



anglo.portuguese School of London

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



Y5 met the authors Valerie Bloom and Joseph Coelho

This month there have been several cultural development opportunities for our Apsolings as part of Wandsworth's London Borough of Culture 2025 offer. Year 5 have been participating in weekly poetry workshops and were able to present and perform their poems to an audience at the Civic Centre. They also met the authors: Valerie Bloom and Joseph Coelho, with Valerie Bloom giving Apsolings a special mention during her speech.

Year 3 Apsolings had the opportunity to meet David Walliams at the Civic Centre. The children loved hearing about his stories, asking questions and discovering what inspires him. Ms Marta - according to Y3 - might be featured in his next book (might)



Apsol School Choir Carol Service

MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2025 4:45PM

LOCATION: ST ANNE'S CHURCH, 182 ST ANN'S HILL SW18

All Apsol children attending with their families, must wear full school uniform.
Come and join the fun!

TICKET ADMISSION ONLY. TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM 4TH NOVEMBER. ALL APSOL FAMILIES WELCOME. APSOLINGS AND SIBLINGS-FREE.

Special thanks to Ms Sally Kirkaldy & Ms Bethany Norman
Apsol Music Department

We are looking forward to seeing all our families at our first School Choir Carol concert!



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RECEPTION CLASS



Reception Autumn Term Newsletter

What an exciting and enriching Autumn term it has been in Reception! From the very first weeks, the children have embraced school life with enthusiasm, curiosity, and growing confidence. It has been a joy to watch them settle into routines, build friendships, and begin to flourish as independent learners.

Learning Through Play

Play has been at the heart of everything we do this term. Whether indoors or outside, the children have explored new ideas, experimented with materials, and engaged in imaginative play that supports early problem-solving and teamwork. From building elaborate structures in the construction area to creating stories in the role-play corner, their creativity has truly shone.

Communication and Language

We have been particularly impressed with how well the children are developing their communication skills. Daily conversations, circle times, storytelling sessions, and group activities have helped them learn to listen carefully, take turns in speaking, and express their ideas with increasing clarity. Many children now confidently share their thoughts with the class and enjoy asking thoughtful questions, showing the beginnings of real curiosity about the world around them.

Growing Confidence

It has been wonderful to see each child's confidence grow. Whether trying new activities, joining in with songs, or presenting their own creations to peers, the children are becoming more assured in themselves and proud of their achievements. Their willingness to 'have a go' is setting a fantastic foundation for the rest of the year. Forest School and Sports lessons at Gymfinity support the children's confidence development. Reception are currently rehearsing for their Nativity performance, hopefully all of these opportunities will nurture young talent and support their growth.

Curiosity and Early Learning

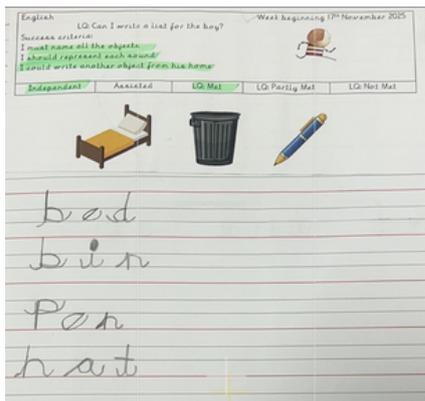
Our topics this term have sparked lots of excitement and wonder. The children have explored seasonal changes, enjoyed hands-on sensory activities, begun early phonics, and taken part in practical maths investigations. Their natural curiosity has driven some brilliant discussions and discoveries, and we look forward to continuing to nurture that inquisitive spirit. Early reading has also been very successful - most children are applying their learnt sounds in phonics to their writing!

Fine Motor Skills and Early Writing

We have placed a strong emphasis on fine motor development, and the progress has been fantastic. Through threading, tweezing, drawing, cutting, and dough activities, the children have strengthened the muscles in their hands and improved their control. As a result, many children are now comfortably beginning to use pre-cursive letter formation in their mark-making and early writing. It is wonderful to see them taking pride in writing their names, labels, and simple words.

We are incredibly proud of how much Reception has achieved this Autumn term. Their enthusiasm, resilience, and joyful approach to learning make every day a pleasure. We look forward to building on this strong start as we move into the spring term!

A massive thanks to the Reception Team: Ms Dina, Ms Lauren and Ms Alexandra for providing our young Apsolings with such a great start!





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PUPIL VOICE

Rights Respecting School- Update from Mr Oscar, Assistant Headteacher



This month our school has been strengthening its Rights Respecting ethos through a focus on **inclusion, diversity and anti-bullying**.

In assemblies, children explored what it means to respect and celebrate differences, take responsibility for their actions, and help create a safe and welcoming environment for everyone.

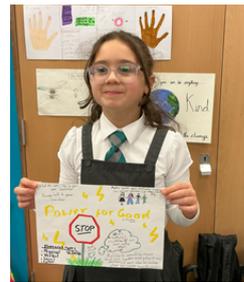
Class-based PSHE lessons built on this by discussing kindness, equality and how to speak up if something isn't right. The overall theme has been "Using the Power of Good".

As part of Anti-Bullying Week, pupils took part in our poster competition and enjoyed Odd Socks Day to celebrate individuality.

All of this work is rooted in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, particularly Article 2 (non-discrimination), Article 12 (voice of the child) and Article 19 (protection from harm), which underpin our commitment to ensuring every child feels valued, included and safe.

School Council - Update from Mr Oscar, Assistant Headteacher

Our APSOL Pupil School Council has been hard at work this term focusing on generating ideas for pupil leadership across the school. Children have shared fantastic ideas about how they can play a bigger role in our school community, including introducing Play Leaders to support games on the playground, creating Reading Ambassadors to champion a love of books, and offering more opportunities for older pupils to help younger children with their learning. We are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm, creativity, and commitment to making our school an even better place for everyone.



Eco-council update: Ms Lucy, Assistant Headteacher



Our Eco Council met for the first time this term and are already brimming with fantastic ideas to help make APSOL a greener, more sustainable school. For their first project, the children would like to organise a Toy and Book Swap, and we think it's a wonderful idea! The aim is simple: to encourage families to pass on pre-loved items rather than buying new things, helping us care for the environment while also spreading some joy. Children and parents will be invited to donate toys and/or books they no longer need. In return, anyone who donates will receive a ticket, which they can use to choose a "new-to-them" toy or book to take home during the swap event. Not only does this promote reusing and recycling, but it also supports children in thinking about sustainability. Any leftover items after the event will be donated to a local charity shop and members of the Eco Council may even accompany staff to deliver the donations. The Eco Council will be sharing more details with families very soon, so please keep an eye out for further information. We're excited to see this project take shape!



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ENRICHMENT



Wandle Sports League Games Y3-5



Year 3 Stone Age Workshop



Cine Schools Film Club at APSOL



Wandle Sports League events

Wandle Sports League	
Friday 7th November	Y3 mixed football team at Allfarthing
Friday 14th November	Y4 & Y5 Football at Allfarthing - Team
Friday 21st November	Y3 & Y4 Football Competition - Team
Friday 28th November	Y5 Football competition Allfarthing



Year 5 visit to Black History Archives in Brixton





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CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES NOVEMBER



A polite reminder regarding start of day timings for YR to Y5: The school doors open at 08.45 and registers close at 08.55.

Many thanks in advance for ensuring your children arrive promptly.

Attendance monitoring for the Autumn term shows a significant improvement with punctuality and reduced unauthorised absence. Thank you to all our families for co-operating with us and ensuring the children are not missing out in planned provision.

Year 2 so far have the best overall attendance rate since September.

	R	1	2	3	4	5	All Years
Attendance	96.11%	95.97%	96.59%	95.26%	96.43%	93.66%	95.74%

A massive well done to Year 2 for achieving the best attendance this month!

Autumn Term 2025 Parent Carer events

A winter-themed invitation graphic for a 'Winter Fair'. At the top, it says 'YOU ARE INVITED TO COME HAVE FUN AT THE' in a curved banner. Below this, there are two snow globes, two snow globes, and two penguins. The text 'WINTER FAIR' is written in large, bold, blue letters. At the bottom, a yellow banner says 'SUNDAY, 30TH OF NOVEMBER 2025 • 12PM - 4PM'. Below the banner, it lists activities: 'Tasty food • Santa • Fun Games' and 'Prized Raffle • Face Paintings'. The location is 'HANDLE RECREATION CENTRE MAPLETON RD SW18 4DN'. The price is '£3 per Adult (Kids go free)'. The logo for 'Friends of APSOL' is in the top right corner.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COME HAVE FUN AT THE

Friends of APSOL

WINTER FAIR

SUNDAY, 30TH OF NOVEMBER 2025 • 12PM - 4PM

Tasty food • Santa • Fun Games
Prized Raffle • Face Paintings

 **HANDLE RECREATION CENTRE**
MAPLETON RD SW18 4DN

£3
per Adult
(Kids go free)

For more information or if you would like to volunteer please message Filipa on 07519631515

Donations

Please only bring books or toy donations to the school if these have been approved by the school office. We recommend that donations are not dumped in the local area to avoid the school getting complaints. If toys and books are in good condition, please liaise with the FoAPSOL as these can be sold at the Fairs.

Medication Administration requests:

If your child needs to have medication at school such as antibiotics, please complete this form:

<https://forms.gle/UEEFnSWQ3K6sYwAx8>

School start time: 8:45am

Please ensure your child is in at this time so that they are well prepared and settled for the morning.

School finish time:

3:50pm Reception, Year 1
4:00pm Y2,3,4,5

Reporting absence:

Please contact the school office on your child's day of absence to report the reason for absence. You can also provide this via the MCAS app.

In-year admissions into other year groups:

If you know anyone who would like for their child to join APSOL, please ask them to complete our in-year admission form

<https://forms.gle/JKKhywo5nC9esQmRA>

Parent Information Board

Spring Term Clubs going live on Monday 1st December

**CINÉ
SCHOOLS**

SPRING TERM DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING

Produce a film about a notable alumnae, nearby historical building or a local community interest.

AWARD WINNING FILM PRODUCTION COURSES FOR YEAR 4-6



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[CINESCHOOLS.COM](https://www.cineschools.com)



YOU ARE A FILMMAKER



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For more information on school meals, please visit our school website:

<https://angloportugueseschool.org/school-meals/>

Celebration



November birthdays:

Children: Jose, Beatriz, Filipp, Dana
Clara S, Zahra, Leonor L, Nuno, Araya-Rose
Arthur, Baptista, Azaan, Vytautas
Benjamin L, Matilde L, Kavalli, Joseph, Zara



Staff:

Mr Oscar, Ms Alexandra and Ms Frankie

November 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. Last summer the winning House attended a slime workshop! We wonder what the prize will be this year!



Discoverers

[Click to Enter](#)

4085 Points



Expeditioners

[Click to Enter](#)

3269 Points



Explorers

[Click to Enter](#)

4115 Points



Navigators

[Click to Enter](#)

3876 Points