



Finches

Spring Term 1

January/February 2025

Welcome to Spring Term One

Happy new year and welcome back to Nursery. We hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas break and were able to relax and spend some time with family. We would like to say thank you to everyone for their lovely cards, gifts and festive wishes last term. We really appreciate your kindness.

A huge welcome to our new starters who have joined us this term. It has been lovely to meet everyone and we are very excited that you have joined our JP family. It is very early days, but the new children are settling into life at Nursery and having fun playing and making new friends.

This term, we will enjoy developing our creativity by learning a range of different art skills. We are introducing our new sensory circuits which we plan to do each day to help us prepare for the day's learning. We will also be taking part in a Tales Toolkit each week where we will create our own stories as a group.

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 2024-2025

If your child is due to start Reception in September 2025, applications are due to close soon. If you have not yet applied for a school place, you must do so by the deadline on 15th January 2025.

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: By 3.15pm (main gate opens between 3.05—3.10pm)

Fire Finches drop off: From 12.15pm

Fire Finches pick up: By 3.15pm. (main gate opens between 3.05—3.10pm)

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.

Nursery Staff

Assistant head and EYFS lead (QTS)

Miss Jennifer Allen

Nursery Teachers (QTS)

Miss Lauren Beardsley

HLTA Nursery Nurse (NNEB)

Miss Lisa Baker

Nursery Practitioner (L3)

Mrs Trisha Waites

Nursery Support Staff

Mrs Orsolya Csiki and Miss Sam Edwards (L3)

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.



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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

- ⇒ Mixing ingredients together with a large spoon 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 car.

Tips to support your child at home

Reading—Daily reading with your child helps to build imagination and vocabulary. This can be done before bed time or at any point in the day. Predicting what may come next in a story will help to deepen their understanding.

Self-help skills—Encouraging your child to become more independent when managing their clothes. Can your child put on their own coat? Can they put on their own gloves, hat and scarf? If they can do this then can they put on their own socks and shoes?

Nursery rhymes—Singing Nursery rhymes together can help build a range of skills. They can help your child to recognise different sounds in words, rhyme, counting and building motor skills with actions.

Important Dates—Spring 1

Tuesday 14th January

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

Wednesday 15th January

Bracknell Forest closing date for school applications

Friday 17th January

Pause day

Wednesday 29th January

Chinese New Year

Friday 14th February

Valentine's day

Term Dates 2025

Tuesday 7th January

School re-opens, Spring Term 1

Monday 17th—Friday 21st February

Spring half term

Monday 24th February

School re-opens, Spring Term 2

Thursday 3rd April

Nursery last day of term, normal time. *Please note that the rest of the school finish at 1.30pm on Friday 4th April.*

Tuesday 22nd April

School re-opens, Summer Term 1

Monday 5th May

Bank Holiday, School Closed

Monday 26th May—Friday 30th May

Summer half term

Monday 2nd June

School re-opens, Summer Term 2

Wednesday 16th July

Nursery last day of term.

Please note, the rest of the school finish on Friday 18th July at 1:30.



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Planning Overview Spring Term 1—January/February 2025

Nursery Spring Term 1: Every Child An Artist

Week	Key Topics for Learning	Upcoming Dates for Diary
Week 1	Relationships, Rules and Routines Sensory circuits Tales Toolkit	New children transitioning into Nursery
Week 2	The arts: Paint (Kandinsky) Exploring a range of tools	14 th January: Bilingual re-starts (for those who have booked) 17 th January: Pause day
Week 3	The arts: Junk model	
Week 4	Lunar new year 'The Great Race' The arts: Performance (Lion/dragon dance)	29 th January: Chinese New Year
Week 5	The arts: Textiles and collage (Janet Bolton)	
Week 6	The arts: Sculpture Cooking: Flapjacks	11 th February: Safer Internet Day 14 th February: Valentine's Day Parents evenings tbc

