



# Earlsmead's News

[www.earlsmeadprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.earlsmeadprimaryschool.co.uk)

February 2026

## Diary Dates

### February 2026

**Monday 23rd —Pupils back to school at 8.45am**

### March 2026

Tuesday 3rd - Y4 Multiplication Parent Workshop

Thursday 5th—World Book Day

Friday 6th —Y4 assembly (parents invited)

Week beginning 9th—British Science Week

Thursday 12th - Y4 Cake and Pie Sale (Afterschool)

Thursday 12th – Y2 trip to RAF Museum

Week beginning 16th—Parents Consultation meetings

Friday 20th—Y5 EID assembly

Week beginning 23rd—Arts and Music week

Thursday 26th—Y6 Creative Writing Workshop at Whitmore School

Friday 27th– School will close at 1.30pm

### April 2026

**Monday 13th April—School will re-open at 8.45am**

Tuesday 14th—Y1 Scooter training.

Friday 16th—Y3 trip to Verulamium Museum

Dear parents and carers,

We have had so much to celebrate this half-term, including the introduction of a new pupil leadership group of Eco-Warriors. I look forward to working with the elected members of this group so that we can make sure that Earlsmead is as sustainable and environmentally-friendly as possible.

We are also continuing our finalisation of the new school values. Once we have the new values set, we will also be working on developing a new School Motto and Vision Statement. Exciting times!

There has been a lot of press recently about reducing screen time for primary-school aged children. Some Governments, including Australia, have actually banned children aged under 16 from using social media. In light of our recent Internet Safety Day on 10th February, these are changes I welcome. I think by now we are all well aware of how wonderful the internet can be, but also the dangers and responsibilities that come with its use.

Finally, I would just like to remind parents and carers of some strategies to help their children be 'school ready'. These are top tips which can help children at any age to thrive and survive at primary school.

**1. Encourage communication**—play, talk, sing, and read together. Make sure to give your child **eye contact** while you chat as this helps their brain to develop and don't forget to ask about their day.

**2. Reduce screen time.** We know that devices can be tempting, but it's better for little ones to engage with the world around them rather than be in 'receiver' mode. Moreover, excessive screen time may disrupt their sleep patterns.

**3. Establish a bedtime routine.** Consistent sleep schedules are so important! Consider including soothing activities like songs or a bedtime story—we have some recorded on Class Dojo!

**4. Nurture independence.** Let children practise dressing themselves, tidying up toys, and managing their own spaces. It's all part of their growing responsibility! Teach them to pack their bag the night before school.

**5. Help them learn table manners.** Good etiquette starts at home! Children need to master using their utensils properly and understanding basic dining decorum.

**6. Maintain a morning routine.** Try to wake up at the same time each day. This fosters healthier sleep habits in the long run.

Have a lovely holiday—and don't forget the home learning and daily home reading!

Ms Graham  
Headteacher



## Spring 2 - We will be learning:

**Nursery - We will be learning** about what things grow and change and what helps them. We will be looking at humans, plants and animals. We will be looking at stories and information books to help us and will be growing plants and observing animals.

**You can help at home by:** talking about things you can see in nature when you are out and about. You could grow some things from seed, cress or mustard grows very quickly. You can talk about where the food they are eating comes from i.e. apples on trees, carrots grow under the ground. Maybe you could visit a farm over the holidays and see the baby animals.

**Year 1 - We will be learning:** Exploring what the weather is like in the UK in our Geography lessons and looking at everyday materials in Science. In English we will be writing a hunting narrative and in Maths we will learn about place value within 50, mass and length. In DT, we will be constructing windmills and looking at how to look after things in PSHE.

**You can help at home by:** Reading with your child every day at home to help them become a fluent reader and recap all the phonic sounds we have learnt. Also you can help your child learn the numbers up to 50 and develop their sentence structure skills.

**Year 3 - We will be learning:** The Romans and about civilisations. We will be continuing to learn about plants and the different conditions they need to grow. We will also be learning fractions in maths and continuing with our timestable lessons.

**You can help at home by:** reading books and researching about the Romans. Practicing timestables on hit the button or TTRS. Children can read every day and practice their handwriting. Children can also explore plants and look at how they grow in different conditions.

**Year 5 - We will be learning:** We will be learning: In science, we will be learning about the different types of solids, liquids and gases. We will explore different ways of separating mixtures. In English, Year 5 will focus on writing a dilemma narrative. They will learn to describe settings, characters and atmosphere using a wide range of devices to build cohesion.

**You can help at home by:** Encouraging your child to read a variety of books and explore information on different types of characters and the impact on reader based on writing style. Also, your child can explore ingredients in the kitchen, items around the house and in the parks to identify and distinguish between different types of materials and their properties.

**Reception - We will be learning about** the weather (Spring) and how things grow. We will be exploring the what makes the world around us special. In maths, we will be looking at time, 3D shapes and number bonds to 10. In literacy the children will continue to work on writing simple captions using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

**You can help at home by:** Continue to read with your child for at least 10 minutes everyday. Practise recalling phonics sounds and Harder to Read and Spell Words. Talk to your child about the world around them. What can they see? How does a plant grow? You could plant some flowers at home or in a plant pot. Talk about feelings with your child. Can they work out how a person might be feeling in a story?

**Year 2 - We will be learning about:** In History we will be learning about 'How did we learn to fly?' In maths we will be learning about division and multiplication, length and height. We will continue to learn about plants in science. Our text in English will be Rosie Revere Engineer and Guided reading text will be Cinnamon.

**You can help at home by:** Reading to children every day, question them about the book they are reading, ask children to put more expression in their reading, practice division and multiplication at home. Talk about plants and plant seeds to watch them germinate. Practise spelling on a regular basis. Practise sentence structure.

**Year 4 - We will be learning:** The layers of the Earth and what each one is like. We will look at famous mountain ranges and the continents they are on. This learning will help children understand how the Earth's surface changes over time. In science we will be learning about the three main states of matter: solids, liquids, and gases.

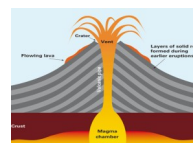
**You can help at home by:** looking at pictures or videos of volcanoes, talking about how they are formed, and asking your child to explain what happens during an eruption. Additionally talk about solids, liquids and gases in everyday life, doing simple experiments like melting ice or boiling water (with adult supervision) and asking your child to describe what happens when things change state.

**Year 6 - We will be learning:** What is life like in the Alps? We will explore the physical and human features of Innsbruck, Austria, and learn why tourists are attracted to landmarks such as the Innsbruck cable car, Hohensalzburg Fortress and Mont Blanc. Alongside this, we will be developing our maths skills by learning about area, perimeter, volume, and statistics.

**You can help at home by:** Encouraging your child to read a variety of books and explore information about the Alps and Austria online. You could also talk together about famous mountain landscapes and tourist attractions. Additionally, BBC Bitesize is a great resource for practising fractions, decimals, percentages, and statistics in fun, interactive ways.



# Phonics



# Maths

+ - x ÷



# ☀️ Half-Term Holiday Project ☀️

To celebrate World Book Day, children are invited to create a fun, creative project based on their favourite heroes or villains.

## The Challenge

Create a project based on a **Hero** or a **Villain** of your choice.

You can choose **ONE** of the following:

-**Make a model** of a hero or villain

**OR**

-**Create a 3D diorama** using a cereal box or shoebox (see examples below)

-Please include a **short written description** explaining:

- Who the character is
- Why they are a hero or a villain
- What is happening in the scene (for dioramas)



## Due Date

Please bring projects into school on:  
**Monday 23rd February 2026**



# Attendance



**Our attendance target is 96%.** We must make every effort to ensure that all children are in school everyday unless they are ill.

Please try to have children in classrooms by **8.45am** so they can participate in Soft Start activities.

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
Oaks	94%	Chestnuts	92%
Cedar	93%	Redwood	96%
Maple	95%	Cherry	94%
Ash	96%	Manuka	97%
Meranti	95%	Eucalyptus	95%
Pine	94%	Sycamore	95%
Elm	94%	Greenheart	95%

# Uniform

**Reminder:** Please ensure that the correct uniform is worn.

Nursery	Reception to Year 6
<p>Royal blue tracksuit bottoms.</p> <p>Gold polo shirts.</p> <p>Royal blue shorts in the summer.</p> <p>Blue, gold, white or grey head scarves.</p> <p>Comfortable flat shoes or trainers.</p>	<p>Black trousers, tartan skirts.</p> <p>White cotton shirts.</p> <p>Earlsmead tie with collared shirt.</p> <p>Royal blue jumpers or cardigans.</p> <p>Blue or Gold and white summer dresses.</p> <p>Blue, gold, white or grey head scarves.</p> <p>Black flat shoes.</p> <p>Grey or black socks or tights.</p>



# Achievements



**Congratulations** to the following children who receive awards for positive behaviour for learning this half term!



*These children should feel extra special*

## **Redwood:**

Fineas  
Sahir  
Amelia  
Harley  
Amaya-Lee  
Zora



## **Cherry:**

Yug  
Lomana  
Reda  
Keshara  
Tiyana  
Jasoor  
Hasan



## **Ash:**

Bilal  
Yohan  
Mohamed J  
Maria  
Emma  
Hayat  
Siyujan



## **Cedar:**

Henry  
Sumay  
Helen  
Sara  
Yasmin  
Miriam

## **Maple:**

Nayma  
Hayden  
Tayba  
Laiba  
Olivia  
Jannet

## **Manuka:**

Mustafa      Aarvi  
Eman          Dharmi  
Rawan  
Mahibah  
Aarish  
Sobhan

## **Eucalyptus:**

Keashvi  
Subhan  
Eesa  
Grace  
Kayland      Kaiser  
Diyoni        Emilia



## **Pine:**

Nixon  
Zerya  
Albert  
Taleen  
Prakriti      Sakinah  
Oskar        Afia



## **Elm:**

Vinit  
Alesha  
Bushra  
Jacob  
Ridham      Dana  
Sophia      Gulamnabi



## **Meranti:**

Haya  
Anhelina  
Aahil  
Youssef  
Rihan  
Rivaan

## **Sycamore:**

Ali              Mustafa  
Elesabeta      Faris  
Hafsa  
Suraya  
Leen  
Jeremiah

## **Greenheart:**

Amritha      Nicholas  
Gabriel      Nour  
Het  
Rukiea  
Muad  
Antonia



## Introducing Our Eco Warriors Team

We are delighted to introduce Earlsmead's brand-new Eco Warriors team! This is the first time we have established a group dedicated to sustainability, and we are incredibly excited about the positive impact they will have on our school community.

Our Eco Warriors will play an important role in helping Earlsmead become a more sustainable school. From encouraging everyone from children to adults alike to switching off lights, to planting and caring for greenery, promoting recycling, and leading new eco-friendly initiatives, their responsibilities are wide-ranging and meaningful.

The team will meet at least twice each term to share ideas and plan the changes they would like to see across the school.

Please see below our fantastic team of young leaders. We are very proud of them!



# Poetry Performance Competition 2026



Our Whole School Poetry Performance Competition 2026 was a huge success! The children were absolutely fantastic, performing with confidence, expression and energy. Every class put in incredible effort, and it truly showed in the quality of the performances. We are so proud of everyone who took part and made the event so special.

We can't wait for next year's competition already!



# Poetry Performance Competition 2026



# Number Day 2026



We loved celebrating NSPCC Number Day on 6th February, enjoying fun, creative maths activities across the school.

The day helped bring maths to life while raising funds for the NSPCC's vital work supporting children.





### Netball League Matches

A special well done to our netball team for winning both of their league games against Pinner Wood and John Fishers. We are still undefeated in the league winning 3 out of 3 and look to carry this on!

### Netball Competition

We took part in a netball competition that was for children that have not really played matches against other schools. We even had a few children who had never played netball before. They all did extremely well and we are proud of their determination and effort!

### Newton Farm Trip

Our Year 5 Sycamore class went to Newton Farm to play them in some non-competitive sporting activities which included Dodgeball, Cricket and Basketball. They were so well behaved and had a lot of fun playing sports with another school.

### Bikeability

Some of the children in Year 5 and 6 took part in their Level 1 and 2 Bikeability Course. Unfortunately, due to the bad weather they missed a few days and it was very difficult to take any photos. However, we did have 7 children who could not ride a bike, but they can now all ride a bike confidently. This is a great achievement in only a week!

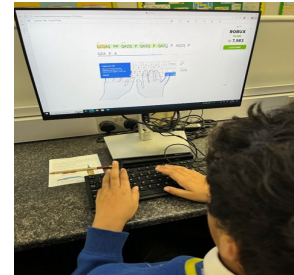
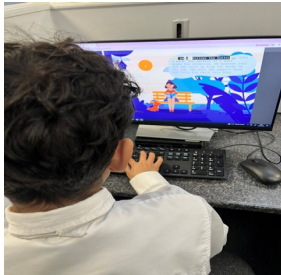


# Year 4



In DT this term, Year 4 have been developing their textile skills by designing and making their own book sleeves. They carefully created prototypes to test their ideas, thinking about size, durability and appearance. The children also explored a range of fasteners, evaluating which would be most effective and practical for securely closing their finished book sleeves.

# Year 5



In Spring 1, students have been practicing the improving their typing skills. They are enjoying learning and working in the ICT suite where they are exploring online programs such as Scratch and binary code activities.



Students worked in groups using concrete materials to help understand maths concepts. They played card games together to practice skills and share ideas with peers.



Students designed and created umbrellas using plastic and cotton buds. They explored different types of materials and their properties. They tested their umbrellas and based on their investigations understood the need to choose the right materials for different products.

# LATENESS AND ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

## EVERY DAY COUNTS!

What to do if your child is absent.

**CALL US ON 0208 864 5546 BEFORE 9.30AM**

**ON FIRST DAY OF ABSENCE.**



Each and every day at school is important for your child's future. We fill every minute of our pupil's time at Earlsmead. We want the best for each and every child!



What to do if your child is late for school.

**OUR SCHOOL DAY BEGINS AT 8.45am. Gate opens at 8.40am.**

Lateness is a persistent problem at the school and we are hoping to reduce the amount of pupils who are late this term. Ultimately it is your responsibility as a parent/carer to ensure your child arrives to school on time, however we do realise that matters out of your control can affect your child getting to school at 8.45am. All we ask is that you do your best to get your child to school on time and let us know if there are any underlying



### **LATENESS MATTERS!**

Have you ever started trying to watch a T.V programme that has been on for 10 minutes? It's hard to get in to and we often just give up.

This is what it is like if your child misses the start of a lesson. Vital bits of information are gone and their confidence is undermined.



### **Thank You**

**Thank you to all those parents who contact school without delay if their children are late or unable to attend, for any reason.**

At Earlsmead we monitor children who are late to school and the frequency this occurs. In cases where a child persistently arrives at school after the register is closed (8:55am) and has received 8 Unauthorised Late Marks within a period of 10 weeks in term time, an Educational Penalty Notice (EPN) from the London Borough of Harrow will be issued.

# Packed Lunches

Earlsmead are working towards our Silver and Gold Healthy Schools Award.

As part of this we are working on dental and physical health.

Healthy



Unhealthy



For more information go to

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

Drinks are really important. They should be water, milk or a small amount of fruit juice. No fizzy drinks or squash as they have too much sugar in them.



Please DO NOT pack any fizzy drinks, chocolate or crisps as they are ok for treat foods but not a healthy packed lunch.

DO NOT pack any foods containing nuts.



Please remember for the **safety** of the children, we are a **nut free** school. Lunches should not include any food containing nuts eg. biscuits, cakes, or chocolate spreads like Nutella as many contain nuts.



# Fit4Life Harrow Charter

Here at Earlsmead Primary School, we believe that the health and well-being of the children is paramount. We pledge to ensure that your children will have access to all of the statements in the charter.

We ask that you and your families make the same pledge so your children can be happy and healthy whether they are at school and at home!

## Fit4Life Harrow Charter

### Primary School Charter

Schools pledge to:



Include health and fitness at the centre of our curriculum



Provide healthy food across the school day



Ensure all packed lunches are healthy



Complete the school's part of Active 30:30 (an extra 30 minutes of exercise a day)



Achieve the Healthy Schools London Award



Ensure that interventions are in place to support pupil mental health and wellbeing

### Family Charter

Families pledge to:



Reduce the amount of sugary foods and drinks



Provide healthy snacks at the end of the school day



Exercise with children outside of school for at least 30 mins a day (Active 30:30)



Sign-up and regularly attend an NHS Dentist and ensure children brush teeth at least twice a day



Ensure children are up to date with vaccinations



Talk each day to children about how they are feeling and how their day went



LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

## NO PARKING

No vehicles are permitted to park on zig zag lines. No vehicles should park on a zig zag or even stop to let passengers out, whilst restrictions are in force.

No vehicles are allowed to park in or across private driveways. Staff and residents are within their rights to photograph vehicles/take details and report to the appropriate body. <https://www.harlow.gov.uk/parking-permits/report-illegal-parking>

Please also refrain from sitting on our neighbours' fences or littering in their space. This is antagonistic behaviour and is poor role modelling for our children.

In a community such as ours, it is important that we all show courtesy and respect towards each other. Please help me to keep our community as a happy place as this is what will most benefit our children.

