Monthly newsletter of EduArt Kindergartens - January 2026

# Edík's News

| Vinohrady | Libuš | Hloubětín |
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## Preschool year in our kindergartens

At a time when our preschoolers are slowly preparing to step into the world of primary education, we pay great attention to ensuring that their transition is as smooth, calm and supported from all sides as possible. Therefore, we base the entire process on open communication, cooperation with schools and families, and careful preparation that respects the individual needs of each child.

In recent weeks, our branch managers have visited a number of adjacent primary schools to map out their environment, educational offerings, and the focus of individual programs in detail. These meetings help us build closer cooperation with schools and better understand the options available to children in the area.

We then share with parents of preschoolers not only the findings from these visits, but also practical information on enrollment, the focus of schools, and recommendations on how to sensitively prepare children for first grade. An important part is also the perspective of our school psychologist, who helps parents navigate the range of educational options and supports them in choosing the most suitable one - always with regard to the individual needs of their child.

We also visit primary schools with the children so that they can see the classrooms, meet the teachers and experience the school atmosphere firsthand. These experiences significantly reduce the fear of the unknown and give children confidence before the upcoming enrollment.

An integral part of our work is also individual preschool preparation, during which we systematically develop the competencies necessary for the start of schooling - from graphomotor skills and language skills to independence and work habits. Thanks to this, children can enter a new stage with joy and self-confidence.

# Edík's January Adventures

## Prague 2

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| Ski course in Janov nad Nisou | 5. - 9.1. |
| Project day: Artephiletics | 13.1. |
| Forest trip: Preschoolers | 20.1. |
| Halo therapy playroom | 22.1. |
| Kindergarten theater: "Ghosts" | 27.1. |

Every Friday morning - sports in Sokol



## Prague 4



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| Ski course in Janov nad Nisou | 5. - 9.1. |
| Three Kings Parade | 6.1. |
| Alzheimer Home | 13.1. |
| Project Day: Natural Materials | 21.1. |
| Canistherapy | 27.1. |

Every Tuesday morning - swimming
Every Thursday - visit of the Reading Grandma

## Prague 9

**Blue class**

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|---|---|
| Ski course in Janov nad Nisou | 5. - 9.1. |
| Angels in fur | 8.1. |
| Philharmonic in kindergarten | 14.1. |
| Library | 16.1. |
| Project day with parents: Edík's journey towards a happy tummy | 28.1. |

**Red class**

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|---|---|
| Ski course in Janov nad Nisou | 5. - 9.1. |
| Angels in fur | 7.1. |
| Philharmonic in kindergarten | 14.1. |
| Library | 30.1. |
| Project day with parents: Edík's journey towards a happy tummy | 28.1. |

**Yellow class**

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|---|---|
| Ski course in Janov nad Nisou | |
| Angels in fur | 5. - 9.1. |
| Philharmonic in kindergarten | 7.1. |
| Library | 14.1. |
| Project day with parents: Edík's journey towards a happy tummy | 23.1.<br>28.1. |

Every Tuesday morning - swimming

**Orange and Green class**

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|---|---|
| Ski course in Janov nad Nisou | 5. - 9.1. |
| Angels in fur | 8.1. |
| Philharmonic in kindergarten | 14.1. |
| Trip to the fire station - date to be specified | |
| Project day with parents: Edík's journey towards a happy tummy | 28.1. |

# Edík's Around-the-World Adventure

## Hejný mathematics in EduArt

In our kindergarten, we work with elements of Hejný mathematics, which are a natural part of children's everyday activities. It is not about "learning mathematics at the table", but about discovering the world around them in a playful and natural way. Children encounter mathematical principles during games, working with tools, during conversations together, and in everyday situations during the day. They learn to think, find their own solutions, and not be afraid of mistakes - we perceive them as an important part of learning and cognition. We place great emphasis on independent thinking and the opportunity to come up with solutions "in their own way". Teachers sensitively guide children, ask questions, and create a safe environment in which children are not afraid to express their ideas and opinions. Children thus naturally develop in the areas of logical thinking, creativity, and healthy self-confidence. At the same time, they learn to listen to others, share their thoughts, and cooperate within a group. Hejný's mathematics is an inconspicuous but very effective way to prepare children not only for further education, but also for everyday life situations.



## Language course within the Erasmus+ project

As part of the Erasmus+ project, non-teaching staff of the kindergarten can also travel abroad for educational stays. Veronika, an operations manager from Prague 9, spent a week in Dublin, where she worked on her English at the Ulearn language school and learned about the local culture. Advent Dublin allowed her to fully devote herself to the language and gain valuable experience for her professional development.

Financováno Evropskou unií
Funded by the European Union



## Erasmus+ in Prague 2

In November, teacher Nikola returned from a very stimulating stay abroad, which she completed at the Montessori kindergarten in Malaga. She brought back a lot of inspiration from there, which we would like to gradually incorporate into the daily work at our school. Nikola was particularly enthusiastic about the consistent support for children's independence that she experienced. She was very impressed by how naturally children are given responsibility for their activities there. She was also strongly impressed by the practical activities aimed at developing concentration, responsibility and fine motor skills, as well as the techniques of working with sensory materials that support deep, independent learning.



# Primary school enrollment in 2026

Enrollment in first grade represents a significant milestone for both the child and the family and a symbolic transition “from play to duty”. In addition, a fundamental legislative change is taking place from 2026: enrollments are being moved from spring to winter. They will now take place from January 15 to February 15, which gives parents earlier certainty, but at the same time less time to decide on a suitable school.

## What is changing about enrollments and why?

The amendment to the Education Act responds to the long-term trend of increasing postponements of school attendance. Paradoxically, it turned out that the later enrollment date actually encouraged postponement. The shift of enrollments to winter is intended to allow schools to plan earlier and parents to have more time to prepare their child before starting school.

## How to choose the right school?

There are several criteria, but the most important is the consistency between the child's needs and the character of the school. You can enroll your child in any private school or even a state residence school (here, however, admission is limited by the school's capacity and criteria).
Parents should consider, among other things:

- the school's teaching style (traditional, modern, project-based, bilingual),
- class size and school climate,
- approach to student support, use of school psychologists, special educators,
- residency rate and capacity, which often determines the possibility of admission to state schools.





## What do schools actually expect in enrollment?

Enrollment is not an exam, but a ritual of transition into the role of a pupil, the aim of which is to familiarize the child with the school environment and to assess his or her developmental level. However, each school chooses its own form of enrollment - in some cases it takes place through friendly play, in others through more structured tasks. It involves mapping the areas of speech, memory, attention, motor skills and social maturity.
Typically, a child can:

- draw a figure, name colors or basic shapes,
- respond to simple instructions,
- talk to the teacher, recite a poem or song,
- demonstrate pencil holding or hand dominance.

# Primary school enrollment in 2026

## School postponements

A fundamental innovation is the tightening of postponements. From the 2026/27 school year, postponement will only be possible:

- based on an examination at a school counseling facility,
- based on a statement from a specialist doctor (neurologist, clinical psychologist - not a pediatrician).

Additional postponements during the 1st grade are canceled. Parents of children for whom postponement is being considered should therefore contact the pedagogical-psychological counseling center as soon as possible - counseling centers have long waiting times.

## What should a preschooler ideally be able to do?

School maturity is a combination of biological maturity and skills acquired through education and stimulation.

A child should be:

- Physically mature - sufficiently agile, with mature fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination.
- Mentally and cognitively prepared - distinguishes shapes and sounds, maintains attention, manages simple logical tasks and has an adequate vocabulary.
- Socially and emotionally mature - can accept instructions, stay on task, cooperates with peers, manages basic self-service.
- Independent - dressing, cleaning, responding to instructions.

However, it is also natural that no child fits perfectly into all the maturity 'boxes'; therefore, when choosing a school, it is essential to know whether the school is more performance-oriented or, on the contrary, can take into account the specifics and individual pace of each child.

## How to prepare your child for enrollment?



Preparation should not be a "drill", but a sensitive reinforcement of independence, communication and self-confidence. Encourage your child to ask questions and tell stories. Read together, sing and talk about pictures. Practice self-care – changing clothes, eating, cleaning. Maintain a regular routine. Visit school in advance – it helps to alleviate fears. Validate your child's emotions and be supportive. Starting first grade is a process. Early orientation in the new rules, thoughtful choice of a school and supporting your child at their own pace are key to a healthy and confident start. A child who feels secure and supported usually adapts faster.

And even if it turns out that the chosen school is not ideal for your child, it is important to know that transferring during first grade is a common and accessible practice. Schools are used to these situations and can handle them sensitively, so a possible change of environment can be empowering and liberating for the child.