

Essendine Primary School News -July 2025

Head of School Message

Dear Families of Essendine Primary,

As we approach the end of this academic year, we reflect with immense pride on the remarkable journey our children have undertaken. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and resilience have shone brightly throughout the year, making it one of our most successful to date. From engaging classroom activities to memorable school events, each child has contributed to a vibrant and supportive school community. We are truly grateful for your continued support and partnership in nurturing these young learners. Our last newsletter for this year, showcases the wonderful enrichment activities the children have undertaken the last month.

Staff Goodbyes:

We have to say a sad farewell to Mr Trewhella, our dedicated Year 6 teacher who has been at Essendine for 4 years. We wish him the very best with his new move and lots of success in the future.

We also say a goodbye to Miss Dowell, who has been at Essendine for over 9 years. We thank her for her dedication to Essendine and wish her the very best.

We say a huge thank you to Miss Cousins, for teaching the Year 3 class this summer term. We wish her the very best in her new position and thank her for her time with us.

I am immensely proud of our Year 6 students who have been outstanding role models all year and worked so hard to achieve incredible SATs results. I wish them best of luck in the future - I know wherever they will go, they will be successful.

Just to remind you that school will be closed from 1.00pm Tuesday 22nd July for the summer holidays.

Below this newsletter are some important dates to put in your diary for September 2025.

Please mark these dates in your calendar.

We wish all our families a restful and enjoyable summer break and look forward to seeing everyone on the first day back, **Wednesday 3rd September 2025.**

Take care,

Lisa Mafrica

Head of School

Monthly updates, news and events in and around your school community

In this monthly articles

- **Maths Program**
- **Volunteers/readers**
- **Children's University**
- **year 2 trip to Kew Gardens**
- **Forest School**
- **Lord's Cricket Coaches**
- **Wallace Collection Year 6**
- **Year 3 and 4 Trip to the Zoo**
- **Sports Day**
- **Reading Volunteers**

- **E.Y.F.S Learning**
- **Autor visit(Sav Akyuz)**
- **Climate committee**
- **Attendance**
- **Wrap Around Information**
- **Coffee Mornings (new term)**
- **Upcoming Dates**

Whole school attendance so far this term is currently at **Attendance is 92.5 This is below the national benchmark of good attendance at 96%.** Let's keep working on it together.

Attendance Guidelines

From this September, there is new statutory guidance, that schools have to follow now, in order to tackle the growing rise in absence in our schools: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance

You should also take time to read the attendance policy regarding penalty notices and fines for parents, as there are significant changes to this process. Information about school attendance can be found on our website:

www.essendine.org.uk under the Parent tab.

Sayers Croft Year 6 Residential

Year 6 had an incredible residential, a huge thank you to Mr Trewhella, Mrs Benjamin and Miss Tracey for giving their time to make this a memorable experience.




PEASLAKE





Sports Day



Our annual Sports Day was a fantastic success, filled with energy, excitement and team spirit. It was wonderful to see all year groups, from EYFS to Year 6, taking part with such enthusiasm. The children showcased not only their athletic skills but also great sportsmanship, resilience and determination throughout the day.


















Evegue





Year 2 Trip to Kew Gardens

A wonderful day exploring the beauty of Kew Gardens.

On a bright, summer's day, Class 2M visited Kew Gardens to link with their learning in science lessons. They thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a wonderful outdoor workshop, 'Amazing Plants'. The session leader showed the class many unique plants in the mountain plant area and they learned about the importance of pollinators in a plant's life cycle. A great time was had by all when they explored the Children's Gardens area too!

'I enjoyed it when we got to see the really tall sunflower plants!' Safiyah

'I loved playing on the climbing frames in the Children's Gardens!' Jenna

















Family Maths Project

Year 2, Family Numeracy Programme (run by Skills for Life/ Multiply and WAES)

-Six sessions were successfully delivered to parents and children.

Thank you to all parents who attended, it was nice to hear all your positive feedback and to see that the children enjoying it too.

Free in London...

Cycle training is free in all boroughs where Cycle Confident operates. Whether you're just starting out or negotiating a complex commute, check out the Cycle Confident website for the different types of training we offer.

 You can train as an individual, a family or a group at a location V*(])* of your choice.

([) We'll book you in whenever suits you, 7 days a week.

((7J:.. If you want to get to know your bike better, we offer bike

v *O* maintenance classes. •

@ Visit our website for school courses & holiday training for children.

...freeing London



CYCLE
CONFIDENT

www.cycleconfident.com

t: 0203 031 6730 e: contact@cycleconfident.com

This half-term, both Year 6 classes visited Finsbury Library to take part in important knife crime workshops run by the Ben Kinsella Trust. At these workshops, the children learnt about peer pressure, the importance of keeping themselves safe and speaking out, as well as about the law.

Forest School

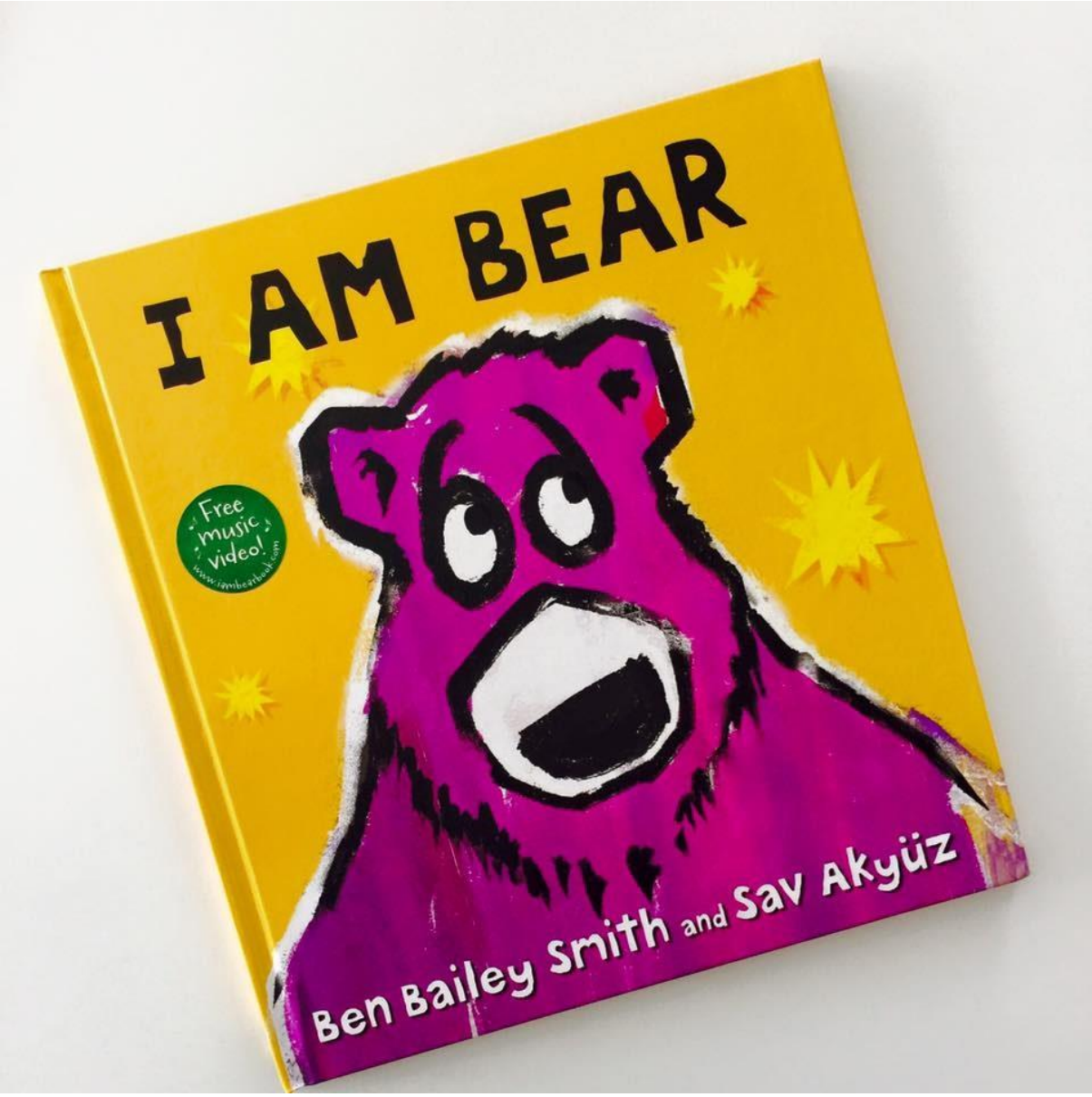
Years 3 and 4 visited Forest School for their last of 6 sessions this year. They were given the chance to choose what activities to do, including: water painting, den building, using the mud kitchen and building fires. The children have really enjoyed their sessions this year!







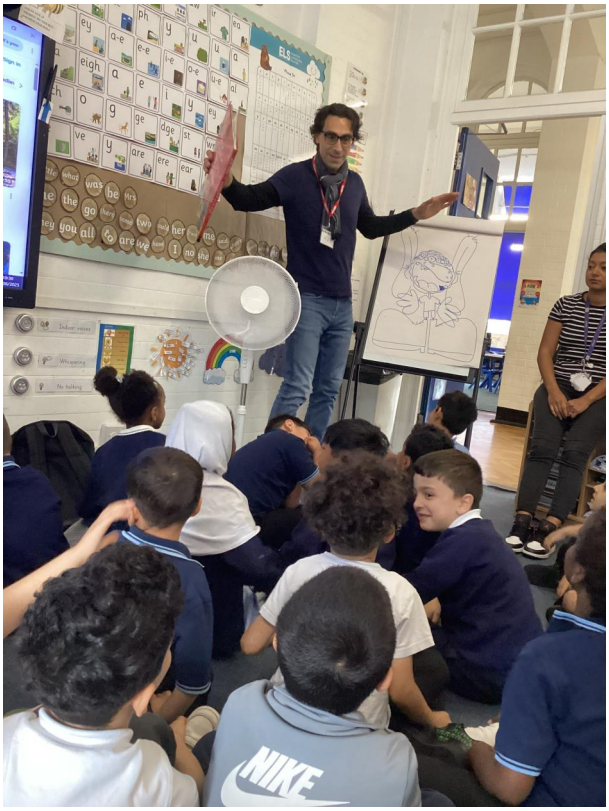
Author Visit KS1








Phonics


NIKE


NIKE



Reading Volunteers EYFS

Thank you to our volunteers from Heathrow Express, who gave up their morning to read with our EYFS children.




CHAMPIONS






Wow!


Deep Sea Explorers





Children's University Top Tips

Looking for some fun free things to do ?

Essendine's Children's University

Are you looking for something exciting to do in July? Well, don't worry as your Children's University Board of Trustees have got you covered! Here are some free and fun activities that you can do:

Free things to do in London - Zone 1

The Young Artists' Summer Show Exhibition-Go to see the artworks by students ages 4- 18 from the UK selected for display at the Royal Academy from 15 July – 10 August

Watch a free film by canal at Kings Cross. Screenings start on **30th June** and continue all season until **17th August**. First come-first served. Everyman On The Canal 2025 - Everyman Cinema

Things to do in South West London-Zone 3

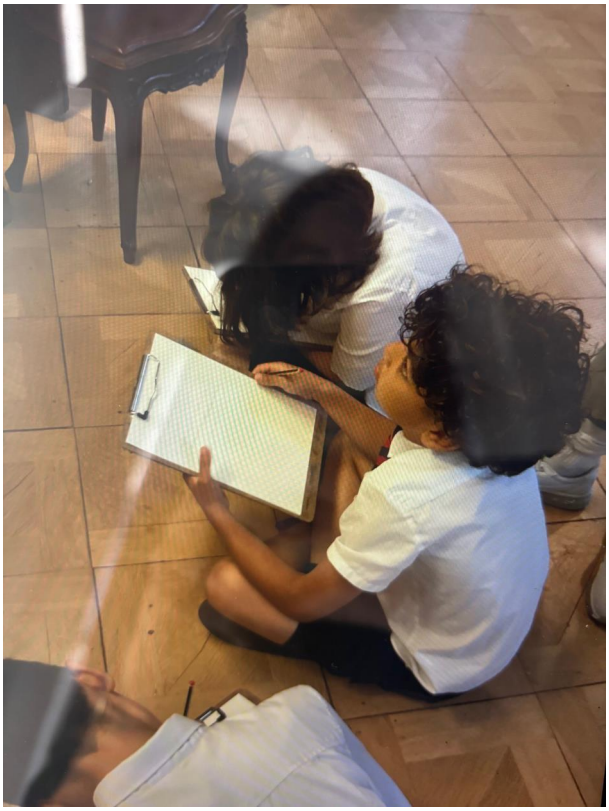
Forest school-inspired **Friday Froglets** sessions take place weekly over the summer holidays. The outdoor sessions are every Friday morning from 10:15-11:15 am and the cost is £5. Play in nature, learn new songs and share stories, make nature crafts and finish with quiet time around a fire!

Year 6 Visit the Wallace Collection

This half-term, Year 6 visited the Wallace Collection, where they participated in an armour and print workshop. The children were given a private tour of the gallery and made their own artwork based on their identity.







Years 3 and 4 visit London Zoo

On Friday 27th June, all of the children from Years 3 and 4 visited the London Zoo. There they explored all of the different areas and saw a vast range of creatures up close and personal! The children and staff had a wonderful time, and look forward to returning again next year.









Lord's Cricket Coaching at Essendine

A mixture of children from all year groups were lucky to have regular coaching from the staff at Lord's this term. This ranged from the Year 6s all the way down to the children from Reception! Thank you to Sam and the staff who have provided such a valuable experience this academic year.





EYFS - Nursery Learning

This term, Nursery has been learning about Under the Sea.

We read the stories "Commotion in the Ocean" and "Sharing a Shell".

We explored sea animals and their habitats, and learned lots of facts about them.

In our outdoor area, we made boats and pirate ships using large crates, it was so much fun!

In art, we learned about the artist Claude Monet and painted beautiful landscapes inspired by his work.














Can you make some playdough tentacles for the jellyfish?
Can you make 8 playdough legs for the octopus.




Let's explore
the 5 frames!






Sharing a Shell





Author Visit

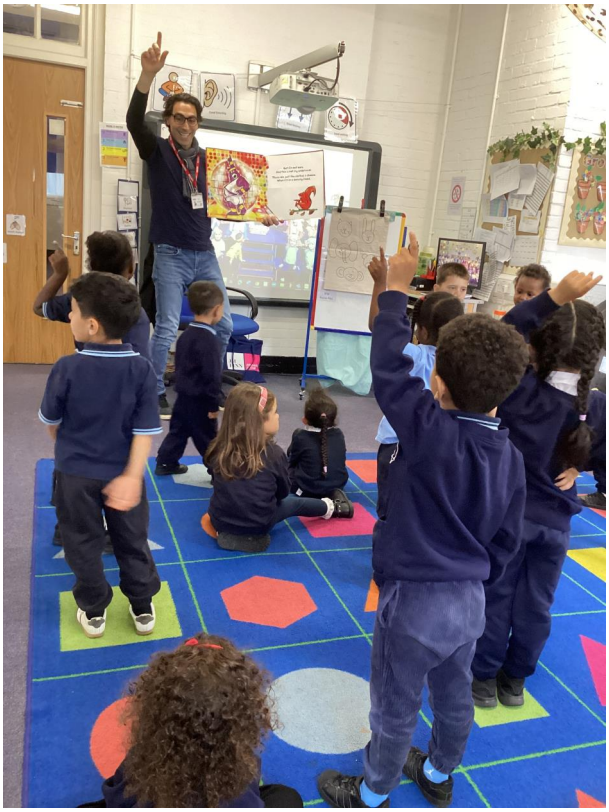
On Tuesday 24th, Nursery was lucky to meet author and illustrator Sav Akyüz.

We played a fun “Guess the Animal” game and learned how easy it can be to draw animal faces.

Sav read his story “Bear Moves” and everyone joined in with the dance moves!













Nursery Zoo Visit

On Thursday 27th June, Nursery visited the zoo!

We did really good walking up and down Primrose Hill to get there.

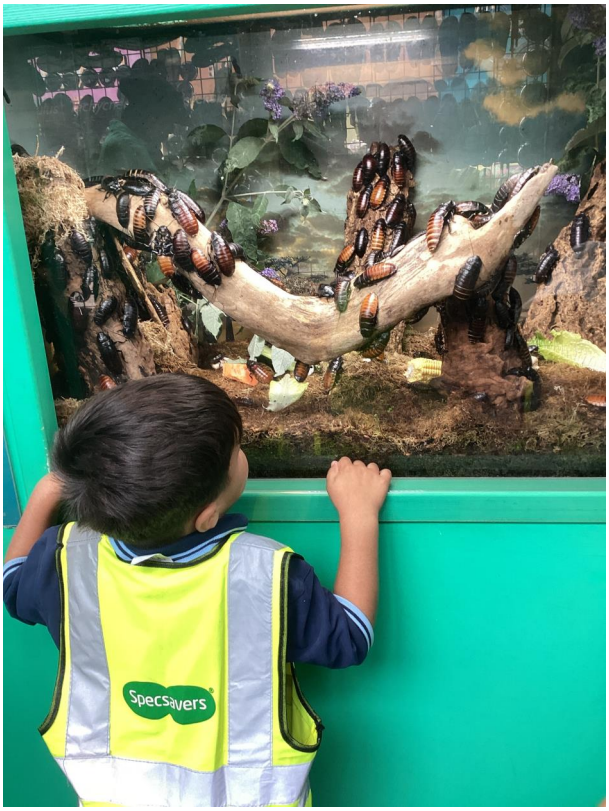
At the zoo, we saw lions, tigers, gorillas, and giraffes…all very happy to greet our children.

We even had time for a special picnic. It was a tiring day, but a fantastic memory!




Specsavers




Specsavers








Specsavers





Year 1 Trip to London Zoo



Year 1 went to London Zoo on July 4th as part of their Science and Topic units on animals. They observed the penguins in their habitats and reviewed where penguins live and how they take care of their young. The children were really excited to see all the animals and they asked lots of questions about their habitats and their food. The class was particularly mesmerized by the baby gorillas who were playing mischievously in their enclosure. Year 1 were quite impressed by the size of the giraffe compared to a zebra and discovered the okapi and the Komodo dragon.




YORK


YORK





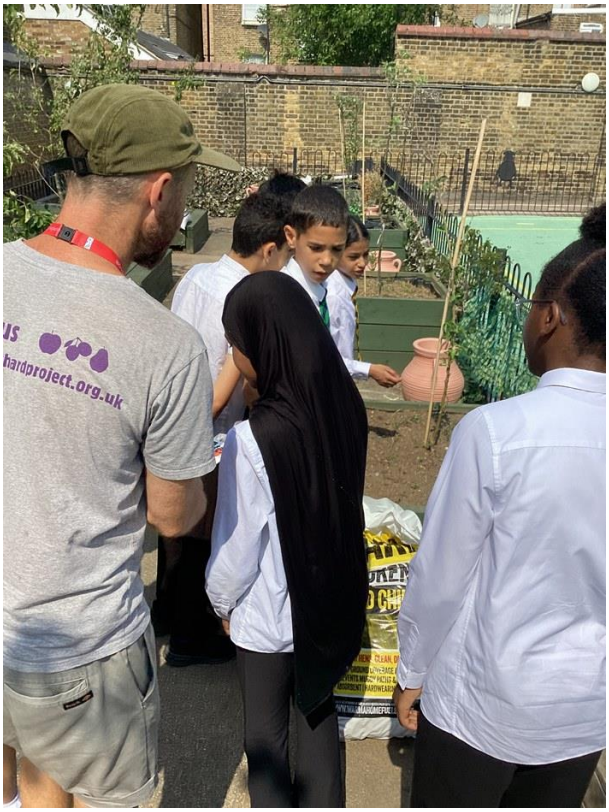






The Climate Change Committee

The climate change committee had a visitor from the Orchard Group who are the company that donated our beautiful trees in our Apple Orchard. The children mulched the trees and Lewis led a session on what types of wild life benefit from our trees. They had fun looking at all the different species that are in the orchard area. He also had time to show the children the pruning of the trees and explain why we do it.






WOOD CHIP


CHIPS











Films for the Family





Public Health Updates for Parents over the Summer Break

Keeping well this Summer

As we approach the summer holidays the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) have published some recommendations for keeping you and your family safe at home and abroad. These include:

- Washing hands after contact with animals
- Being 'Tick Aware' – ticks are more common in the countryside, parkland and grassland.
    - Wear long trousers and long-sleeved tops

  - Regularly check clothing and exposed skin for ticks
  - Walk on clearly defined paths
  - Use insect repellent
  - Remove any ticks safely using fine tipped tweezers
- Being careful in the hot weather
  - Keep out of the sun at the hottest time of the day – usually between 11am-3pm
  - Wearing a hat and sunscreen
  - Drinking plenty of fluids

For more information please use the following links:

- Beat the heat: staying safe in hot weather - GOV.UK
- A parent's guide to summer infections and health hazards – UK Health Security Agency If you are travelling abroad, remember to:
- Make sure you and your family are up to date with your routine vaccinations. This is particularly important for the MMR (Measles Mumps and Rubella) Vaccine as cases of measles are rising in London, the UK and many destinations abroad. Ask your GP to check your records and to make an appointment to catch up.
- Check if you need additional travel vaccinations – this is important for children and young people as well as adults
- Be mindful of water and food safety and wash hands frequently with soap and water
- Protect yourself from mosquitos by wearing long sleeved clothing, using insect repellent and bed nets. For further information, please use this link:
- The essential travel checklist to keep you and your family healthy on holiday – UK Health Security Agency **Start of term – Starting Reception or Pre School**

Get ready for the start of term by checking that your child is up to date with all their vaccinations.

- The Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine is especially vital as cases of measles are rising in London.
- Other important vaccines at this stage include the 4-in-1 pre-school booster (against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and polio).

- **Start of term – Secondary School New starters** Get ready for the start of term by checking that your child is up to date with all their vaccinations. The Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine is especially vital as cases of measles are rising in London. These vaccinations are free through the NHS. Contact your GP to check your records and to catch up if anything is missing. The schools vaccination team, Vaccination UK, also run catch-up clinics throughout the summer across London. Find a free catch-up clinic near you: [Catch-up clinics]

Next Year's Calendar

2025-2026 School Calendar

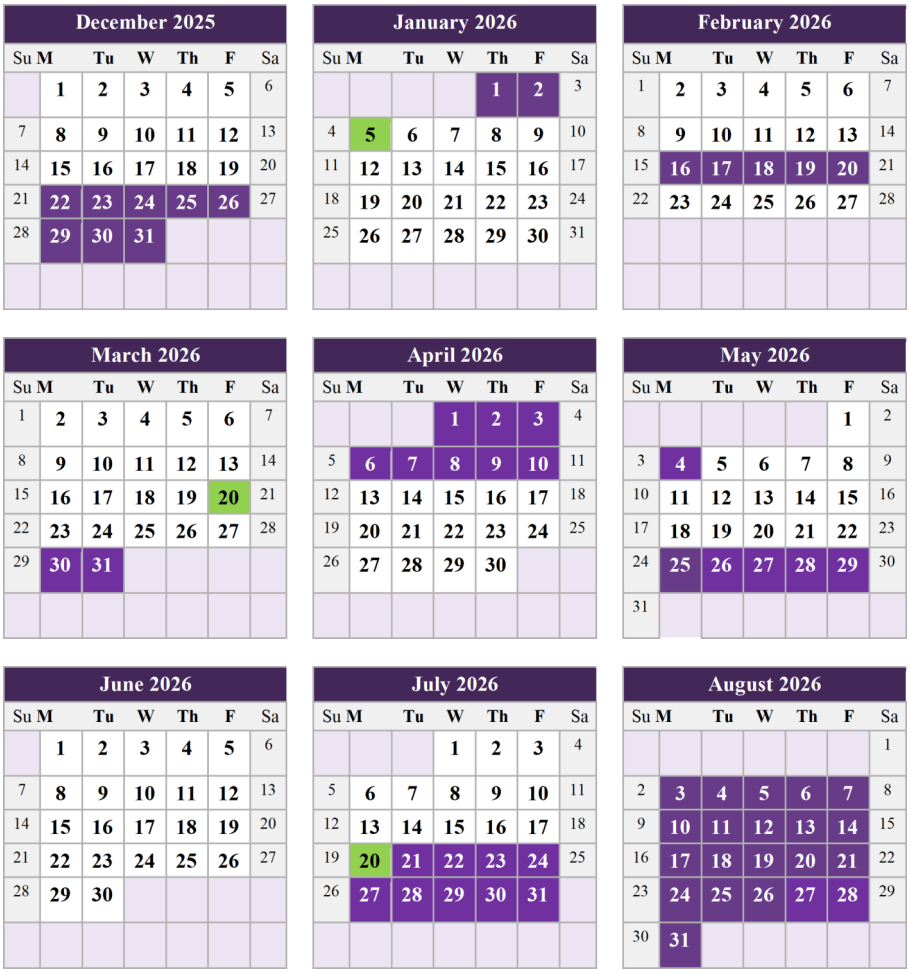




September 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



INSET DAY (open to staff only): 1 & 2 September, 5 January, 20 March & 20 July

SCHOOL CLOSED

SCHOOL IS CLOSED ON THE DAYS THAT ARE SHADED

Published 19/06/2024

School Day

Drop off

At 8:45am the main school gate opens.

Nursery and Reception children are taken by their parents to their classrooms via the EYFS front gate on Essendine Rd.

Children in Years 1-6 go straight to their classroom through the main gates.

At 8:55am class starts and the gate closes and all parents/carers must be out so that we can secure the site.

Pick up

At 3:25pm the main gate opens to parents.

Nursery, Reception children collected from the EYFS classrooms via the EYFS Gate on Essendine Rd at 3.15pm .

Y1-Y6 children are escorted to the collection area in the playground where parents will be waiting.

You must collect your children or arrange for a responsible adult (over 16 years-old) to do so. If you are asking someone else to collect your children, the school needs to know. This is in the interest of your children's safety.

Only Year 5 and 6 children are allowed to go home by themselves, once written authorisation has been received.

The school gate closes at 3:40pm and any children not collected will be taken to the Front Office area. Late penalties are issued for lateness beyond this time.

Medication

We would like to remind parents/carers that any medication for children must be brought to the office, where you will be asked to complete a consent form. Do not give any medication to class teachers or children. Please also remember to update the office with any changes regarding your child's medication and any changes in illness/medical conditions.

Attendance



Westminster Family Hubs

City of Westminster

'The Family Hub Parent Carer Panel meets monthly – anyone can come along to chat or share your thoughts about how the Family Hubs might serve you and your family best. No need to book, refreshments and a cuppa always available.'

For more information about joining a panel please contact Carolyn Ross (cross@westminster.gov.uk / 07971 616262)

Stay and Play

Junior Adventures Group

Term 1 in Action!

SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE MOMENTS SO FAR....



Our dedicated new staff have built strong, supportive relationships with the children, creating a warm and welcoming environment where they feel comfortable exploring and learning.

From brain boosters and puzzles to exciting STEM activities, the children have been fully immersed in hands-on learning experiences. Power Teams has helped them build resilience and teamwork through fun sports and challenges, while Creative Inventors has sparked their imaginations, allowing them to explore arts, crafts, and innovation.

It’s been wonderful to watch their confidence grow with each new activity.



Parents can still take advantage of St School’s free session voucher before it expires on July 31st, 2025. Simply enter the code **TRYESSENDINE** at checkout to claim a complimentary Rise 'n' Shine or Stay and Play session.

Contact Us

junioradventuresgroup.co.uk

0333 577 1533

@junioradventuresgroupuk @junioradventuresgroupuk

Discover a fun-filled after school care programme with **Junior Adventures Group at Essendine Primary School**

Junior Adventures Group (JAG) is the UK’s leading provider of Before and After School Programmes offering fun and affordable childcare delivered in a safe and supervised environment. Their staff are expertly trained, DBS-checked to an enhanced level, first aid qualified and experienced in and passionate about the activities they offer.

New to JAG? Click here to start your adventure with us today!

✓ Activities designed for all ages and interests

✓ Create lifelong friendships over exciting adventures beyond the classroom

✓ Delivered by a team of expertly trained professionals

✓ Weekly Children's Meetings to put them in control of their experience

✓ Promotes fun, curiosity and mindfulness

✓ Healthy After School Snack available each day

Essendine Primary School's Club Page: https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/find-us/essendine-primary-school/

JAG's Adventure Programme

Underpinning our Stay and Play club is The Adventure Programme which is comprised of seven action-packed adventure categories. Backed by research into child development, and created in partnership with experts, the Adventure Programme provides children with the opportunity to learn essential life skills and have great fun exploring their interests. Find out more about the Adventure Programme here: https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/term-time/.

Stay and Play Clubs – running every afternoon during the term

Stay And Play

Times: 15:30 – 18:00 - Price: £10:00 (including food)

Times: 16:30 -18:00 – Price: £6.50 (including food)

The fun continues after school at our 'Stay and Play' afternoon programmes. Kids can dive into more fun activities, building lasting friendships and creating memories beyond the classroom, all before heading home for quality family time. Find out more at: https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/term-time/after-school-club/

Claim a Free Session Stay and Play Session on JAG!

As part of Stay and Play Club launch, JAG is offering parents the chance to try the new service for free! Claim your child's free session at Essendine Primary School below:

Use code: TRYESSENDINE

Booking Information

JAG offers a number of flexible payment options available for families where you can make adhoc bookings or secure a regular spot at our clubs with our instalment plan options. You can find out more here: https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/payment-options/

To book, please login/create an account and secure your place online at: https://bookings.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/Identity/Account/Login

Please follow the quick step guide below:

• Register a Junior Adventures Group account

• Please confirm that you have read the Terms and Conditions

• Add your desired After School location as Essendine Primary School

• Add your child(ren) to your Junior Adventures Group account before attempting to make a booking

• Ensure all the Consent questions, Collector, Emergency Contacts and Doctor details are added.

• After this, click on Book Activity to make a booking.

• Select the dates you wish to book!

It's that easy! For more information about Junior Adventures Group Clubs, please visit some further key web pages below…

Parent Support: https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/ Our Story: https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/our-story/ New to JAG: https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/new-to-jag/

Parking Around Essendine Primary

We have had a number of complaints recently from our neighbours regarding double parking and idling on Essendine Road, particularly during pick up and drop off times. Please

be considerate of our neighbours. We will be working with WCC parking to enforce restrictions to parking in line with local regulations. Thank you.

Uniform

The school uniform varies depending on your child's age. For health and safety reasons jewellery, other than a wrist watch, is not allowed. Hijabs should be plain navy blue or white. The essential uniform, which your child needs to have, is in BOLD and can be found on our website too.

EYFS Pupils (Nursery - Reception):

- Navy blue Essendine jogging pants or shorts
- White Essendine T-shirt
- White or black socks
- Black shoes (no trainers)

Key Stage 1 Pupils (Year 1-2):

- Essendine navy blue polo shirt
- Essendine sweat shirt or cardigan
- Black, navy blue or grey trousers with white or black socks
- A navy blue and white check dress with navy, grey or white tights
- Black shoes (no boots or trainers if possible)

Key Stage 2 Pupils (Year 3-6):

- Black Blazer
- White smart shirt (not a polo shirt)
- Dark Grey V Neck Jumper or Dark Grey Cardigan
- Tie in House colours
- (Kilburn Park = Green / Elgin = Red / Shirland = Blue / Morshead = Yellow)
- Black smart Trousers with white or black socks
- Black smart Skirt with navy, grey or white Tights
- Black shoes (no boots or trainers if possible)

The PE uniform for all children consists of:

- Navy blue Essendine jogging pants
- White Essendine T-shirt
- Black pumps or Trainers

Ordering

Essendine School Uniform can be ordered online from Stitch Design where you can register for an account using the schools postcode (W92LR). Place your order, pay online and receive items within 2-5 working days:

Uniform swap

Ask at the office about uniform swapping events, which we will organise throughout the school year.

Alternatively, please contact the reception desk for a current price list and hard copy of the order form.

Free School Meals Application

All children in full-time education are given universal free school meals at school but they may be entitled to food vouchers during school holidays. You can apply for free school meals if you receive any of the following benefits:

• Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)

• Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

• Income Support

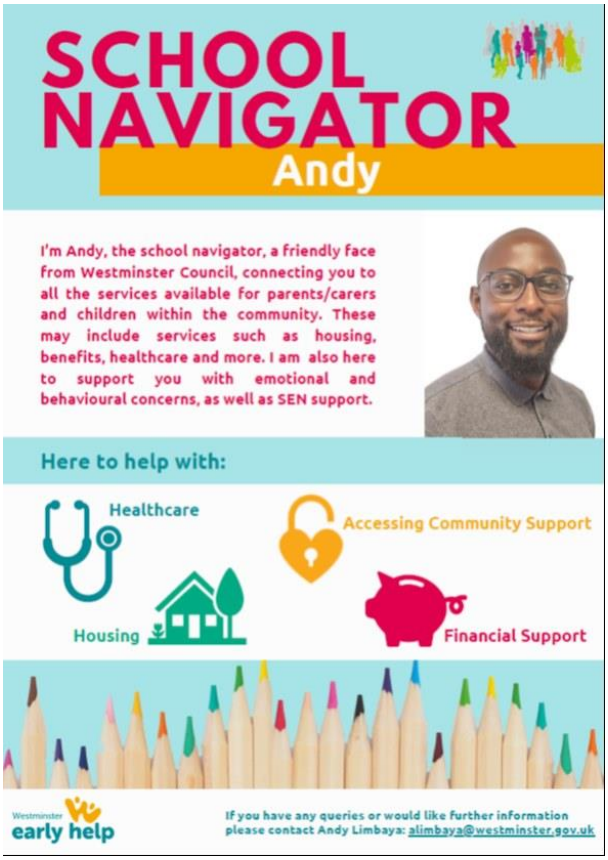
• Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

• Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

• Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 • The guarantee element of State Pension Credit

If you think you are entitled to Free School Meals please make an online application via www.westminster.gov.uk/education/free-school-meals or otherwise speak to Anne in the office. Thank you

Family Navigator



1 - Andy is with us now on Monday afternoons, please speak to Nairuz if you'd like any further information.

Parent Sessions...move details to follow in September



Office

Opening Times:

8:00 AM TO 11:30 AM.

1:15 PM TO 4:30 PM

Access outside these times is by ***appointment only/emergency***.

Breakfast club starts at 8am please arrive before 8.20am

IMPORTANT: Please inform the office if your contact details have changed, so that the details are up to date. This includes any changes of address of phone numbers, including emergency contacts.

Packed Lunch

It is easy to create an appetising packed lunch every day for your child. You should try to give them nourishing foods that are good for them. ***Sweets, biscuits, crisps, chocolate and fizzy drinks or any food high in sugar or salt are not allowed as part of a healthy packed lunch. Fast food is also not suitable for packed lunch.*** *Nuts are not allowed in school subsequently no foods that may contain nuts or similar allergens are also not allowed. The only hot meals served are school meals from the school kitchen. Water is available at mealtime.*

Our school is a nut free zone no nut based food/May contain nuts items allowed for packed lunch.









THIS SCHOOL IS

NUT FREE



Local Library Information

Upcoming Dates/Reminders



Friday 18th July-EYFS unit closed for maintenance

Tuesday 22nd July 2025-last day of school-**1pm finish**

Wednesday 3rd September-first day back for children Year 1-6

Monday 8th September-**Nursery** Internal Children

Wednesday 10th September- Nursery External Children

Monday 8th September -**Reception External** Children

10th, 11th , 12th September-**Reception Internal Children** - based on birthday. Parents will be informed individually.

A full calendar is on our website.