



16th January 2026 Issue 08

Headteacher's Message

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. On behalf of all the staff at Edward Pauling Primary School, we wish you a successful and happy 2026.

Attendance

I would like to remind all families of the vital importance of regular school attendance. Last week, our attendance rate was **only 81.34%**, which is significantly below the government target of 96%. Low attendance can seriously impact your child's education. When children miss school, they miss out on carefully sequenced learning that builds progressively. Gaps in learning begin to form, making it more challenging and stressful for your child to catch up. It also places additional pressure on our teaching staff to provide extra intervention.

Please note that all requests for term-time leave will be unauthorised, and extended absences will be reported to the local authority in line with our attendance policy. For your convenience, this year's and next year's term dates are available in the Parents section of our school website to help you plan holidays accordingly:

<https://www.edwardpauling.hounslow.sch.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=317>

National Year of Reading

There is an exciting buzz around the school about reading at the moment. It has been truly heart-warming to see so many children eagerly engaged with books as they arrive at school.

Last week, we launched our Readathon fundraising initiative, and on Monday, we will officially celebrate the National Year of Reading with a special assembly featuring Hounslow Library Service. Each year group will receive the top 50 recommended books, which have already been purchased. To date, I have invested over £5,500 in enhancing our classroom book collections and Key Stage Two reading intervention materials. All funds raised through the Readathon will go directly towards purchasing reading resources. Thank you in advance for your support in this important fundraising effort.

Mr Adam Malin
Headteacher

Announcements



Due to staff training Teds club is cancelled on Tuesday 20th January



office@edwardpauling.hounslow.sch.uk



0208 831 0841



We are proud of our children who consistently go over and above, embodying our school values of resilience, empathy, respect, independence, courage, and ambition as they rise to challenges and make outstanding progress.

Well done to the following children who have gone **Over and Above** 9/01/2026.

Blue Class - Kaiyan

Year 1 - Shiven - Aqua & Dilhan - Sapphire

Year 2 - Jerry - Scarlet & Adib - Ruby

Year 3 - Kayhan - Indigo & Blossom - Lilac

Year 4 - Vihaan - Jasper & Vian - Emerald

Year 5 - Amira - Amber & Oriana - Saffron

Year 6 - Armiya - Crimson & Vedika - Magenta

Well done to the following children who have gone **Over and Above** last week.

Year 1 - Amy - Sapphire

Year 2 - Aria - Scarlet & Reggie - Ruby

Year 3 - Elena - Indigo & Charlotte - Lilac

Year 4 - Maddie - Jasper & Aliza - Emerald

Year 5 - Ismail - Amber & Ibrahim - Saffron

Year 6 - Jennifer - Magenta

National Year of Reading

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a UK-wide government initiative, led by the Department for Education and partnered with the National Literacy Trust, to combat declining reading habits among children, young people, and adults by making reading more accessible, modern, and personally relevant. According to a 2025 report from the National Literacy Trust, only 1 in 3 children and young people aged 8 to 18 said they enjoyed reading in their free time, and 1 in 4 said they didn't enjoy reading at all.

Why Read?

Low Literacy in Education

Education enables individuals to acquire knowledge, skills, and critical thinking abilities. Low literacy levels have detrimental effects on educational outcomes: learners who find reading difficult score lower in exams, and can easily find themselves becoming disengaged from learning itself. Furthermore, limited literacy can constrain opportunities for further study and higher education. Proficiency in reading and writing is crucial for accessing complex academic materials.

Low Literacy and the Job Market

Literacy plays a pivotal role in career prospects and employment opportunities. Those with limited literacy skills may encounter barriers when it comes to expressing themselves or engaging in persuasive discourse. An additional report from the Department of Education from July revealed that individuals who were confident readers and writers by the end of Key Stage 2 could go on to earn, on average, £65,000 more over their lifetime.

Low Literacy and Individual Health

Those with low literacy are far more likely to live below the poverty line, which in turn means that access to medical attention, information and preventative care are likely to be limited compared to an individual with a median income.

Low Literacy and life chances

By the age of 37, those with low literacy tend to be unemployed far more often than people with average and high levels of literacy. They're also the group most at risk of redundancies and long-term unemployment, too, so it's not always a case of longer working years.



What are we doing?



To develop a love of reading....

- Spring Term Readathon
- Class Competition to see who can read the most
- Creating a dedicated, intimate space for our school library to enable weekly class visits
- Weekly class swaps to provide shared reading times
- Introducing daily independent reading times
- Introducing teacher led daily story time
- Investing in class book corners to provide age appropriate high interest texts
- Investigating and establishing reading book clubs and lunch time book clubs



To support reading in the curriculum....

- Rewriting the English curriculum, ensuring that it is underpinned by quality text that exposes our children to ambitious vocabulary and a range of authors and cultures
- Investing in staff subject knowledge to ensure our early readers receive the highest quality phonics teaching
- Investing in phonics and reading support material to enable support staff to deliver high quality intervention across the school, ensuring that targeted children make accelerated progress
- Effectively using data to identify gaps in children's learning and provide targeted support
- Providing phonics and reading workshops for parents
- Targeted reading fluency and comprehension lesson throughout the week

How to support reading at home

- We expect that your child reads at home every day, encourage your child to record in their reading record. Please ensure that you sign your child's record- it will be checked by your class teacher each morning
- Regularly use your local library for a wide variety of books, ebooks, and audiobooks
- For our earliest readers to support your child by recapping taught phonics sounds using shared QR codes
- Read to your child every day, even older children, using funny voices and enthusiasm





Blue Class Update



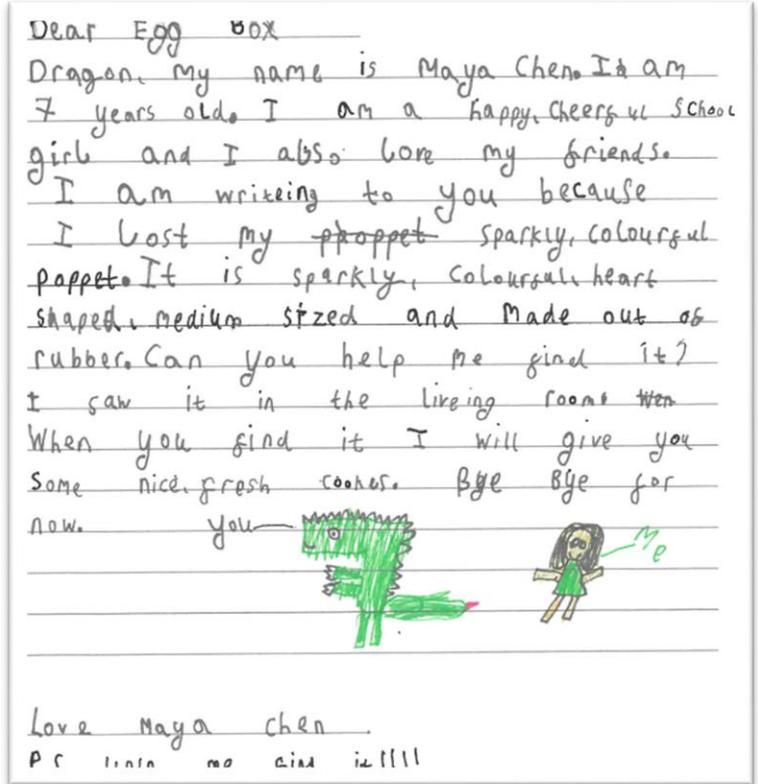
Reception are excited to start-off the New Year in their new classroom! Moving into a bigger space means that there are more opportunities for the children to engage in purposeful play. This change is extremely positive and the children have shown their adaptability and their willingness to try new things. Along with this, some of our Nursey children have been joining us in the afternoons, allowing them to further develop their co-operative play and communication skills.

Tom Cooper
Reception Class Teacher



Lost!

This week, I was visited by Maya in Year 2. I was so impressed that she was so inspired by her current class text, Egg Box Dragon, to write a letter to Egg Box Dragon at home. A huge well done, Maya for being such an engaged learner.



Make sure to like our new Facebook page to keep up to date!

Search:
Edward Pauling Primary School
OR

<https://www.facebook.com/828765926984672/>



Class takeovers will be published on Tuesday and Friday- Make sure you join our social to see what learning has taken place!



Date	Event	Year Group
Monday 19 th January	Individual/Sibling School Pictures	Whole School
Tuesday 24 th March	Spring Term Parents Evening (Late)	Whole School
Thursday 26 th March	Spring Term Parents Evening (Early)	Whole School

ATTENDANCE

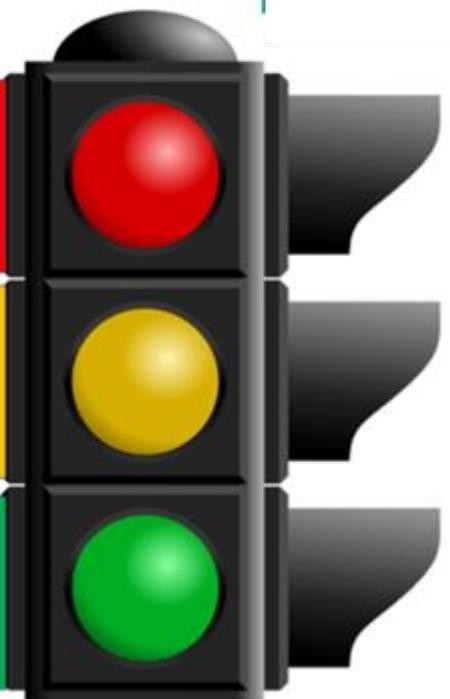
Why is it important?

Attendance	Days absent	Weeks absent	Lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

89% or below
Drastic effect on academic achievement

96% - 90%
Cause for Concern

100% - 97%
Excellent!



Whole School	81.34%	
Year Group	Attendance 5 th - 9 th January	Attendance 12 th - 16 th January
Nursery	92.9%	96.7%
Reception	93.7%	94.8%
Year One	94%	94.3%
Year Two	89%	94%
Year Three	97.3%	96%
Year Four	93.5%	93.8%
Year Five	95.5%	97.5%
Year Six	92.1%	94.3%



TEDS Club Update

Huge congratulations to our staff in TED's club in gaining the highest rating for hygiene after a recent unannounced visit .

The UK's [Food Hygiene Rating Scheme](#) (FHRS) rates food businesses from 0 (urgent improvement needed) to 5 (very good) based on inspections of food handling, cleanliness, and management. Well Done!!



ΛΕΚΑ GOOD



NURSERY ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2026

Children born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023 can start in a nursery class attached to a primary or infant school in September 2026.

All 3-and 4-year-olds are entitled to 15 hours of free childcare per week. If you are eligible, you may be able to access 30 hours of funded childcare.

VISIT OUR OFSTED RATED 'GOOD' NURSERY

If your child is due to start Nursery, we warmly invite you to attend one of our Nursery Open Days. This is a great opportunity to explore our provision, meet staff, and ask questions.

Please book a convenient date/time using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/afSv6EiQTR> or by scanning the QR code.

OPEN DAY DATES & TIMES

MORNING SESSIONS (10:00AM)

Thursday 29th January Thursday 12th February
Thursday 26th February

AFTERNOON SESSIONS (1:30PM)

Wednesday 21st January Wednesday 4th February
Wednesday 4th March



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