



JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Message from the Headteacher:

Dear Apsol Community,

Happy New Year! What a joyful start to January!

We kicked off the new term in the coziest way possible: **Pyjama Day!** The school was filled with happy faces, colourful slippers, and plenty of giggles as children arrived in their favourite PJs. It was a wonderful way to ease back into routines after the holidays, creating a warm, relaxed atmosphere that set the tone for a positive and exciting year ahead.

This term's highlights include Arts Week: A showcase of art and DT across the school, Carnival and the Talent Show, Science Week and the APSOL Bake Off. We also have the Year 2 Great Fire of London performance and Year 4 Sustainability assembly.

This term is filled with wonderful learning opportunities and celebrations across the school.

Arts Week will creativity to every corner of the building, with children proudly showcasing their artwork and DT projects. From vibrant paintings to inventive constructions, it's a fantastic display of talent and imagination.

We are also looking forward to the energy and colour of **Carnival**, followed by the always-anticipated **APSOL Talent Show**, where children impress us with their confidence and a wide range of skills.

Science Week sparks curiosity and hands-on exploration, while the much-loved **APSOL Bake Off** adds a sprinkle of friendly competition (and plenty of delicious treats!).

Our year groups performances this term include: Year 2 The Great Fire of London, and Year 4 Sustainability assembly.

Our area for improvement:

One of our main areas for improvement this year is **attendance**, and we need everyone's support.

Good attendance is vital for every child's learning, progress and confidence.

Low attendance not only affects the child who is missing school, it also affects the whole school community. Teachers spend extra time helping pupils catch up, which can slow down the pace of learning for the wider class. It also impacts the school's ability to plan effectively and maintain the high standards we all strive for. Currently, the school's attendance has been an average of 94% which is lower than National average. For a school like APSOL, we need everyone's cooperation with understanding the negative impact such low attendance has on the school's reputation and outcomes. We are certain, that with everyone's support, we can change this and make APSOL great in all areas!

First day back to school 2026, and my daughter's school declared a pyjama day. It made getting back into the school routine after a long holiday break, and on a sub-freezing morning, just that little bit easier and exciting. And when we got to the front door, the head was in her dressing gown, the office manager in her onesie, and both were wearing warm smiles of welcome. The smile and look of joy on my kid's face was the kind that can't be faked. Thank you teachers, for all the ways, big and small, that you spark joy!

#educators #school #pyjamaday #joy



Y3 parent voice

 anglo.portuguese
School of London

WE ARE **RECRUITING
CLASS
TEACHERS** FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Class Teachers
We're looking for enthusiastic Class Teachers to make learning unforgettable!

Ready to make a difference?
Apply now.

• Qualified Teacher Status
• Main/Upper Pay scale inner London
• Supportive leadership team
• Well-being initiatives
• Modern facilities and education resources
• Opportunities for career development

Apply now

To receive an application pack, contact:
info@angloportugueseschool.org
Tel 0203 417 0905

Any offer of employment is subject to enhanced checks

Parent Information: APSOL Carnival & Last day of term

CARNIVAL 2026

**THEME:
CELEBRATING
DIVERSITY**



**School
Community
Event
Location: APSOL
Date: 12th
February
Time: 3:15pm**



Carnival 2026

Children will need to make these costumes at home and wear these to school on Thursday 12th February.

Reception: Chinese New Year
Costume: red, yellow, dragon

Year 1: Ramadan
Costume: moon, stars, fanous lantern

Year 2: Diwali
Costume: oil lamp, rangoli patterns, marigold flowers

Year 3: Easter (Spring)
Costume: rabbits, lambs, flowers, eggs

Year 4: St Patrick & St George
Costume: flags, shamrock, dragon, rainbow, green, red, leprechauns, knight, rose

Year 5: St Andrew, St David
fisherman's net, blue, thistle, daffodil, leek, dove, welsh flag dragon

All family members welcome, please arrive from 3pm as the parade will start promptly at 3:15pm

Refreshments will be sold - card payments only

All proceeds for school fund. This is a school social event providing everyone with the opportunity to socialise and get to know the families in your childrens' classes!

Last day of term: Friday 13th February 2026

School finishes at 1:30pm

Own clothes: Theme - Love & kindness

Children can wear red, pink to school



JANUARY CLASS UPDATES



Year 3 have been busy in Design and Technology learning about stable structures and the key features of castles. The children designed and built their own castles, carefully considering strength and stability. In Science, they explored why soil is important by examining different types of soil, sieving them and placing them in water to observe which parts floated and which sank.

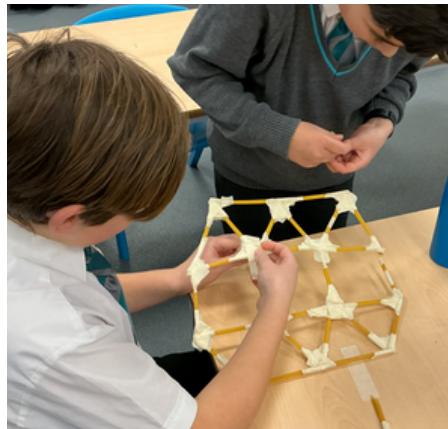
Year 2 have been having a fantastic time exploring colour and understanding how they can use different tools create texture. Many used their fingers, cotton buds, edges of cardboard pieces and sponges along with other materials to create texture that they could then use as part of their collages! Some of Year 2 challenged themselves by creating different shades and seeing what happens when secondary colours are mixed together.



Year 1 are currently learning all about our planet in Science. They planted their own seeds last week and predicted how they would look after 4 weeks. They have been super excited to see their progress and have been discussing how they could help their plants grow even more.



JANUARY CLASS UPDATES



It has been a busy and exciting start to 2026 in **Year 5**.

In Design Technology, they have been exploring how different types of bridges are structured and constructed, learning what makes them strong and stable. In Science, the children have been busy investigating a range of materials to discover whether they act as electrical conductors or insulators. Also in computing, they have been developing their data-handling skills by learning how to use databases and even creating their own.



It's cold outside! Reception have made threaded snowflakes for their winter craft in Design and Technology. Using pipe cleaners and applying skills with threading, choosing colours and shapes to create patterns.

Year 4 have made a fantastic start to the term and are thoroughly enjoying their topic, The Anglo-Saxons. In English, the children have been working hard on writing linked to their non-fiction texts about Anglo-Saxon life. They are now moving on to their new fiction text, Beowulf, which is the exciting tale of a courageous warrior who defeats the fierce monster, Grendel.

In Maths, our focus continues to be multiplication and division, alongside preparation for the Year 4 Multiplication Check in June. Please continue encouraging your children to log on to Times Tables Rock Stars regularly to build their fluency.

In Science, the class are exploring how sounds are made through vibrations. They are currently planning their own investigation to find out how the volume of a sound changes over different distances which is a highlight of the topic so far!

Another subject the children are thoroughly enjoying is DT. They have designed and created their own pavilions, thinking carefully about their chosen theme and target audience. These wonderful models will be coming home soon.

In Computing, the children have been learning how to programme an online turtle robot by giving it simple repeating instructions. They have loved seeing the turtle follow their commands to create different shapes and patterns, and they are very proud of what they have achieved.



JANUARY SPORTS UPDATE



Wandle Sports League: Hockey



JANUARY ENRICHMENT



Y3 visit to the Embassy of Portugal in Belgravia



Year 2 workshop - Year 2 travelled back in time to 1666! They went on a hunt for artefacts, heard about how people fled the burning city in boats and even got to enjoy some era specific dancing. At the end of their workshop, they got to draw what they would like London to look like after the fire.





ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Attendance

	R	1	2	3	4	5	All Years
Attendance	97.11%	93.76%	95.77%	95.06%	95.45%	93.47%	95.20%
Authorised	2.33%	5.21%	3.23%	4.36%	3.85%	3.93%	3.78%
Unauthorised	0.56%	1.03%	1.00%	0.58%	0.70%	2.60%	1.02%

Attendance Matters

Dear families,

We are on the trajectory to improvement in our biggest area for development - which is Attendance! Its very positive to see a decline in unauthorised absences and an increase in whole school attendance. Our target this year is **96%** at the end of the year, hopefully together, we will achieve this! It's very positive to see whole school attendance at 95.2% which is slightly above National.

Congratulations to Our Reception Attendance Stars for January! ★

Punctuality

Getting young children to school on time helps them start the day calm and ready to learn, ensures they don't miss key morning lessons, supports their social development, avoids disrupting the class, and builds strong lifelong habits about responsibility and routine. Please can you support us to ensure all children are at school by **8:45am**

	R	1	2	3	4	5	All Years
Late	0.46%	0.72%	1.63%	3.22%	2.62%	1.11%	1.62%

RECEPTION WON THE ATTENDANCE PRIZE FOR BEST ATTENDANCE IN THE AUTUMN TERM



It pays off to be at school!
As part of their reward for
having the best
attendance for the Autumn
Term, Reception had a
workshop at Gootopia
making their own slime!
Help your child to be at
school every day for more
exciting rewards!



CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES JANUARY



Celebration



New Ambassadors!

Well done to all these children for representing the school so well and always putting maximum effort in all aspects of school life.

Julia Y1



January birthdays:

Children:

Rayell
Alexia
Olivia
Eva
Nina
Iulia
Aidan
Phoebe
Diana
Christian
Erik
David Y1
Bernardo
Zayn
Kairav



January 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](#)

8795 Points



Expeditioners

[Click to Enter](#)

7879 Points



Explorers

[Click to Enter](#)

8025 Points



Navigators

[Click to Enter](#)

8526 Points

Parent Information



JOIN OUR

RECEPTION CLASS SEPTEMBER 2026

**Submit your
application by 15th
January 2026**

- Was your child born between 1/9/2021 – 31/8/2022?

Then they need to join Reception!

- Deadline for applications was 15th January via your local authority of residence. If you missed the deadline, please contact our school administrator.



Contact:

info@angloportugueseschool.org
Tel 0203 417 0905

Volunteers

We welcome volunteers for reading and helping out at APSOL.

Before anyone volunteers at APSOL they have to undergo a robust vetting process as part of our safeguarding procedures and an enhanced DBS check.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact the school office for a volunteer application pack.

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.

For more information on school meals, please visit our school website:
<https://angloportugueseschool.org/school-meals/>

Medication Administration requests:

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

<https://forms.gle/UEEFnSWQ3K6sYwAx8>

Is my child too ill for school?

Please check this NHS Guidance on what to do if your child becomes unwell with early childhood illnesses:

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/JKhywo5nC9esQmRA>