



# December Newsletter 2022

Dear parents / carers,

It has been a long but very rewarding autumn term. As always, the children have displayed wonderful attitudes, modelled our school values, and made the most of the exciting learning experiences at Purford Green. We would like to thank you all for your continued support in all we do.

The staff would also like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful start to 2023. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 9th January, for another action-packed term. Have a wonderful holiday everyone!

Don't forget that on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December, school will finish at the earlier time of 1.30pm.

## Christmas Performances

Thank you to all the parents and carers who have attended our Christmas performances. It was so lovely to see so many families coming together to support the children. Staff were very proud to see children performing with an abundance of enthusiasm and energy. Well done children you did an excellent job. A big thank you to all the staff who have worked so hard to make the performances so memorable. Thank you for your co-operation in keeping personal photos taken during the performance for private use only.

## Snow

We are proud to be a school that does not close unless we really have to. We will always aim to be open to support our local community, especially those who are key workers. This is possible because we have a dedicated team of staff, some of whom walked or drove for up to an hour to get to school during the snow. However, whilst we are committed to remaining open and we are able to keep children safe whilst in school due to the hard work of Mr Walker and other staff, it is up to parents / carers to decide if they can get their children to school safely.

## A Fond Farewell

At the end of term, we will be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Barbara Byham who has decided to retire. Mrs Byham has been a Learning Support Assistant for over fifteen years but has been associated with Purford Green for thirty years. She is known and loved by all the children and will leave a lasting legacy at our school. Always creative, she has designed and made many wonderful resources for the children to enjoy. We send our best wishes to her and hope she has a long and happy retirement.

## Christmas Fete

It has been three years since we were able to have a Christmas fete, so it was wonderful to see so many people able to come together and enjoy the Christmas event once again. We would like to say thank you to the Friends of Purford Green for their tremendous hard work in creating such a successful event.

We would also like to thank Santa for his special visit.



## Update on School Meals

Thank you for your patience and understanding whilst we are having difficulties with our kitchen. The extractor fan, which controls the gas supply to our ovens, is situated on our roof and has been affected by the recent cold weather. Engineers have visited to investigate the problem and we are hoping this will be fixed ready for the 9<sup>th</sup> January .

We would like to thank the catering team, who have gone above and beyond to find creative solutions (which have included using our small curriculum cooker and bringing in slow cookers from home) so we can continue to provide school meals.

## Children in Need

Thank you from the School Council for your donations and giving up your time to support Children in Need. We managed to raise £268.56.

## Year 2 Trip to Colchester Zoo

ON Monday 5<sup>th</sup> of December we went to Colchester Zoo because it was our school trip. Have you ever been to Colchester Zoo? We went on a smooth shiny minibus. We saw red pandas and also fennec foxes. We saw a lion and an elf called Sprinkles who led us to the penguins. It was so much fun. *Written by Ivy and Rachel*

## Year 4 trip to Epping Forest Museum

Last month, Year 4 Class enjoyed a short bus trip over to Waltham Abbey. A town which contains the Epping Forest Museum. The children enjoyed a lovely talk from a museum associate named Katherine.



She told them all about how the Vikings invaded Waltham Abbey and surrounding areas, using historical names and places. The children were then asked to become archaeologists!

They studied artefacts from the Viking era, drew them and noted down important facts, then even gave a presentation about them! After lunch they explored the museum, looking at Viking coins and replicas, completing activities about each room in the museum! A great, educational day out!

## Class Assemblies

Next 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 6 – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January

Year 5 – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Year 4 Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February

Year 3 Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March

Year 2 Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

Year 1 Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April

Year R Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May

## Life Experiences - Make it / Sell it

Well done to every child who made a Christmas-related product to sell at the Christmas fete and after school. Classes will now be able to choose something special for their class with the profits. Thank you, parents and carers who supported the children by buying the products, and staff for all their hard work in helping children make the products.

## Year 3 Trip to Colchester Castle

Year 3 had the most wonderful time visiting Colchester Castle last month. We explored what life was like in the Roman era and even got the chance to find out more about the courageous warrior Boudicca! We particularly enjoyed going down underneath the castle walls, where we saw the ruins of the once very famous Roman temple. Did you know Boudicca burnt it down, along with the rest of Colchester in AD 61? We even found a burnt bread roll. We also got the chance to build a Roman villa and a round house. We had the best time.



## Year 6 Trip to Duxford

At the end of November, Year 6 explored Duxford Imperial War Museum. We were especially interested in finding out about the D-Day landings and other World War II exhibits. Some of our favourite parts of the trip were seeing a replica Anderson Shelter, handling real WWII equipment (such as rifles, helmets and heavy-duty backpacks) and experiencing sitting on a landing craft on D-Day - it made us think about how hard it must have been for the soldiers at the time.

## Well Done

Congratulations to the following children who have earned the most house points this term. The children will be having a reward trip to Wild and Wacky on Tuesday.

Reception- Grace, Leyo, Charlie & Elias

Year 1 - Bora, Amelia D, Albie & Millie D

Year 2 - Ivy, Grace, Poppy & Rachel

Year 3 - Marcus, Bianca Katie-Leigh & Albert

Year 4 - Maycee, Chase & Rio

Year 5 - Charis, Nikas, Annabelle & Alfie

Year 6 - Lucy, Bailey & Sophia

## Dates for your diary

Friday 6th January—INSET Day

Monday 9th January—Children return to school

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January—Phonics meeting for Parents Year 1 (3.10pm-3.40pm)

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January – Open morning for prospective parents

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January— Year 4 Times Table Check meeting for parents

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January—Year 2 SATs meeting for parents (3.10-3.40pm)

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January— EYFS writing session for parents (9.00-9.30am)

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January – Young Voices Concert at O2

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January—Year 6 Class Assembly and SATs meeting (9.15am)

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January pm—Whole School to watch Scrooge at Passmores

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January – INSET Day

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February—EYFS maths session for parents (9.00-9.30am)

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February—Year 5 Class Assembly

Friday 3rd February – Year 5 trip to Kidzania

Tuesday 7th February—Parents Consultation Afternoon 1pm-4pm

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February— Parents Consultation Evening 3.45pm – 6:00pm (Year 5 Thursday 9th February 3.45pm – 6:00pm)

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February— Year 4 Class Assembly

10<sup>th</sup> February— Non uniform Day organised by School Council

13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February –Half Term



Unicorn house - 1888



Lion house —1847



Dragon house - 1807



Griffin house —1735