

January 2026 Parent Newsletter



Monday 5th January 2026

Happy New Year!

Welcome back, I hope you all had a restful Christmas break and time to spend with family and friends during this festive holiday. Last term was a very long and busy one with the induction of all the pupils to our nursery and reception. We are so proud of how the children have settled and are engaging with learning within the setting. The staff have worked extremely hard across the school to ensure the smooth transition to the pupil's new year groups. Evidence of this was shared when the children presented and performed during our annual Christmas production which involved every child in the school! The children were so happy and confident!

Memories from our Annual Christmas Production.
The Nativity -Nursery/



Memories from our Annual Christmas Production -Reception.



Memories from our Annual Christmas Production -Year 1



Memories from our Annual Christmas Production -Year 2



Thank you to all the parents who bought tickets and attended one or more of the performances. The money raised will be used to replenish our reading vending machine and this year we used some of the funds to thank the staff with a fish and chip quiz night. I know parents appreciate how hard staff work and would consider the staff worthy of a treat.

On Monday 15th December the children from our Christmas carol singing club visited the elderly in the community residing in assisted living at Boothman House, who look forward to our annual visit.



Celebrating Reading at KPINS as we share with you the children who have made improvements in reading and won a token to collect a free book from our vending machine.

Reading and the teaching/learning in phonics continues to be a school improvement priority, each month we will continue to share images of the children who have made improvements in their reading.

During the autumn term 149 books were received by pupils for making improvements in their reading and achieving 6 stars on their reading cards.



Our 1st pupils this school year 2025-26, to receive a book from the vending machine are: Clarence (who was also the first pupil last academic year!), Amarah and Josua from Year 2 – Chameleon Class.
Well done we are so proud of you!

I am really proud to announce the names of the children who have also received books in December:

			
<p>Congratulations to Carla, Aaron & Seraj from Kingfisher Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Emily B and Amir from Kingfisher Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Ditya, Vihaan and Yuven from Kingfisher Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Prince and Nathaniel from Sea Turtle Class.</p>
			
<p>Congratulations to Ruth, Alexander and Luca O from Dolphin Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Nitya, Stefan and Ana from Dolphin Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Denis, Ava and Luca M from Dolphin Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Aiman, Levi and Shahan from Dolphin Class.</p>
			
<p>Congratulations to Sarah and Rhea from Starfish Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Mia and Jacob from Starfish Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Anastasia from Chameleon Class</p>	<p>Congratulations to Lucas, Anisia and Iulian A from Chameleon Class.</p>
			
<p>Congratulations to Anelisse, Panthi, Ruth and Ezrah from Chameleon Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Sara, David, Gabriel and Jonathan from Chameleon Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Shenaya, Ditya and Harshiv from Chameleon Class.</p>	<p>Congratulations to Emmanuel from Lemur Class.</p>

			
Congratulations to Al-Ghala, Hajeer and Mohammed from Lemur Class.	Congratulations to Krisha, Amarah and Nishkam from Lemur Class.	Congratulations to Aarvee and Richard from Lemur Class.	Congratulations to Alessia and Bogdan from Jaguar Class.
			
Congratulations to Luis, Yousef, Sofia and Ioana from Jaguar Class.			

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

If you do not wish for your child's photograph to be shared in the monthly newsletter please send an email to the school office: office@kpins.harrow.sch.uk subject: reading vending machine pictures, Stating: I wish for my child to opt out of having their image shared in the monthly newsletter if they receive a free reading book from the reading vending machine.

If we do not hear from you, we will assume you are happy to allow your child's picture to be shared and uploaded onto the school website too as part of the monthly newsletter!

Our Harrow Schools Counselling partnership – Therapeutic Lead

Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet Swati (our new therapeutic lead) for a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child, or any other worries, she is available on a Wednesday. You can email her at Swati@schoolsounsellingpartnership.co.uk.

Safeguarding

At the start of a new school term it is vital that you check that all your contact and emergency contact details are up to date and accurate. Please ensure any changes to contact numbers are regularly checked and updated. If you change your phone or number, emergency contacts, inform the school office staff. If at any time you have made an alternative arrangement for someone to collect your child from the school, please inform the office and/or the class teacher at drop off and where possible introduce them to the school staff in advance, but most importantly ensure they have the password you have provided. In line with our safeguarding practices we will not release your child to anyone who does not know the password nor into the care of a minor (anyone under the age of 18 years), so please do not send older high school siblings to collect your child from school.

Remember: If you arrange for another adult to collect your child from school – phone ahead and inform the school or inform the class teacher at drop off in the morning, ensure that you provide them with their details

(name, gender and relationship to you or the child) and also ensure that they know the password. **We will not release your child to anyone who does not know the password.**

Also, if you have changed your mobile number or emergency contact details please make sure they are updated as soon as possible.

Recycling school uniforms – Help another family!

Please continue to support us by recycling good condition school uniforms as your child grows out of them. Remember it can help another family who may be finding it hard to purchase uniform items at full price. We will keep the container for old uniforms in the playground permanently so please keep decluttering and dropping items into the box as and when you can.

Attendance reminder

I would like to remind parent/carers that the school attendance is monitored by the DfE and LA who forensically analyse the data of any pupils who have regular school absences and particularly those whose attendance falls below 90% who are deemed persistent absentees. Stricter rules and attendance expectations are due to be enforced by the DfE making it harder for parents to keep their child off school.

The DfE and the local authority continue to monitor the school attendance data and flag children's whose attendance falls below or close to 90%. During the second half of the autumn term a number of pupils were identified fitting into this category and parents received letters informing them of this and the expectations that attendance must improve. Where there were historical patterns of poor attendance parents were contacted by the local authority attendance officer or asked to attend a face to face meeting in school to discuss the concerns and identify a way to support more regular attendance.

In some cases, parents have been informed that the next step if attendance does not improve is their case will be taken to the pre-court panel which could lead to heavier penalties or even custodial sentences. This is something that we would like to work with parents to avoid.

We have noticed patterns of attendance falling particularly prior to or immediately after a school holiday – please ensure that you make arrangements to travel during school holiday time and not during term time. The law has changed; you do not need to have 5 consecutive days of absence to qualify for a penalty notice an aggregate of any unauthorised absence during the academic year are included.

Please note any absences during the last week prior to a school holiday will need to be evidenced in line with the LA absence procedures. You will be required to have your child's sickness checked by the school welfare, so the child will need to be brought into school and the welfare Miss Nubuor will check to see if the child is fit to be in school or not. Alternatively, medical evidence will need to be requested from a GP in the form of a print out of the consultation and proof of any medication prescribed.

Please be reminded that a fine to parents must be considered if a child misses 5 days of school for unauthorised absence. The cost for **finer increased last September 2024 from £60 to £80** (per parent) **if paid within 21 days and from £120 to £160 if paid in 28 days**. If a second fine is issued within a 12-month period, it will start at £160 per parent.

Please note that every time your child is absent from school they are missing an average of 5 lessons per day. Over a school week that amounts to over 25 lessons missed!

TERM TIME LEAVE not permitted!

Exceptional circumstances mean exceptional!

Religious leave in line with the Harrow SACRE Calendar only.

Please note the guidance on sickness absence that can be authorised below with evidence to support it.

Should I Keep My Child off School?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✔ Minor coughs & cold ✔ Sore throat ✔ Conjunctivitis ✔ Respiratory infections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✔ Ear infection ✔ Cold sores ✔ Tonsillitis ✔ Head lice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ Whooping cough ✘ High temperature ✘ Chickenpox ✘ Diarrhoea & vomiting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✘ Covid ✘ Flu ✘ Scarlet fever ✘ Measles
GO TO SCHOOL		STAY AT HOME	

Please note below the school term dates and holidays.

These are shared in the monthly newsletter and can be found on the school website. Therefore, there is no excuse for any parent to claim they are not aware when making requests for leave which needs to be avoided during term time.

School Term dates 2025-2026

Spring Term 2026

First day of school	Monday 5 January
INSET DAY (Children not in school)	Friday 16 January
Half term	Monday 16 February– Friday 20 February
Back to school	Monday 23 February
INSET DAY (Children not in school)	Friday 27 February
Last day of term	Friday 27 March (finish at 2 p.m. Reception & 2.15 p.m. KS 1)

Summer Term 2026

First day of school	Monday 13 April
Half term	Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May
Back to school	Monday 1 June
INSET DAY (Children not in school)	Friday 19 June (Infant School ONLY)
Last day of term	Friday 17 July (finish at 2 p.m. Reception & 2.15 p.m. KS 1)
INSET DAY (Children not in school)	Monday 20 July

NB: Reception finish at 2 p.m. and years 1 & 2 (KS 1) will finish at 2.15 p.m. on the last day of each term. This does not apply to half term holidays.

There is no afternoon nursery session on the last day of each term due to the early finish time.

Please not there is NO school on Bank Holiday.

Bank holidays 2025/26:

Thursday 25 Dec	Christmas Day Holiday
Friday 26 Dec	Boxing Day
Thursday 1 January 2026	New Years Day
Friday 3 April	Good Friday
Monday 6 April	Easter Monday
Monday 4 May	May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 25 May	Spring Bank Holiday
Monday 31 August	August Bank Holiday

A REMINDER OF OUR COMPULSARY SCHOOL UNIFORM & PE UNIFORM

Please be reminded that the school takes a hard line regarding compliance with the school uniform. It is parents’ responsibility to ensure that their child is wearing the school uniform as stipulated in the school prospectus and website. On Wednesday’s we require all children in Year 1 and 2 to wear the schools PE uniform which comprises of **Grey joggers (Option of black shorts in the summer) a grey top and black trainers/plimsolls and not their own sportswear.** This uniform can also be worn for PE lessons, in line with their class timetables, on days other than Wednesday. All Uniform orders can be made via the Weduc App at the school shop.



It has been noted since the start of the school term that a number of children are not wearing the appropriate clothing and black shoes. Please respect the school’s policy and practice by ensuring your child comes to school in the correct uniform. We thank you in advance for your support and compliance.

During the summer term pupils permitted to wear the following:

Girls may wear Black or Grey Trousers too.

White socks or grey tights

Boys’ black or grey socks.

Summer dress from April – July only



The following information will help you plan for forthcoming events and plan your diaries. (please note there may be times when dates have to be changed due to unforeseen circumstances so please keep checking the monthly newsletter for updates.)

Parent meetings Spring term 2025.

Parents meetings

	SPRING	TERM	2026		
Date	Year group	Activity	Time	Arrangements	Venue
Friday 27 th February	All Year groups	Parents open day/ meetings & KS 1 Mid-Year reports	12.30 – 7 p.m.	Book appointment slots via Weduc	Classrooms/ Year 2 in the school hall.
Tuesday 3 rd February	All parents	Coffee Morning	9 a.m.	PINs Project	School hall.

Parental Engagement Session Spring 2026.

Our parental engagement sessions will resume after the Christmas break when the children have settled back into the school routines. Please note the provisional dates so that you can plan to attend.

Date	Year group	Activity	Time	Arrangements	Venue
Monday 12 th January	Year 1	English Seminar lesson	9 a.m.	Dolphin Class	School Hall
Tuesday 13 th January	Year 1	English Seminar lesson	9.05 a.m.	Sea Turtle Class	School Hall
Thursday 15 th January	Year 1	English Seminar lesson	9.05 a.m.	Starfish Class	School Hall
Monday 19 th January	Reception	Literacy workshop – focus on writing	9 a.m.	Robin Class	School hall
Tuesday 20 th January	Reception	Literacy workshop – focus on writing	9 a.m.	Kingfisher class	School hall
Thursday 22 nd January	Reception	Literacy workshop – focus on writing	9 a.m.	Owl class	School hall
Monday 26 th January	Year 2	English Seminar lesson	9.05 a.m.	Lemur Class	School hall
Tuesday 27 th January	Year 2	English Seminar lesson	9.05 a.m.	Chameleon Class	School hall
Thursday 29 th January	Year 2	English Seminar lesson	9.05 a.m.	Jaguar Class	School hall
Wednesday 4 th February	Nursery	Parents workshop focused on – communication & language.	9 a.m. 1 p.m.	Morning Nursery Afternoon Nursery	Nursery
		Half	term		
Monday 23 rd February	Year 1	Maths seminar lesson focused on Number & Calculation	9 a.m.	Dolphin Class	School hall
Tuesday 24 th February	Year 1	Maths seminar lesson focused on Number & Calculation	9 a.m.	Sea Turtle Class	School hall
Thursday 26 th February	Year 1	Maths seminar lesson focused on Number & Calculation	9 a.m.	Starfish Class	School hall
Monday 2 nd March	Reception	Maths workshop focused on Numerical Patterns.	9 a.m.	Robin Class	School hall
Tuesday 3 rd March	Reception	Maths workshop focused on Numerical	9 a.m.	Kingfisher Class	School hall

		Patterns.			
Thursday 5 th March	Reception	Maths workshop focused on Numerical Patterns.	9 a.m.	Owl Class	School hall
Monday 9 th March	Year 2	Maths seminar lesson – focused on number and Calculation.	9 a.m.	Lemur Class	School hall
Tuesday 10 th March	Year 2	Maths seminar lesson – focused on number and Calculation.	9 a.m.	Chameleon Class	School hall
Wednesday 11 th March	Nursery	Parents workshop focused on – Maths.	9 a.m. 1 p.m.	Morning Nursery Afternoon Nursery	Nursery
Thursday 12 th March	Year 2	Maths seminar lesson – focused on number and Calculation.	9 a.m.	Jaguar Class	School hall

Useful website:

Please find below link to the Bell Foundation website which provides translated guidance for parents on the education system in the UK and the expectations.

<https://www.bell-foundation.org.uk/resources/guidance/parental-involvement/guidance-for-parents-english-education-system/>

FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY CHECK worth checking as the government continue to give food vouchers during the holidays!

It is important that parents check their eligibility criteria as a number of parents found themselves to be eligible during lockdown. They were then issued with free school meal vouchers which they could use to purchase food at a supermarket of their choice. It is important that you check as it may be helpful in the event of a second spike!

Parents can check to see if they meet the eligibility criteria by following the instructions below:

Step 1: Login to the following website: <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk> (Free School Meal Eligibility Checker)

Step 2: Click – **Check eligibility**

Step 3: Click – **create an account** (Unless you already have an account in which case you go to return to your account and enter your password)

Step 4: **Create an account**

Step 5: On the drop down menu:

Local authority – select - **Harrow**

School – select – **Kenmore Park Infant & Nursery School.HA3 9JA**

Step 6: Read and accept the privacy notice **by ticking the box at the bottom of the page.**

Step 7: **Enter your details:**

First name
Last name
Your date of birth
Your National Insurance number
Email address
Mobile number
Postcode
Get address: click on your address; house number etc

SUBMIT

Once you have submitted the form you will receive a response in a couple of days confirming your status. If you are eligible, please forward the email to the school on the following email address:

office@kpins.harrow.sch.uk

School Travel

At Kenmore Park Infant and Nursery as a Gold Award Healthy School, we feel very strongly about how children travel to school and encourage all pupils to walk or scooter to school rather than travelling by car. This is good for their health and also for the environment – helping to reduce carbon dioxide and pollutions which contributes to the increase in the number of pupils suffering from Asthma!

We have designated pods for parking bikes & scooters in different areas of the school for the convenience of parents. We realise that some children live some distance away from the school and may need to come by car however, we would ask that parents park a little distance away from school and walk or allow their child to scooter the remainder of the route to school.

It is lovely standing outside the school each morning and seeing the number of children on scooters increasing and they are really enjoying their journey to school. Our thanks to **YOU parents** for your support.

As an incentive for children who walk we promote **Walk on Wednesdays – ‘WOW’**. Children who walk, scooter or bike to school every Wednesday of each month, we reward the class with the most children walking on a Wednesday at the end of the month. We look forward to your support with this initiative.

For the most WOW in the month of **December** the award goes to **Jaguar Class**. **Well done Jaguar Class for the second consecutive month!**

A gentle reminder about the guidance and law around the use of EV Bikes in the UK!

The number of parents now bringing their children on EV bikes is increasing so we have sought advice from our local police on this matter as one parent hit a child pedestrian last week whilst riding a bike on the pavement. The neighbourhood Police have also been patrolling the area recently to ensure safe practice is being followed!

Please note the guidance below:

In the UK, electric bikes (EAPCs) can be used like normal bicycles if the motor is under 250 watts and stops helping at 15.5 mph. If a parent is riding a lawful EAPC (i.e., under the 250W/15.5mph limit) with their child on a bike (say a family carrier or child seat), then in principle they are using a lawful form of transport. **if they are using it on roads/cycle tracks, and not on the pavement.**



However, if the parent or child is using the bike on the pavement (where pedestrians are walking), that is **NOT** in line with the law (unless it's a marked shared use cycle-pavement). **This is a safety concern.**

Please click the link for more details from UK GOV.

Riding an electric scooter: The Rules

Electric cycles and the law: what you need to know

In summary, E-bikes and bicycles must not be ridden on pavements unless signs show its shared use.

Parents should dismount and walk their bikes on pavements or near the school gates. **If a cyclist bumps** into someone while riding on the pavement, it can be an offence under the Highways Act. **The matter can be reported to police if there is injury, damage, or if the behaviour is repeated.** The rider could be prosecuted or forced to pay compensation for any damage or injuries sustained by the victim!

Parents should also avoid taking their bikes through the reception/nursery gates as the walk way is too narrow and safety is compromised. Nor should parents park their bikes immediately between the nursery and delivery gate blocking access. We appreciate your support with this.

Reminder about Parking

We continue to receive complaints from local residents - Residents report parents persistently blocking their drive ways and confirm that at no time have they **given permission** to any parents to park in front of their drive ways. A number of the residents have shared they have life threatening medical conditions which require them to have immediate, emergency access to their drive ways – so please respect their wishes and if no spaces near the school are available – park and walk, the exercise is good for everyone.



JOB VACANCIES

We are still in need of staff for the following posts:



Site Manager vacancy (permanent)- Please look on the school website for details. 36 hours a week full time all year around (salary £39, 846.00). The advert can also be found on the London Borough of Harrow vacancies. Closing date 5th January 2026.

As and When Lunch time leaders (1 hour 10 minutes per day) – are you able to work flexibly between the hours of 11.30 – 1 p.m.

Please visit the school website (complete the non-teaching application) or school office and request a paper version of the application form. Clearly indicate the post you are applying for and demonstrate in your supporting statement how you are able to meet the person specification.

A Parent Governor vacancy open.

The governing bodies of the two schools are looking to recruit a Parent Governor from either school to join the newly formed federated Governing Body from September.

Therefore, if you are interested in becoming a parent governor **please visit the school office for a nomination form** or email office@kpins.harrow.sch.uk with subject – Parent Governor nomination form and we will email you one out to you. We will need the completed form returned by Friday 17th January 2026. If there are more nominations than positions elections will be held during the week commencing 6th January 2026.

IMPORTANT SCHOOL ADMISSIONS INFORMATION
CHILDREN WHO ARE
DUE TO START IN PRIMARY / SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2026

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN BORN BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2021 AND 31 AUGUST 2022	SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN BORN BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2014 AND 31 AUGUST 2015
<p>You need to apply for a reception place. Please apply:</p> <p>❖ Online at www.eadmissions.org.uk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 15 JANUARY 2026</p>	<p>You need to apply to transfer to secondary school. Please apply:</p> <p>❖ Online at www.eadmissions.org.uk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 31 OCTOBER 2025</p> <p>We strongly recommend that you submit your secondary application by Friday 24 October 2025, as this is the Friday before the half term holiday.</p>
<p>APPLYING ONLINE. IS EASY AND YOU GET AN INSTANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT YOUR APPLICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED. YOU WILL ALSO RECEIVE AN EMAIL WITH THE OUTCOME OF YOUR APPLICATION ON OFFER DAY.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For details go to www.harrow.gov.uk/schooladmissions</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For help and advice on how to complete your application please email schooladmissions@harrow.gov.uk</p>	

Reminder last few days to apply!!!!