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School of London

FEBRUARY 2025

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Families, we hope you have all had a great half-term break and looking forward to the Spring term!

Now that the weather is warming up, we will recommence our Reception and Year 1 Forest School sessions. Information regarding this provision will be communicated directly to YR and Y1 parents.

Week of 24th February is the start of Term 4. Please ensure you receive this term's knowledge organiser for your child's/ children's class.

Internet Safety Day: 11th February

In February, our pupils took part in special Internet Safety Day assemblies, where they learned about the dangers of online scams and the important message: "If it's too good to be true, it probably is!" Through engaging discussions and real-life examples, children in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 explored how to recognize suspicious online offers, fake prizes, and misleading adverts. They learned to think critically and stay cautious when navigating the digital world. We encourage you to continue these conversations at home; ask your child what they learned and discuss ways to stay safe online together.

Wandle Schools Sports League - Football league starting 28th February!

This week, our Y3/4 Football team is starting the league games on Friday 28th February.

There will be more opportunities for other children to participate in other competitive sports, particularly as they get into Upper Key stage 2 - Year 5/6. The league games will take place on Fridays, during the class PE lessons.

Coming up: APSOL Science Week 10-14th March

This year's Science Week's theme is **Change & Adapt**. Science is all about change, discovery, and finding ways to adapt to our ever-changing world. From exploring the way animals evolve to how we can make our planet more sustainable; this is your chance to showcase your creativity! We are ending Science Week on Monday 17th March with a Birds of Prey whole school workshop! At the end of the day, the school will view a flight demonstration.



Science Week Poster Competition

We're inviting all students from Reception to Year 4 to take part in our exciting Change and Adapt poster competition.

The theme for 2025 is **'Change and adapt'** - there are loads of STEM topics to be explored. Pupils could create a poster showing how plants and animals adapt to changing seasons or surroundings, or how humans have adapted to changing technology. They could look at climate change and how we can adapt our behaviours to protect the environment, or their favourite science experiment and how it shows change. The more creative the interpretation of the theme, the better!

- Entries must be A4 to A3 size only (no larger, please).
- Bring your entries to the school office on Wednesday, 12th March 2025, before school.
- Ms Michelle (science subject lead) will meet with school council to review entries.
- Winners will be announced during Thursday's assembly. These children's entries will be entered in the British Science Association Poster competition.

Prizes & House Points

- Three winning entries will be selected!
- Every participant will receive 50 house points for their effort!



Calling All STEM Superstars!

Do you work in a Science, Technology, Engineering, or Maths (STEM) field? We'd love for you to share your knowledge and come in to lead an assembly or workshop! If any parents or carers are interested, please inform the school office!

ART WEEK

After a very successful Talent Show at the end of last term to launch Arts weeks, it is now time for Carnival!

Carnival at APSOL - Thursday 6th March

APSOL Arts week - Carnival: This year's APSOL Carnival is taking place on Thursday 6th March, which is also World Book Day! What an exciting week this will be at APSOL! Each class have selected their preferred book and will be parading their book costumes at our **annual parade** which will start at

3:15pm on Thursday 6th March.

Reception: Tiddler (ocean related costumes)

Year 1: Monkey puzzle (animal costumes)

Year 2: Bob Man on the moon (astronaut/ space related costumes)

Year 3: Harry Potter

Year 4: Anansi Tales (African stories/costumes)

We have very exciting opportunities coming up for all children and families to get involved throughout the year:

The Great Apsol Bake off - House baking competition: In **April**, to promote the **love for reading**, children will have the opportunity to bake a cake inspired on their favourite books or characters! We will be sending more information soon! This can be an individual or paired project! There will be specific criteria that cakes will be judged by. Children will then be able to decide whether to keep or allow their cake to be sold (money raised for the school fund). The bake fair will be held on **Monday 22nd April** (first day back after spring holiday).



APSOL Languages Week: 5-9th May

On Monday 5th May, we are launching languages week with Portuguese Language Day. During this week, the children will also be exploring and having fun with other languages! More information to follow.

APSOL Enterprise Week: 23-27th June

Children will be using their mathematical skills and knowledge about money, to produce items for the APSOL Enterprise Fair. Each class will be given a budget which they will then have to plan, decide and make products to sell at our APSOL fair!

APSOL Sports Day (Sports Week) - 21-23rd July

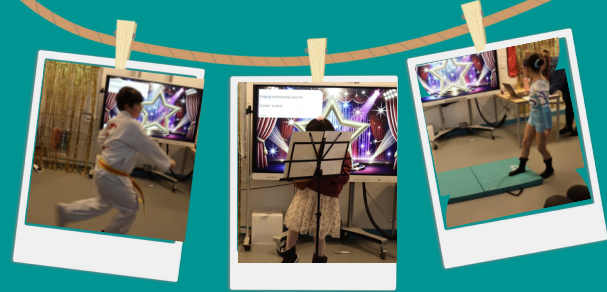
Wimbledon Race Track - Sports day 2025 has been moved to **Monday 21st July 2025** so that the children can experience a meaningful sports day on an authentic athletics track!

APSOL House Swimming Gala - Swimmers from across the school will be selected to represent their House at a swimming gala! This will be taking place in **July** also!



International School Award

ENRICHMENT



Year 1 Class Assembly - 11th February Monkey Puzzle

On 11th February, Year 1 performed their own version of Julia Donaldson's Monkey Puzzle. Together, the children chose their parts, adapted their lines and learnt the songs. With confidence and pride, Y1 performed their show to Reception and to their parents. It was a huge success and a special moment to remember.



Year 2 Class Assembly - 13th February Great Fire of London

On 13th February, Year 2 delivered a fabulous class assembly all about the Fire of London and the Lisbon Earthquake to their parents. The audience were transported back to the streets of London in 1666 and Lisbon in 1755 for the lots of historical facts, songs and even poetry. All the children commented on how much they had loved learning about these topics and were delighted to share all their hard work with friends and family.



Year 3 news!

During Science Year 3 had the opportunity to do some hands on experiments! During their lessons, they looked at the qualities of a variety of soil types and then finally worked together to test the absorbency of the different soils. Once their experiment was over, they recorded their final results and used their data to come to a conclusion about which soil type was the most absorbent.



Apsol Talent Show 2025

On Friday 14th February, we held this year's Talent Show and what Talent we saw! A massive well done to all the performers! The school choir, along with Sally Kirkaldy, launched the Talent Show with some incredible performances! Ms Alexandra led the Talent Show with the support from Ms Ines.



The winners were selected by The School Choir this week. Well done to all the children who participated, a massive well done to the winners (100 House points):
Arabella (Gymnastics performance)
David (Martial Arts)
Amanda (Instrumental performance)

ACHIEVEMENT & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

School Good Manners Badges

Good manners badges can only be awarded to children who display good manners consistently and across the school.

Year 1: Clara S, Isaac

Maths Badges: Timestables Rockstars Year 3 & 4!

Bronze: Isabelly Y4

Silver: Guilherme Y4, Isabel Y3

Gold: Lydia-Isabella Y4, Alexia Y4, Noah Y4, Amiah Y4, Marina Y4, Sara Y3, Neveah Y3, Eva Y3.

Curriculum Enrichment badges

Children representing the school in different areas of the curriculum, will also have additional badges.

School Choir - have music note pin badges

School Football team - have a football pin badge

Well done children!

Sports news! Football league

Our first matches of the league were held on Friday 28th February! We will be tracking team progress online and displaying league information on our website.

In the summer term, we will be exploring other sports including forming a Netball league within the Wandle Sports League partnership we have formed.

APSOL Y3 & Y4 Football Team 2025

Rodrigo A
Rodrigo S
Frankie
Rafael
Ana F
Alice
Rafael
Vicente
Noah
David



Little Apsolings have been working very hard on their manners. We can see a significant improvement. Please continue to support your child with these at home, so that these become habit. Please continue to support your child with these at home, so that these become habit.

- good morning, good afternoon
- Please and thank you
- excuse me please (when passing)
- after you (letting someone go in front/ holding the door for others)
- Sorry (when they have done something wrong)
- Pardon (when they didn't hear something and need it repeated)

Once the children show **consistently** good manners in all aspects of school life, they will be able to get the good manners badge.





IMPORTANT INFORMATION

14th February	Talent Show - parents of participants will be invited to attend. School finishes at 1:30pm.
17th-21st February	School closed for half-term
24th February	Spring term 2 starts Reception online parents meeting - appointment only
25th February	Year 1 online parents meeting - appointment only
26th February	Year 4 online parents meeting - appointment only
27th February	Year 3 online parents meeting - appointment only
28th February	Year 2 online parents meeting - appointment only
5th March	Reception trip to Polka Theatre
6th March	Whole School Carnival Parade at APSOL 3:15pm & World Book Day
17 March	Y2 Around the world workshop
24 March	Y1 trip to London Eye
25 March	Y3 Trip to British Museum - Ancient Egypt
Please click here to access the 2024-25 Term dates and the 2025-26 updated Term dates https://angloportugueseschool.org/en/term-dates/	

ATTENDANCE & BUILDING UPDATE

STAFFING UPDATE

Year group	Attendance Year-to-date
Reception	92.7%
Year 1	94.6%
Year 2	94.5%
Year 3	95.57%
Year 4	93.6%

The school target is **96%**. Currently only one year group is on track. Please help us to ensure that this target is met this year. Our current attendance is below at 94%.

This month there has been a lot of childhood illnesses going round, affecting attendance, however, as the children get older and the weather improves, we should see an improvement in attendance and reduction in absence.

The majority of our families prioritise their children's learning and do not take holidays during term-time. Thank you for your commitment to your child's education, this does not go unnoticed.

Children only have school for 190 days per year, the only absences should be medical or illness related.

The January Attendance Cup winners are **Year 3** again! Well done everyone!



DfE Building Update - February 2025

The contractor proposals and costs for the further works in in Spring / Summer 2025 have been submitted by the Contractor (Kier Construction) and are under review by the Department of Education (DfE) and their Technical Advisors to enable agreement of final costs and relevant approvals.

The final scope of any remaining works is still under review due to the additional design and costs related to the works.

We will provide a further update on progress and the remaining works in future newsletters.

Tom Bryant, Project manager

Reception:

Class teacher: Ricardina Oliveira
Teaching Assistant: Andreia Santos
Lunch Support:

Year 1:

Class teacher: Michelle Clough
Teaching Assistant: Naoual (Naz) Lamaani
Lunch support: Chris Ly & Lauren Regan

Year 2:

Class Teacher: Oscar Fielder
Teaching Assistant: Khan Sahabuddin (Vanessa Caldeira)
Lunch support: Lauren Regan & Chris Ly

Year 3:

Class Teacher: Tazi Gunde
Teaching Assistant: Regan McDonald from Monday 3rd February
Lunch support: Chris Ly & Lauren Regan

Year 4:

Class Teachers: Polly Sands and Lucy Mathieson
Teaching Assistant: Garfield Francis
Lunch support: Chris Ly & Lauren Regan

Portuguese Teachers across the school:

Alexandra Taveira
Ines Ferreira

Music Teachers:

Sian Greenhalf (Y1-4)
Mariana Chew (Rec)

Wrap around care assistants:

Breakfast club:

Irondina Gomes
Susan Spinola
Yamin Njair (Starting 24th february 2025)

After school club:

Rec & Y1: Fatima Rodrigues & Irondina Gomes
Y2-Y4: Lauren Regan & Fernanda Bartholomay

SENCO: Freya Cioffi



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PORTUGUESE UPDATE



🇬🇧🌟 Discoveries in the Portuguese Class! 🌟🇵🇹

Dear parents and guardians,

February brings lots of colour and excitement, and in our Portuguese lessons, we are celebrating this contagious energy! With Carnival just around the corner, our children are discovering fascinating facts about this special festivity. Did you know that Portuguese Carnival has roots in ancient pagan celebrations and that the tradition of parades started in Brazil but was influenced by the Portuguese Entrudo? In cities like Torres Vedras and Loulé, the festivities are famous for their floats and fun masks!

In addition to Carnival, each year group is exploring fascinating themes through reading and writing:

📖 Reception – Our youngest learners have started reading *The Little Red Hen*, a timeless story that teaches teamwork and responsibility. Will everyone help the hen bake the bread? 🍞

📖 Year 1 – Our little adventurers are following Sofia on her incredible journey From London to Porto on a Seagull! This enchanting story sparks imagination and teaches us that there are no limits to our dreams. What would it be like to fly through the skies with a seagull as a companion? 🦋

📖 Year 2 – The theme of travel is in the spotlight! How can we travel? What are the most common means of transport? From trains to hot air balloons, our students are learning that the world is vast and full of possibilities! 🌍

📖 Year 3 – A journey back in time to Ancient Egypt! Our students are exploring the secrets of the pyramids, the Egyptian gods, and the fascinating hieroglyphic writing system. Who will be able to decipher what the ancient pharaohs were trying to say? 🗿 In addition, they will put their writing skills to the test by sending letters to Portuguese scientists, discovering more about their work and the importance of science today! ✉️🔬

📖 Year 4 – With the help of African Fables, selected by Nelson Mandela, students are travelling through the African continent with stories rich in wisdom and culture. From clever lions to resourceful tortoises, each tale brings a valuable lesson. 🦁🌿 Additionally, they will continue the exchange programme with the school in Óbidos, Portugal, exchanging letters and sharing learning experiences with their Portuguese peers. What a wonderful way to build connections and learn together! 🇵🇹✉️

We hope you continue to encourage your children to read and share their discoveries with us. Happy reading and have a fantastic Carnival! 🎉🇵🇹

🇵🇹🌟 Descobertas na Disciplina de Português! 🌟🇬🇧

Caros pais e encarregados de educação,

Fevereiro traz consigo muita cor e animação, e nas aulas de Português estamos a celebrar esta energia contagiante! Com o Carnaval ao virar da esquina, as nossas crianças estão a descobrir curiosidades sobre esta festividade tão especial. Sabiam que o Carnaval português tem raízes nas festas pagãs da antiguidade e que a tradição dos desfiles começou no Brasil, mas com influência dos Entrudos portugueses? Em cidades como Torres Vedras e Loulé, os festejos são famosos pelos seus carros alegóricos e máscaras divertidas!

Para além do Carnaval, cada ano letivo está a explorar temas fascinantes através da leitura e da escrita:

📖 Reception – Os mais pequenos começaram a ler *A Galinha Ruiva*, um conto intemporal que ensina sobre trabalho em equipa e responsabilidade. Será que todos vão ajudar a galinha a fazer o pão? 🍞

📖 Year 1 – Os nossos pequenos aventureiros estão a acompanhar Sofia na sua incrível viagem de Londres ao Porto numa Gaivota! Esta história encantadora desperta a imaginação e ensina-nos que não há limites para os sonhos. Como será viajar pelos céus com uma gaivota como companheira? 🦋

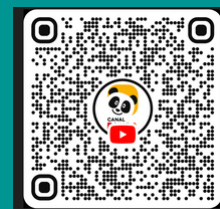
📖 Year 2 – O tema das viagens está em destaque! Como podemos viajar? Quais os meios de transporte mais usados? Desde comboios a balões de ar quente, os nossos alunos estão a aprender que o mundo é vasto e cheio de possibilidades! 🌍

📖 Year 3 – Uma viagem no tempo até ao Antigo Egito! Os nossos alunos estão a explorar os segredos das pirâmides, os deuses egípcios e a fascinante escrita dos hieróglifos. Quem sabe decifrar o que os antigos faraós queriam dizer? 🗿 Além disso, vão pôr a escrita em prática e enviar cartas a cientistas portugueses, descobrindo mais sobre o trabalho deles e a importância da ciência nos dias de hoje! ✉️🔬

📖 Year 4 – Com a ajuda de Fábulas Africanas, selecionadas por Nelson Mandela, os alunos estão a viajar pelo continente africano através de histórias ricas em sabedoria e cultura. De leões astutos a tartarugas engenhosas, cada conto traz uma lição valiosa. 🦁🌿 Além disso, vão dar continuidade ao intercâmbio com a Escola de Óbidos, em Portugal, trocando correspondência e partilhando aprendizagens com os seus colegas portugueses. Que bela forma de criar laços e aprender juntos! 🇵🇹✉️

Esperamos que continuem a incentivar os vossos filhos a ler e a partilhar connosco as suas descobertas. Boas leituras e um excelente Carnaval! 🎉🇵🇹

If your child wants to practise more Portuguese at home, please use this link to canal panda! Lots of fun songs and dances that the children know well and enjoy!



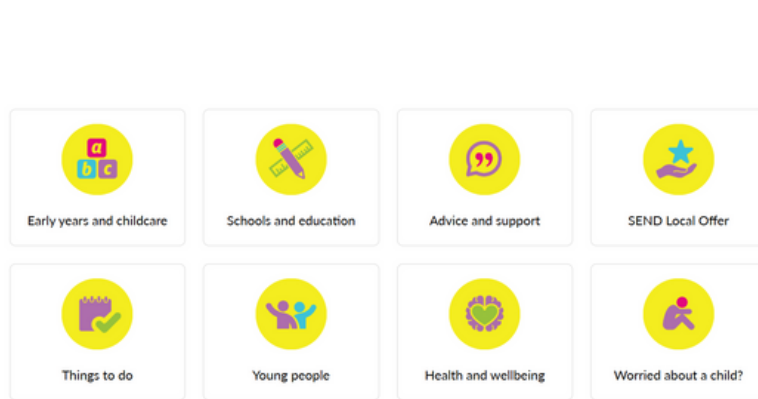


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COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Wandsworth Family Information Service
(click on images to access sites)

Healthwatch Wandsworth: Autism Support



NSPCC

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Supporting children at different ages with their use of technology

Read our helpful tips to help you determine what is right for your child in terms of tech ownership and usage throughout childhood.

Read more



Talking to your child about online safety

Advice on how to start the conversation and get support if you're worried.

Learn more



Techosaurus

Techosaurus is here to help you have those first conversations with your child about online safety.

Read more

If your personal circumstances change, and you need support, please speak to the Headteacher.



Celebration



Certificates and Achievement

Well done to all the children who have received a certificate this week!

At APSOL we celebrate children for various reasons and certificates can be awarded for the following:

- Star of the week
- Great effort
- Kindness award
- Maths Award
- Writing Award
- Portuguese Award
- Reading Award
- Headteacher Award

Children can receive Ambassador badges when they demonstrate excellent learning behaviours and a consistently positive attitude to learning, putting maximum effort in what they do.

February birthdays:

Saray-Arie
Clara M
Lara
Nicola
Leonor A
Zephaniah
Alayah
Frankie

Staff:
Ms Fatima



February House Points

Each child is assigned to a House at the beginning of the year and the points have been reset for this academic year. It is incredible to see how much praise the children at APSOL get given how many points they have already achieved collectively!

Children are also able to see their points individually.

Children will participate in several house activities throughout the year. Children receive house points on a daily basis.

The winning house has a very special prize at the end of the year.

Academic Year: 2022-2023 - Welcome / Bem-vinda Portuguese School of London - Logout



Discoverers

[Click to Enter](#)

18728 Points



Expeditioners

[Click to Enter](#)

16830 Points



Explorers

[Click to Enter](#)

17815 Points



Navigators

[Click to Enter](#)

19221 Points