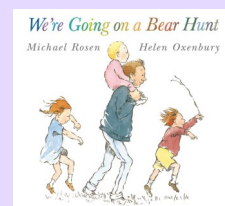
The focus for autumn term 1 is transition back into nursery. This can often be a difficult time, even for returning children. Key workers will support children by re-establishing nursery routines, building independence and forming relationships with the teachers and with their new peers, getting to know each other in their family groups.

Possible lines of enquiry we will explore (but may change depending on the children's interest):

- Different types of houses and homes
- Autumn colours and changes in the environment - autumn walks
- People who help us
- Oral health and visiting the dentist

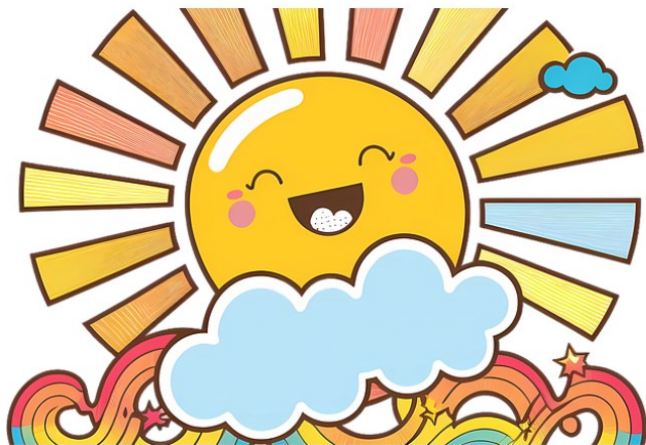
Books we will exploring in depth:

- We're Going on a Bear Hunt
- The Colour Monster
- Why We Go to the Dentist





THE 6 WEEK SUMMER CHALLENGE 2025



SUMMER CHALLENGE

Startwell have created another fun 6 week summer challenge for 2025 which has a food and physical challenge for each week of the summer holidays.

The challenges all link to the Startwell characters and their key messages can be shared at home.

The summer challenge is on the final 2 pages, or click here to view more on the webpage:

<https://startwellbirmingham.co.uk/the-6-week-summer-challenge-2025/>

Look at the Startwell website for more tips and advice:

<https://startwellbirmingham.co.uk/about-startwell/>

PREPARING FOR NURSERY

Things parents can do to support their child to come back to nursery in September, or if they are starting nursery for the first time:

- Encourage children to undress and dress themselves, buttons and zips can be tricky and take lots of practice. This supports children's confidence and independence, as well as fine and gross motor skills.
- Encourage children to drink from an open cup (no bottles or beakers), support children's independent eating using a spoon and fork.
- Soothers, such as a dummy, can be very difficult to part with, but start by having short times where you encourage your child to not have their dummy and increase the time slowly. This will support your child to cope without a dummy while they are at nursery and support them when it is time to part with the dummy for good.
- Encourage children to wash their hands after toileting or a nappy change, or before eating. This supports their hygiene routines.
- Support children to tidy up by putting their toys back in a basket, this helps them to understand about taking care of their environment.
- Use everyday opportunities to talk about what children can see, smell and hear. This supports their senses.



SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR FAMILIES

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

<https://capt.org.uk/>

CAPT have put together a feature on:

'6 dangerous products to avoid this summer'.

We tend to think 'If I can buy it for my child, it must be safe'. But sadly, that isn't always true.

To help you spot which products to avoid this summer, they've highlighted some of the big risks to your child's safety below.

1. Magnetic water balloons
2. Neck floats
3. Mermaid tails and monofins
4. Swim vests from unknown sellers
5. Toys with easy-access button batteries
6. Water beads

Visit the summer safety page to read more about each product and scroll down for some top tips on how to shop safely this summer: <https://capt.org.uk/6-dangerous-products-avoid-this-summer/>





6 Week Summer Challenge

Physical Challenges

Food Challenges

OBSTACLE COURSES

The 6 week holidays are underway and we want you to get things started by creating an obstacle course with Sammy skills! Have stations for running, jumping and throwing.

Focussed Skills: Locomotor, Stability & Manipulative Skills



Week 1

EAT A RAINBOW

See if you can create a rainbow using images of 7 different coloured fruit and vegetables. Then pick one or two and taste them for a healthy snack.

Focussed Skill: Recognising Different Fruit and Vegetables



WALKING



Walking is a great way to get your belly buttons moving with Azra, so why not use this opportunity to introduce different styles of walking to the children such as giant steps, tip toe walking, crocodile steps, walking backwards and forwards. Or go for a walk in your local area.

Focussed Skills: Self Awareness and Spatial Awareness

Week 2

ROLE PLAY CAFE

Can the children create a café for their toys? What healthy food would they give them? Talk about the portion size adults would need compared to the children.

Focussed Skill: Recognising Ingredients



CATCH AND THROW

Catching and throwing are hard skills to master and need lots of practice. Remember to start with bigger items and move onto smaller items. Beach balls and balloons are great starting points. To extend it, try aiming at targets and reducing the size of the object whilst increasing the distance

Focussed Skill: Manipulative



Week 3

SEED PLANTING



Chop some fruits or vegetables in half to reveal the seeds inside (e.g. bell pepper, kiwi, apple, melon, squash). Talk about what the seeds are and do. Remove some of the seeds, dry them and then plant them in compost. See what comes up!

Focussed Skill: Understanding How Food Grows

Physical Challenges

Food Challenges

DANCE

Dancing is a great way to get your bodies moving, so why not use this opportunity to introduce different styles of music and dance to the children and get them to create different dance moves. Remember to include fast paced music to get the heart going
BOOM BOOM BOOM!

Focus: Incorporating high intensity activity into daily routine



Week 4

FOODS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Show the children a globe or map of the world. See if you can find a variety of different fruit and veg from different countries and prepare them for snack.

Talk about where the foods are grown and how they look different on the outside and inside.

Focussed Skill: Exploring Foods, Chopping and Cutting

WATER PLAY

Can you move more and sit less this week through a range of water-based activities? We want you to try water painting with large brushes outside, make water flow tubes, chase bubbles, create puddles to jump in and get those belly buttons on the move like Active Azra.



Focus: Move More Sit Less

Week 5

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, ask the children if they are healthy/kind for our teeth? If they are they can be placed on a picture of a happy tooth and if not on a picture of a sad tooth.

Focussed Skill: Following rules and instructions and what food is good for our teeth



RUNNING AND ROLLING

We want you to see how fast you can run up a hill but then can you roll back down it and repeat again and again? If you get tired try walking up the hill and rolling down slowly

Focussed Skill: Locomotor Development



Week 6

LET'S DO LUNCH

The children will love to make their own lunch. Cut English muffins in half and get the children to top with cheese and chopped vegetables then grill. If you don't have access to an oven, they can fill their own pitta pockets with grated cheese, hummus, chopped vegetables etc...

Focussed Skills: Chopping, Cutting and Peeling

