



Purford Green Primary School

Purford Green, Harlow, Essex CM18 6HP

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September 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are already well into our first term of the new academic year. It has been lovely to meet new children and families joining Purford Green along with families already familiar to us. Our new nursery and reception children have really impressed us with how they have settled into their new environment and new routines.

It was great to see so many parents attending our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. We hope that you are now well informed of the curriculum content for the year for your child and other events and information.

Thank you to all the parents who greet me on the door, it is a privilege to be part of this fantastic community, so it is with great excitement and a deep sense of responsibility that I step into the role of Head of School at Purford Green. I have been part of this community for nine years and I truly love our school. The children and staff make me proud every day and I am honoured to serve you and your children and to give them the best start in life. Please feel free to stop and chat at the front door if you have any questions, concerns or just to say hello.

Best wishes,

Mrs Rachel Thomson

Congratulations to our new House Captains

Well done to all children who prepared and gave house captain speeches to houses recently. All the children prepared and delivered speeches that were of high quality. Children and adults in houses have now voted and we are pleased to announce the following:

Dragon House Captain – Bailey

Dragon House Vice Captain – Hazel



Lion House Captain – Bella-Rose

Lion House Vice Captain – Ella

Unicorn House Captain – Vinnie

Unicorn House Vice Captain - Rio

Griffin House Captain – Daniel

Griffin House Vice Captain – Amelia

Wellbeing Champions

Well done to the children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who applied for the post of Wellbeing Champion – we had 26 applications! Our wellbeing champions for this year are:

Year 3: Delilah, Matilda

Year 4: Alessia, Jade

Year 5: Lily, Ava B, Darcie

Year 6: William and Olivia

Harvest Collection 2024

Our whole school Harvest assembly (Reception Class - Year 6) will take place on **Tuesday 1st October**. Children will celebrate by singing some traditional Harvest songs together and each class will be sharing a piece of work to the rest of the school. As part of the assembly, we will consider others who may often go hungry and think about giving to others as one of our 5 Ways to Wellbeing. We will be doing our **traditional collection for Harlow Foodbank**. Your contribution is optional and we fully understand if you are unable to donate. If you are able to, please send your child in with one item from the following list:

Long life milk

Long life fruit juices

Tinned fruit

Tinned Rice pudding

Tinned veg

Tinned tomatoes

Tinned meat

Pasta Sauces

We are not able to take fresh or perishable items. Please could you check that food items are in date, and these can be brought into school with your child on **Tuesday 1st October**.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Children who are unwell

Children should only stay at home from school or nursery if they **have a high temperature (fever) and are unwell** and wait until it has passed before going back.

A child with diarrhoea and/or vomiting should also wait for 24 hours before going back, to stop the spread of stomach bugs.

But if they have a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough - without a high temperature - children are encouraged to go to school and nursery.

Scarlet fever and chickenpox can also spread at this time of year, and cases usually peak in late winter and early spring.

Scarlet Fever symptoms include: sore throat, fever, swollen neck glands, a bumpy rash on the tummy, flushed cheeks and "a strawberry tongue" - so called because it means the tongue looks a bit like a strawberry. Contact your local GP if you see the signs and keep children away from school and nursery for 24 hours after the first dose of antibiotics.

Chicken Pox is highly contagious - the most common symptom is an itchy, spotty rash. Keep children off school until all the spots have crusted over.

Hand Foot and Mouth Disease - You should keep your child off school or nursery **only** if they are feeling unwell and have a high fever. However, once they are feeling better, they can go back to nursery/school and there is no need to wait until all the blisters have healed.

When calling the school on the absence line, please give details of your child's illness. Do not just say 'unwell' or 'ill' – please give a more detailed explanation.

Year 6 Families

You can now apply for a secondary school place for your child. The date for applications has now opened and **closes on 31st October**. This can be done online by visiting Essex County Council's School Admission website.

We encourage you to take up the opportunity to visit secondary schools as part of their open evenings.

Passmores Academy Open Evening will be on Thursday 26th September 2024 between 5.30pm - 8.30pm. The principal's speeches will be at 6.00pm and 7.00pm. No booking required



Celebrating children's achievements outside of school

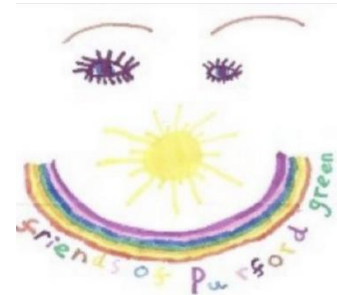
As a school we enjoy celebrating children's achievements gained in clubs and hobbies they take part in out of school. Each term we celebrate achievements in a special assembly. This term it will take place on **Monday 14th October**. If your child has gained a certificate or medal in a club they attend outside of school, please send them in with this on the date.

Careers Assemblies

Last year we launched a series of careers assemblies, and we were fortunate to have different professionals come into school to talk about their jobs. We had a paramedic, mental health nurse, journalist, zookeeper, PE teacher and our local Member of Parliament. We would like to continue to deliver these this year. So, if you (or someone you know) would like to come in and talk about your career to a group of children please talk to the office. We would love to hear from you.

Friends of Purford Green

The Friends of Purford Green would like to invite all parents to a **Coffee and Cake afternoon on Monday 7th Oct 2.30- 3.00pm** in the school hall. This will be an opportunity to meet some other parents, meet Mrs Thomson, have a natter and some delicious refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there!



Parent Governor

We have a vacancy for a parent governor.

There are no particular qualifications required for the role just a commitment and enthusiasm for this post. The core functions of the governing board are ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school.

Governors currently meet as a full governing body 4 times a year and meetings usually start at 4.00 pm and are finished around 6.00 pm. If you are interested or would like more information please contact the school office.

NSPCC Assembly

On Monday children in Years 1 to 6 had an assembly led by the NSPCC. The children were told that they have the right to speak out and be heard; be safe; and get help when they need it.



Parents and carers of children in breakfast club/after school club

When dropping off and collecting your child from breakfast club or after school club, please ensure your child/children do not use the equipment and resources in the nursery front garden area. Thank you for your support.

Lost Property

The staff try their hardest to make sure that children do not lose their belongings but sometimes things still go missing.

We would ask for your support in the following ways: Please make sure all clothing is clearly labelled with permanent marker. Please check that your child has not accidentally taken home an item of clothing that does not belong to them.

If your child is missing an item of clothing, please check with the class teacher as all items of lost property will be held in class. At the end of each half term, any items that are unlabelled and unclaimed will be donated to charity.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 25th September Y1 Walton-on-the-Naze trip

Thursday 26th September – Passmores open evening

Tuesday 1st October – Harvest Festival(children and staff only)

Thursday 3rd October – Individual / sibling photos

Thursday 3rd October—Year 2 Library visit

Friday 4th October – Flu Immunisations

Thursday 10th October – World Mental Health Day

Tuesday 15th October—Parent Consultations afternoon (except Year 3)

Wednesday 16th October—Parent Consultations evening

Thursday 17th October – Parents Consultation afternoon for Year 3

Thursday 17th October – Open afternoon for new reception intake 2024-2025 (Please contact the school office to book)

Monday 21st October Year 3 visit to church

Tuesday 22nd October – Nursery reading and phonics meeting for parents

Tuesday 22nd October - Year 2 Library visit

Wednesday 23rd October – Non uniform day

Thursday 24th October—Sunday 3rd November Half term

Children return to school Monday 4th November