



Purford Green Primary School

Purford Green, Harlow, Essex CM18 6HP

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January 2026 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

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.

Last 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

DFE Attendance and Behaviour Hub

We are delighted to say that Purford Green Primary School has been selected by the Department for Education as a Behaviour and Attendance Hub recognising the school's practice and commitment to supporting pupils to succeed.

The Behaviour and Attendance Hubs programme is a national DfE initiative designed to support schools across the country in improving pupil behaviour and attendance. As a hub school, we will work in partnership with other schools, sharing expertise, strategies and practical support to help create positive and high-achieving learning environments.



It is a great achievement as we are currently the only school in Essex to be selected as a Behaviour and Attendance Hub. To recognise this, last Thursday ITV Anglia News came and talked to children in Year 6 about their experiences in school.

BETT Show

On Thursday 22nd January, 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 and a highlight of the day was meeting some of the Gladiators.



Wear Your Scarf to School Day



Wear Your Scarf to School Day

On **Friday 13th February** we will be holding a special *Wear Your Scarf to School Day* as part of our PSHE curriculum.

On *Wear Your SCARF to School Day* the children are invited to wear non-uniform and 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.



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.

Meet our Learning Mentor and Inclusion Manager

Mrs Hammond, our Learning Mentor

As a **Learning Mentor**, Mrs Hammond works with pupils to help them address emotional barriers (and potential emotional barriers) to learning through supportive one-to-one relationships and small-group work. She supports pupils to develop effective coping strategies, enhance motivation, raise aspirations, and re-engage positively with learning.

Mrs Hammond also supports children who may be experiencing low self-esteem, anxiety, anger, mental health difficulties, relationship challenges, bullying, peer pressure, or family-related issues and concerns.

She is a trained Mental Health First Aider and has extensive training in Play Therapy, bereavement support, mental and emotional health, and managing challenging behaviour.



For parents and carers, Mrs Hammond offers a safe space to talk and a listening ear, providing short-term, confidential, and impartial advice and support around family relationships or other concerns. She can also support with completing forms or benefit applications. She is J9 trained and, where appropriate, will signpost families to external agencies if further support is needed.

Mrs Madge, our Inclusion Manager

Mrs Madge, our Inclusion Manager, plays a key role in supporting pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to thrive within our school community. Working alongside Mrs Thomas the Director of Inclusion, she helps shape and deliver the school's SEND policy and provision.



Mrs Madge oversees the day-to-day organisation of SEND support, ensuring provision is well planned, effectively delivered and regularly reviewed.

Partnership with parents and carers is central to her role. Mrs Madge communicates regularly with families, listens to concerns and ensures parents are fully involved in reviews, One Planning meetings and Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) processes.

Appointments to see both Mrs Hammond and Mrs Madge can be made by calling the school office or via admin@purfordgreenschool.com

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 3rd February – Choir Concert at Passmores @4pm

Tues 10th February - Parents consultations evening 3.20pm -6pm

Weds 11th February – Parents consultations afternoon 1pm-4pm (1pm-5.30pm for Y3)

Friday 13th February – Wear Your Scarf to School Day and Non-Uniform Day 50p (Last day of half term)

Monday 23rd February - School returns

Wednesday 4th March - Year 2 Class Assembly @9.15am

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Thursday 12th March - Year 5 Class Assembly @9.15am

Tuesday 17th March – Year 6 Crucial Crew

Monday 23rd March – Rocksteady Performance to parents @9.15am

Wednesday 25th March - Year 3 Class Assembly @9.15am

Thursday 26th March – Mind workshop for parents

Thursday 26th March – Nursery Last Day

Friday 27th March – School closes a 1.30pm (Non-Uniform Day)