



Finches

Spring Term 1

January/February 2024

Welcome to Spring Term One

Hello and welcome back to everyone. Thank you to everyone for their lovely cards, gifts and festive wishes last term. We really appreciated your kindness. We hope that everyone was able to enjoy some family time over Christmas and we wish you all a very happy new year.

A huge welcome to our new starters this term. It has been lovely to meet everyone and we hope that you are already feeling like part of the JP family. It is very early days, but the new children are beginning to settle into life at Nursery, and all of the children are enjoying getting to know new friends.

As always, if you'd like to talk to one of us about something, please let us know via Tapestry or the school office and we will arrange a time to speak to you. Thank you for your ongoing support, and please know that we are here to support you in any way we can.

Miss Allen, Miss Beardsley, Miss Baker, Mrs Waites

VERY IMPORTANT—School Places 2023-2024

If your child is due to start Reception in September 2024, applications are due to close soon. If you have not yet applied for a school place, you must do so by 15th January 2024.

Nursery Timings

Rose Finches drop off: 8.45—9am
Rose Finches pick up: 11.45am

Bull Finches drop off: 8.45—9am
Bull Finches pick up: 3.15pm

Fire Finches drop off: From 12.15pm
Fire Finches pick up: 3.15pm.

If the main school gate is shut when you arrive, please use the buzzer on the main school gate.
If the Nursery wooden gate is shut when you arrive, please use the doorbell on the fence.

Reminders

Coats: Please remember to bring a coat for your child. Coats should be warm and have hoods so children's outdoor play is not interrupted by cold or rain.

Welly Boots: You may like to keep a named pair of wellies at Nursery, or send welly boots on wet days. We do have spare wellies that can be borrowed.

Water Bottles: Your child can help themselves to drinking water throughout the session so please remember to supply a named water bottle.

Snack: You do not need to provide snack. We offer snack each day so children can choose from a selection of fruit and vegetables if they are hungry. They are also offered a carton of cow's milk, if they would like it.

Naming Belongings: Please remember to name everything, especially jumpers/cardigans, coats, hats, gloves and shoes. Items can be easily misplaced when they are taken off, but we are usually able to reunite them with the correct owner if they are named.

Nursery Staff

Assistant Head—Early Years (QTS)

Miss Jennifer Allen

Nursery Teacher (QTS)

Miss Lauren Beardsley

Nursery Nurse (NNEB)

Miss Lisa Baker

Nursery Practitioner (L3)

Mrs Trisha Waites

Lunchtime Cover

Miss Georgie Kettle



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Important Dates—Spring 1

w/b 3rd January

New children transition week

Tuesday 9th January

BilinguaSing classes restart (Please note—for those families who have signed up directly with Cari only.)

w/b 8th January

Mother Earth Sculpture with Darcy

Friday 12th January

Pause Day (World Religion Day)

Monday 15th January

Bracknell Forest closing date for school applications

Wednesday 7th February

E-safety/Safer Internet Day

Saturday 10th February

Chinese New Year

Tuesday 13th February

Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)

Wednesday 14th February

Valentine's Day

Term Dates 2023

Monday 12th—Friday 16th February

Spring half term

Monday 19th February

School re-opens, Spring Term 2

Wednesday 27th March

Nursery last day of term, normal time. *Please note that the rest of the school finish at 1.30pm on Thursday 28th March.*

Monday 15th April

School re-opens, Summer Term 1

Monday 6th May

Bank Holiday, School Closed

Monday 27th May—Friday 231st May

Summer half term

Monday 3rd June

School re-opens, Summer Term 2

Wednesday 17th July

Nursery last day of term.

Please note, as usual, the rest of the school finish the following Friday 19th at 1.30pm.

What can I do at home?

Developing Fine Motor Skills at home

- ⇒ Peeling fruit such as bananas and satsumas.
- ⇒ Sprinkling sprinkles onto iced biscuits or cakes.
- ⇒ Filling ice cube tray by spooning or pouring water.
- ⇒ Washing the dishes and wringing out the sponge.
 - ⇒ Helping to peg out the washing.
- ⇒ Sorting socks and pegging together in pairs.
- ⇒ Watering the plants using a spray bottle.

Developing Gross Motor Skills at home

- ⇒ Mix cooking ingredients together in a large bowl
- ⇒ Wiping down a table or counter top.
- ⇒ Sweeping the floor with a broom.
- ⇒ Helping to fold larger items such as towels or sheets.
- ⇒ Using a rake to tidy leaves or grass cuttings outside.
 - ⇒ Pulling up weeds in the garden.
- ⇒ Using a large sponge to wash the windows or cars



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Planning Overview Spring Term 1—January/February 2024

Nursery Spring Term 1: Every Child An Artist

Week	Key Topics for Learning	Upcoming Dates for Diary
Week 1	New Year 2024 – Relationships, Rules and Routines	New children transitioning into Nursery
Week 2	‘Colours, Colours Everywhere’ Julia Donaldson Mark-making and Painting	9 th January: BilinguaSing re-starts (for those who booked privately with Cari) 11 th January: Mother Earth Sculpture with Darcy 12 th January: Pause Day/World Religion Day
Week 3	‘Draw Me a Star’ Eric Carle Drawing and Collage Scissor Skills	
Week 4	‘Not a Box’ Antoinette Portis ‘Not a Stick’ Antoinette Portis Pretend Play and Junk Modelling	
Week 5	‘Look, Look, Look at Sculpture’ Nancy Elizabeth Wallace Clay Sculpture	
Week 6	Lunar New Year ‘The Great Race’ ‘ <u>Goldy</u> Luck & the Three Pandas’ Cooking – Spring Rolls	7 th February: E-safety/Safer Internet Day 10 th February: Chinese New Year

