



# Finches

Spring Term

February/ March 2024

## Finches News

Hello everyone and welcome to the second half of the Spring term!

We are looking forward to another term of super learning and working with you all closely again. We are particularly looking forward to exploring stories throughout this term and sharing our love for books! We hope to attend a theatre production of a traditional tale (at school) and will be celebrating World Book Day too. Look out for further information!

Thanks to those of you who booked parent appointments this week. We always look forward to catching up with you in these meetings. We would like to remind you that we are always available to talk, answer questions or give advice. Quick chats and messages are fine at the gate, but if you would like to speak with someone for longer at any time, please just pop us a post on Tapestry or email the school office.

If you have an urgent message during the Nursery day, please email or telephone the school office rather than rely on one of us picking up a Tapestry post during the session. The office will ensure we receive your message in a timely manner.

As always we thank you for all your support and look forward to sharing this term with you all.

Miss Allen, Miss Beardsley, Miss Baker, Mrs Waites,



### **Learning Owl Behaviours**

Collaboration, Challenge, Perseverance

Optimism, Pride, Independence

Managing Distractions



### **Rainbow Promise Values**

Love, Forgiveness, Honesty

Patience, Support, Respect

Kindness, Joy, Peace

## Reminders

**Coats:** Please remember to bring a coat for your child and be mindful of cooler days when choosing coats. Coats should always have hoods so children's outdoor play is not interrupted by Wintery weather or Spring showers.

**Sun cream:** There may be some warmer days ahead this term. We do ask that you apply long-lasting sun cream to your child before they come to Nursery. Bullfinches can bring their own named sun-cream in order to reapply.

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

**Labels:** Please remember to keep checking all items of clothing and any bags or bottles are named. Please double-check that you have named your child's clothing. If jumpers and cardigans get left behind we cannot easily reunite with their owners if they are not named. Let us know if you think you are missing something.

**Jewellery:** Jewellery should not be worn at school. Please note only stud earrings should be worn at any time.

**Library:** Please remember to bring book bags and library books to Nursery on a Monday. Each week your child will bring home a book from school to share.

**Arrivals:** If the Nursery gate is closed when you arrive, please use the doorbell on the fence to contact us.



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## Phonics

So much of the work we do in Nursery is essential to build strong foundations for children who will go on to become avid, confident readers:

**Teaching Reading for Pleasure:** sharing books for enjoyment, teaching children to love stories and submerging them in story language, asking and answering questions about things they have read, modelling using books as a way to find information.

**Teaching Phonics:** attuning children to the sounds they can hear around them, developing oral blending and segmenting skills, learning to hear, say, read and write sounds

**In Nursery** we teach early-reading skills, including general sound discrimination and the specific skills needed such as an understanding of rhythm, rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds, and oral blending and segmenting. These skills are woven into all aspects of Nursery life.

**RWI:** At JPCE we deliver the Read Write Inc Phonics Programme systematically from Reception onwards.

## Phonics—What Can I Do At Home?

Go on a Listening walk—What can you hear on the way home?  
When walking the dog? In the shop?

Make a rice/pasta shaker and play while singing songs/rhymes.

Add voice sound effects to a story you read together.

Clapping games—clap out syllables in words, copy & repeat a rhythm.

Play Silly Soup—all the ingredients must begin with the same sound.

Mirror Play—make silly faces, copy and repeat mouth movements, say a sound and watch your facial movements

Toy Talk—Choose a special toy who can only talk in 'sound-talk' and ask it questions. e.g. What would you like to eat? Toy answers by whispering in your ear: h/a/m, f/i/sh, ch/ee/se and you repeat.

## Book List Spring 2: Traditional Tales



The Big Pancake  
The Three Little Pigs  
Hansel and Gretel

## Tapestry Thanks!

Huge thanks to everyone who uploads their own photographs and observations from home. We love to see all the wonderful experiences and your children love to share them with us all.

## Important Dates

### **Monday 19th February**

Start of Term 4

### **w/b Monday 19th February**

Parent Meetings

### **Friday 1st March**

Class photographs

### **Thursday 7th March**

Pause Day

### **Friday 8th March**

JPCE will celebrate World Book Day

### **w/b Monday 11th March**

Science Week

### **Monday 18th March**

Hobgoblin Theatre Production TBC

### **Thursday 21st March**

World Poetry Day

### **Wednesday 27th March**

Nursery last day of term, usual timings.

*Please note the rest of the school finish the following day Thursday 28th March at 1.30pm.*

## Summer Term

### **Monday 15th April**

Start of Summer Term, Term 5



# Finches

Spring Term 2 Planning: February/March 2024

## Nursery Spring Term 2: Once Upon a Time

Week	Key Topics for Learning	Upcoming Dates for Diary
Week 1	Key Text: 'The Three Little Pigs' Story: Character, Repeated Refrains Cooking – Pancakes	<u>BilinguaSing</u> restarts (for those who have re-booked.)
Week 2	Story: Setting and Sequencing	
Week 3	Story: Plot and Retelling Favourite books and characters	Pause Day (Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March) World Book Day (celebrate Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> ) Mother's Day (Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> March)
Week 4	Key Text: Hansel and Gretel Story: Character, Setting and Plot Puppets and Performance	
Week 5	Story: Problems and Solutions Science Week Poetry	Hobgoblin Theatre visit TBC (Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March tbc) World Poetry Day (Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> March)
Week 6	Easter Cooking – Easter Nests	

