



Purford Green Primary School

Purford Green, Harlow, Essex CM18 6HP

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September 2025 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.

Best wishes,

Mrs Rachel Thomson

Congratulations to our new House Captains



Well done to all the children who prepared and gave house captain speeches to their 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 – Olivia

Dragon House Vice Captain – Nathan

Lion House Captain – Leon

Lion House Vice Captain – Sara

Unicorn House Captain – Ava H

Unicorn House Vice Captain - Lily

Griffin House Captain – Marcus

Griffin House Vice Captain – Elija

Harvest Collection 2025

Our whole school Harvest assembly (Reception Class - Year 6) will take place on **Wednesday 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 **Wednesday 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.

Lunchtime Play

Our new lunchtime playground stations are open! We now have a range of activities available for all children from Reception to Year 6, including small construction, performance and arts and crafts (a very popular one!).

As well as exploring all of the new equipment, the children have particularly enjoyed playing across key stages, mixing with their friends and siblings in other year groups.

Thanks to everyone who donated, your contributions have made these changes possible and have been a big hit with the children!

We are still developing the space and have big plans for the rest of this year, so please keep your donations coming (we have a wish list on Class Dojo).



Girls Football Team

Congratulations to our Purford Green girls on the Year 5/6 football team who came first out of 24 teams in their football tournament. The girls won every single game for a total of seven games today. All of the girls showed true teamwork with all of their brilliant passes and plays. They all cheered each other on all afternoon and represented our school brilliantly. Well done on all of your hard work as it paid off! They will now represent the school in the county finals.



Summer Reading Challenge Trophy



We are very proud to announce that Purford Green have won the Summer Reading Challenge trophy for the Tye Green area for the second year in a row. Well done to our whole school community for this fabulous achievement.

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 4pm and are finished around 6pm. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the school office.

Reading at home (EYFS and Key Stage 1)

This year, for children in nursery, reception, Year 1 and Year 2 we will continue to recognise children who are sharing books at home. This will be slightly different to the reading challenges promoted in previous years.



We are encouraging children to read 50 books at home per term, and this will be recognised through a certificate awarded to your child at the end of a term.

Please write the name of each book read on the document at the back of your child's reading record.

If your child reads 150 books by the end of the school year, your child will be able to choose a book to purchase.

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

Thursday 3rd October – Individual photos

Wednesday 8th October – Open afternoon for Reception intake 2026 (please book via the school office)

Thursday 9th October – Year 5 Harlow Outdoors trip

Friday 17th October – Year 4 Colchester Castle

Tuesday 21st October – Parents consultation evening

Wednesday 22nd October - Parents consultation afternoon

Wednesday 22nd October – Non uniform day and last day of half term

Thursday 23rd October—Sunday 2nd November Half term

Children return to school Monday 3rd November

Tuesday 4th November - Open morning for Reception intake 2026 (please book via the school office)

Thursday 13th November – Year 6 Class assembly @9.15am

Thursday 20th November – Year 3 Class assembly @9.15am

Wednesday 26th November - Open morning for Reception intake 2026 (please book via the school office)

Thursday 27th November – Year 6 Harlow Museum

Friday 28th November – INSET Day