



Finches

Spring Term

February/ March 2025

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 very excited to share our love for stories and we will be learning about some of our favourite traditional tales this term. We are particularly looking forward to our exciting themed days and weeks - Shrove Tuesday, World Book Day, Science Week, Art Week and World Poetry Day. We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 6th March this year and we invite your children to come dressed a book character, and to share a favourite book with us.

Thanks to those of you who booked parent appointments last term. 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 to request that one of us gets back to you.

As always, 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.

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, Mrs Csiki, Miss Edwards.



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 still always have hoods so children's outdoor play is not interrupted by Spring showers.

Sun cream: There will hopefully 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. Bull Finches 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 and we will try to help.

Jewellery: Jewellery should not be worn at school. Please note that 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 so that we know you are there.

Rose Finch pick up/Fire Finch drop off: Thank you for continuing to use the main office buzzer at the main gate to gain entry to the school site at pick up and drop off.



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Book List Spring 2: Traditional Tales

The Big Pancake
Goldilocks And The Three Bears
Little Red Riding Hood



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.

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.

Important Dates

Monday 24th February

Start of Term 4

Thursday 27th February

Pause Day

Tuesday 4th March

Shrove Tuesday

Thursday 6th March

JPCE will celebrate World Book Day

7th-16th March

Science Week

Tuesday 11th March

Class photographs

Friday 21st March

World Poetry Day

Monday 24th March

Art Week

Sunday 30th March

Mother's Day

Thursday 3rd April

Nursery last day of term, usual timings. *Please note the rest of the school finish the following day Friday 4th April at 1.30pm.*

Summer Term

Tuesday 22nd April

Start of Summer Term, Term 5

Tapestry Accounts

Tapestry is our online Learning Journal where we record your child's learning. We also use it to send regular updates and messages to you about things that are happening at school.

Please do make sure you check your child's account regularly. Let us know if you need any help accessing your account.



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Spring Term 2 Planning: February/March 2025

Nursery Spring Term 2: Once Upon a Time

Week	Key Topics for Learning	Upcoming Dates for Diary
Week 1	Phonics – Rhyme Tales Toolkit Sensory Circuit	27 th March Pause Day 25 th BilinguaSing restarts (for those who have re-booked)
Week 2	'The Big Pancake' Story: Character, repeated refrains Cooking – pancakes Mini Me	4 th March Shrove Tuesday 5 th March Ash Wednesday 6 th March World Book Day
Week 3	Key text: Goldilocks and The Three Bears Story: Character, Roleplay with props Cooking – Porridge Science Week	
Week 4	Key text: Goldilocks and The Three Bears Story: Setting and sequencing Road safety	17 th March St Patricks Day
Week 5	Key text: Little Red Riding Hood Story: Character puppets, setting and plot Art week	21 st March World Poetry Day 30 th March Mother's Day
Week 6	Key text: Little Red Riding Hood Story: Roleplay and retelling the story Easter Eid	Thursday 3 rd April Nursery last day of term

