



Purford Green Primary School

Purford Green, Harlow, Essex CM18 6HP

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November 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to see so many parents and children attend our parent consultation meetings in October. We are delighted that almost every child in our school had a family member attend an appointment with their class teacher, and the children have had the opportunity to show you all that they have been learning so far this term. We will contact anyone who hasn't attended to arrange a meeting.

This half term is proving to be a very busy one, with many exciting trips and visits planned. Already, Year 3 have had the privilege of immersing themselves in the world of theatre with a visit to London to see the stage show Matilda. Meanwhile, Year 4 have been to the cinema, and Year 1 have enjoyed a memorable seaside excursion to Walton on the Naze.

In the coming weeks, Year 6 will be going to the Imperial War Museum, London to learn more about World War II; Year 2 will be visiting Colchester Zoo for a unique wildlife experience and Year 5 are gearing up for an educational and fun-filled adventure at Kidzania.

The rich and varied range of these experiences reflects our commitment to providing a well-rounded and engaging education for all our children.

We are aware that winter months can be particularly challenging financially, especially with higher fuel bills and the cost of Christmas. We have successfully applied for £4000 of funding to support families during the winter months as well as our access to Food Bank vouchers.

If you or a family you know would benefit from extra support, please pop in to see myself, Mrs Thomson or Mrs Hammond.



I have met with the site manager from Marfleet & Blyth and Essex Housing today to discuss our ongoing concerns around parking and the safety of our families coming to and from school.

All contractors have been asked not to park on pavements and if spaces are not available in the car park, they are to park away from the site. In addition, signs have been placed around the site to reinforce this. Marfleet & Blyth have a member of staff at the entrance, and they have been asked to 'move vehicles on' if they try to park inappropriately and they are happy for parents to flag concerns directly with their staff.

In addition to this we have looked at the site today and identified an area within the construction site that will be converted into a small parking area for contractors to use. This will be ready within the next month or so and will reduce some of the vehicles parking roadside.

All parties have agreed to review the situation again when we return from the Christmas holidays.

If you have any further concerns, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Please continue to look after yourselves.

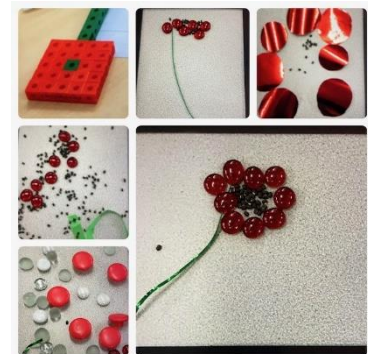
Miss Emma Bloomfield

INSET Day

Please note that 24th November is an INSET day. We will see children back in school on Monday 27th November.

Remembrance Day

Last Friday, the whole school took time to remember those who have given their lives to protect us in times of need. Our nursery children joined in by making their own poppies out of loose parts.



World Kindness Day and Anti-Bullying Week



On Monday 13th November we celebrated World Kindness Day by wearing odd and funky socks. We joined a virtual assembly with 2000 other children where we championed and celebrated kindness. Throughout the week, children have engaged in various activities and thought-provoking debates to mark Anti-Bullying Week. In Nursery and Reception, children have crafted a friendship ring; Key Stage 1 have delved into discussions about what makes a good friend, while Key Stage 2 have tackled the topic of when banter crosses the line into bullying.

As a whole school we have revisited our definition of bullying: 'Bullying is when someone deliberately hurts you or your feelings over and over again. A person can be hurt by words or actions, in person or online. If you witness bullying, make a noise and tell!'

World Café Day

It was lovely for the whole school to come together for World Café Day on Friday 3rd November. In the hall was an assortment of stalls from around the world serving up culinary delights for the children. Even our youngest children in Nursery tried a variety of dishes from around the world.

Thank you to staff, parents and volunteers from Passmores who made it such a memorable experience.



Friends of Purford Green (FOPG)



The movie and popcorn night on Friday 10th November was a huge success and the children enjoyed the films on offer. From the proceeds, the FOPG have bought new Nativity costumes for the upcoming Christmas performances, and they will be buying more resources for the school during the year. The Friends of Purford Green are now busy preparing for the Christmas Fair on Friday December 1st (3.10pm – 4.30pm). They would love it if you can bring donations for the fair on Thursday 23rd November in exchange for a non-uniform day. A letter has been sent out with the information.



Santa will also be visiting the school during the Christmas Fayre.

As usual a visit to the popular Santa Grotto needs to be pre- booked.

Some of the volunteers of the Friends of Purford Green will be outside the school office at 3pm on the following dates for you to prebook a time for your child to visit the grotto.

Monday 20th November, Tuesday 21st November, Wednesday 22nd November

Sports Tournaments

November saw the Purford Green dodgeball teams take to the court. There were over 40 teams that took part in the tournament with a very high level of play. Both teams played extremely well against some very strong opposition, unfortunately narrowly missing out on making it to the final. This was followed by the Activity Festival with a morning of fun and games. All participants got to try out new sports as well as some favourites. The Boccia tournament is our next one, we are hoping to make the top 3 again this year!

Winter PE Kit

During the colder months, children will still have PE lessons outside. We ask that you provide your child with a pair of jogging bottoms for these lessons.



Learning Mentor Support

We have been fortunate to have the support of a Learning Mentor at Purford Green for the last 7 years. Mrs Hammond works with pupils to help them address emotional barriers to learning through supportive one-to-one sessions and small group work.

For parents, she offers a place to talk, a listening ear, short term confidential and impartial advice/support regarding relationships within the family, or any other concerns/issues. She also offers support with completing forms or applications for benefits. If she cannot personally help, she will signpost parents to agencies who can.

She is available every morning and if you would like to make an appointment, please contact her through admin@purfordgreen.essex.sch.uk

Support For Families

Essex Child and Family Wellbeing Service are providing school age drop-in sessions. These will take place on:

The 1st Tuesday of the month 3:00 - 4:30pm @ Treehouse Family Hub, Parnell Road, CM18 7NG.

The 3rd Thursday of the month 3:00 - 4:30pm @ Meadows Delivery Site, CM19 4DL.

These are 'Drop in' sessions for support and advice by a School Nurse or 5-19 Healthy Family Support Practitioner. Parents can ask advice about behaviour and emotional needs, bed wetting and soiling issues plus other health needs that may be impacting on both home and school life.

Mental Health Support for Parents and Carers

There will be a Drop In Afternoon Tea with Mind in West Essex (the mental health charity) on Thursday 7th December 2023 -1:30 to 3:00 at Purford Green School.

This is a fantastic opportunity for all parents to meet the Mind in West Essex team who can offer advice on any issues you are experiencing with your children, plus they can signpost you to help your own mental health and wellbeing. Refreshments will be available.



Christmas Events at St Stephens Church

St Stephens Christmas Fair 9th December 12-4pm

Carols and Christingle 17th December 6pm

Crib Family Service 24th December 5pm

Purford dates for your diary

Wednesday 22nd November – Year 5 trip to Kidzania

Wednesday 22nd November – Year 3 cinema trip

Thursday 23rd November – non-uniform day for Christmas Fair donations

Thursday 23rd November – Year 3 library visit

Friday 24th November – Inset Day (school closed)

Wednesday 29th November - Y2 trip to Colchester Zoo

Friday 1st December - Christmas Fair - whole school (YrN – Yr 6)

Monday 4th December Christmas Postbox available in the main school and in the nursery

Thursday 7th December – Afternoon Tea with Mind in West Essex

Friday 8th December - Christmas Jumper Day - whole school (YrN – Yr 6)

Tuesday 12th December - Cinderella Panto @Passmores

Wednesday 13th December pm - YR/Y1 Nativity Performance to parents

Thursday 14th December am - YR/Y1 Nativity Performance to parents

Thursday 14th December 4pm Year 2/3 carols to parents

Wednesday 20th December Nursery Christmas Performances

Wednesday 20th December Nursery last day of term

Thursday 21st December Non-Uniform Day – School finishes at 1.30pm