




Gracelands
Nursery School

SUMMER 1 - 2025

NEWSLETTER

Sowing the seeds for lifelong learning

Dates for your diary

2024/25

MAY

23rd - Break up for the half term holiday

26th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (1 week)

JUNE

2nd - Back to nursery (Summer 2)

11th - Family Eid celebration event (time TBC)

16th - Attwell Farm Park TRIP

23rd - Parent consultations N2

30th - Parent consultations N1

JULY

1st - SEND parent meeting

9th - N2 (big nursery) sports day/physical games family session

16th - N1(little nursery) sports day/physical games family session

17th - Graduation event (provision closed for all AM, open as usual for non-graduates PM)

18th - Open for returners, break up for the summer holiday

2025/26

SEPTEMBER

1st&2nd - Staff TRAINING DAYS

3rd - Home visits for new starters

4th - Stay and play PM

5th - Stay and play AM

8th - Usual provision commences (Aut 1)

OCTOBER

24th - Break up for half term

WB 27th - SCHOOL HOLIDAY (1 week)

NOVEMBER

3rd - Back to nursery (Autumn 2)

DECEMBER

19th - Break up for Christmas holiday

Head Teacher's message



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for reading our latest newsletter.

Transition meeting thank you

I'd like to share a huge thank you to all the parents of school starters that were able to attend the transition meeting. And thank you to Harshila for putting the session on for you. We are always committed to being a safe space to share any concerns regarding your child starting school and always here to offer support and guidance—please reach out if you need to.

Trip details

The finer detail letter for the trip to Attwell Farm will be with you very soon. Please ask if you have any further questions.

Eid celebration

Gracelands community Eid event... this is not to be missed on Wednesday 11th June!

Photos on the newsletter

If you'd like to see photos of your child in our newsletters—ask us in the office to check your previous permissions. If you haven't given permission for us to use photos of your child in the newsletter on your registration form, we will be very careful not to do so. But if you are happy to give permission, more and more children will feature in our learning highlights on the final page.

Eid al-Adha

Finally, we wish a very blessed Eid to those of you celebrating—Eid Mubarak!

Best wishes,

Sam



Executive Head Teacher: Sam Richards

Deputy Head Teacher: Harshila Parmar

SENCO: Gail Goldberg

Teacher: Nagina Kouser

Office Admin Assistant: Abdillahi Omer

Nursery Practitioners: Salma Mushtaq,

Sughra Sattar, Rifat Shaheen,

Sonia Parvaz, Zaryab Mahmood &

Ammara Usman

**WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD
RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL**

**Children's rights are learned, understood
and lived in this school.**



Contact Us

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Maintained Nursery School'



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CURRICULUM FOCUS



SUMMER 1

This half term the children have enjoyed experimenting with foam, changing its consistency by mixing paint and glitter.

Our artist focus for this half term has been Andy Goldsworthy, the children have been busy making patterns by arranging and placing objects and colour investigating by mixing paints. The children have used this opportunity to show off their skills in pattern making, especially with the natural materials in the maths area.

Our music focus has been Reggae music, the children have enjoyed listening to and talking about how the music makes them feel, the beat and rhythm.

One of our book focuses has been Peace at Last by Jill Murphy. The children have enjoyed talking about their family life and routines, especially what they do before going to bed. There have been lots of conversations around the importance of teeth brushing before going to bed. The story helped the children to discuss light and dark and the variety of sounds they can hear in different places.

The children have been busy exploring minibeasts in the garden. There have been lots of discoveries from slow slugs to scuttling spiders. The children have been observing features of minibeasts, as well as their habitats.

In maths, we have been learning about arranging objects in patterns as well as making sound patterns by clapping and using instruments. We have also been exploring 3D shapes this half term! The children have been busy building towers and models together with their friends.



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Attendance year to date	
	Attendance %
Big nursery	81%
Little nursery	78%
All	80%
Attendance summer 1	
	Attendance %
Big nursery	87%
Little nursery	86%
All	86%

Attendance has gone up, AGAIN! Well done parents—this makes such a positive difference to children's educational achievements, friendships and well-being.

We want every child to access as much of their education entitlement as possible.

Our aspiration is to get to 90% attendance.

It can be tricky to know when to keep your child off school, especially when they have signs of colds. The NHS guidance 'Too Ill For School?' is useful to refer to if you are unsure: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



RRSA links:
United Nations
Convention on
the Rights of the
Child links =
Article 3: best
interests of the
child

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone us on the first day. Let us know that your child won't be in, giving the reason. If the phone is engaged, please leave a message.

SUMMER 2



After the half term we look forward to introducing our next focus artist – Jackson Pollack.

The children will be exploring marks made by paint through splatter, both indoors and outdoors.

Our musical genre will be *pop*. The children will be able to explore a danceable tempo and we already know many of our children have the moves to go with the rhythm! Look out for the children discussing life cycles as we will be welcoming our caterpillars and watching them develop. This will be enhanced through our core book – The Very Hungry Caterpillar.

Messages regarding summer parent consultations are coming— we look forward to meeting with you to discuss how your child has been progressing.

There will be lots of events taking place such as: Eid party, sports days, trip to the local mosque (date TBC) and finally the graduation event for all of our children continuing their journey of learning into reception.

Startwell

BIRMINGHAM HEALTHY START VITAMIN DROPS

They are FREE for all registered with a Birmingham GP.

The vitamins contain vitamins A, C and D. Vitamin D is important for the development of healthy bones and teeth. Very few foods contain vitamin D. Most vitamin D is formed in the body by sunlight acting on exposed skin. We don't tend to get as much sunshine in the UK. The best way to be sure children are getting enough vitamin D is to take healthy start vitamin drops.

Ask Abdi or Harshila to get your FREE vitamin drops for your child.

Hi, I'm Suzy Startwell. My job is to be a good role model for making healthy choices! I promote the Healthy Start vitamins that you can get from Gracelands Nursery (as a distributing partner) for FREE!



Look at the Startwell website for more tips and advice:

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



SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR FAMILIES



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

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

As the first week back to nursery is 'CHILD SAFETY WEEK', we will be focusing on road safety with our children.

2 helpful videos that can be watched with your child at home too can be found here:

<https://vimeo.com/242114979>

(Getting to school safely)

<https://vimeo.com/242116708>

Things to remember:

- Model using zebra crossings and traffic light crossings where you can on busy roads
- Encourage child to hold an adult's hand when crossing roads.
- Model stopping to look and listen for cars coming
- Remember not to park illegally/dangerously
- Be sure to use the legally required car seats for children



Road safety checklist



Child Safety Week

