



Purford Green Primary School

Purford Green, Harlow, Essex CM18 6HP

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January 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy 2025! It has been lovely to pop into classes over the last four weeks and see the children ready to learn and already immersed in their new topics for this term.

This week you will have received your invitation to your parents' consultation meetings which mark the halfway point through the year. These are very important appointments as they are an opportunity for you to look at your child's work, discuss their progress and find out ways to support your child further at home. We look forward to seeing you and your child there.

Mrs Rachel Thomson

Reading at Home Competition

This term Purford Green are participating in a Cross Trust Reading Competition which includes Pear Tree Mead, Potter Street and The Downs primary schools. The competition encourages children to read at least **three times a week** and to have these sessions recorded in their reading journals.

Prizes:

- **£300 for the winning school:** The winning school will receive a £300 prize, which will be used to purchase new reading books for the library, enhancing our children's reading experience.
- **£50 in-school challenge:** In addition, we will be hosting an in-school challenge, where the winning class will receive £50 to spend on books for their class.

Results so far:

Week 1: Purford Green in 1st Place

Week 2: Purford Green in 2nd place

The competition runs for another 6 weeks, and it would be fantastic to see Purford Green win the top prize! Happy reading everyone and don't forget to sign your child's reading record.

Wear Your Scarf to School Day



Wear Your Scarf to School Day

On Friday 7th February we will be holding a special *Wear Your Scarf to School Day*.

On *Wear Your SCARF to School Day* children are invited to wear a special or favourite scarf all day in school.



We'll be doing some special activities to help us remember and celebrate SCARF's important values of Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship.

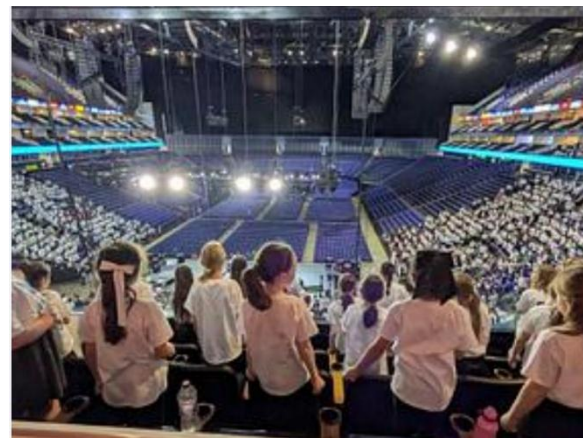
If your child hasn't got a scarf, your child could wear some brightly coloured or decorated socks instead.

Parking

Essex Housing has requested that we remind parents that Oakview Drive (the new housing development) remains a private road and must not be used for parking during school drop-off and pick-up times. Construction traffic still requires access, and your cooperation in keeping the area clear is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your understanding.

Young Voices

Last week, the Purford Green choir delivered an incredible performance at the Young Voices concert at the O2. Their voices blended harmoniously with thousands of young singers, captivating the audience with their energy and enthusiasm. It was a memorable event, showcasing their love for music.



BETT Show

Last Thursday, our Digital Leaders had a fabulous time at the BETT show in London, exploring the latest in educational technology. They had lots of opportunities to try out cutting-edge gadgets and software. They particularly enjoyed experimenting with interactive learning tools, virtual reality and coding workshops.



Sports News

On Friday, 24th January, the Purford Green Year 3 and 4 Indoor Sports Hall Athletics team competed in the town-wide competition, joined by 25 schools from across the area. The boys and girls participated in two track and two field events, with their scores contributing to Purford Green's overall total. Both teams performed brilliantly, showing determination and teamwork throughout the day. Their efforts paid off, with Purford Green finishing an impressive 4th overall!

Tree Planting



On a cold day at the beginning of January, our House Captains and Vice-House Captains joined representatives from Essex County Council to plant sapling trees as part of a woodland walkway at Oakview Walk, the new housing development neighbouring Purford Green. The children thoroughly enjoyed digging and planting the trees, showing great enthusiasm for contributing to the local environment.



Attendance Matters

Regular attendance is essential for children's progress. Every school day counts, and when children attend school consistently, they gain better academic skills and build stronger relationships.

Tips for Good Attendance:

- Morning Routine: Help your child establish a morning routine that gets them to school on time.
- Plan Appointments Carefully: Whenever possible, schedule doctor's appointments outside of school hours.
- Talk About School: Encourage your child to share what they enjoy about school and address any concerns they may have.

Resources and Support: If you are facing challenges with your child's attendance, please reach out to our school Learning Mentor (Mrs Hammond) or Attendance Officer (Mrs Perry), who are here to help with resources that can support your family and keep your child on track.

Class Assemblies

This term, class assemblies will begin to take place. Each class will showcase their learning for the year so far. Please see the important dates below to book your child's assembly into your diaries. These will be held at 9.15am.

Year 4 – Wednesday 5th February 2025

Year 6 - Thursday 13 th February 2025

Year 5 – Wednesday 5th March 2025

Year 2 - Thursday 1st May 2025

Year 3 - Thursday 22nd May 2025

Year 1 – Thursday 12th June 2025

Year R - Thursday 19th June 2025

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 31st January – INSET DAY (school closed for pupils)

Tuesday 4th February – Year 4 trip to Colchester Castle

Weds 5th February – Year 4 Class Assembly @9.15

Tues 11th February - Parents consultations afternoon 1pm-4pm

Weds 12th February – Parents consultations evening 3.20pm-6pm

Thurs 13th February 9.15am – Year 6 Class assembly

Friday 14th February – Non-Uniform Day (Last day of half term)

Monday 24th February - School returns

Wednesday 5th March Year 5 Class Assembly @9.15

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day

Friday 14th March – INSET DAY (school closed for pupils)

Friday 28th March – Mother's Day Afternoon

Thursday 3rd April – Nursery Last Day

Friday 4th April – School closes a 1.30pm (Non-Uniform Day)