



# Purford Green Primary School

Purford Green, Harlow, Essex CM18 6HP

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## October 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe we have almost been in school for a whole half term already. Children continue to make us proud with their great attitudes towards learning and focus seen in lessons. We have been particularly impressed with how our new nursery and reception children have settled into routines in school and watching their levels of confidence grow. We can see how well children across the school are working and conducting themselves by the number of certificates being awarded each week in our Friday celebration assemblies.

A reminder that we break up on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 3.10pm** and return to school on **Wednesday 1st November**.

I hope you all have a very happy and safe half term break.

Miss Emma Bloomfield

### **Parent and Child Consultation Meetings**

Our Parent Consultations will take place next Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday evening. By now, you should have received your appointment time, if not please speak to your class teacher. At Purford Green, we believe in a collaborative approach, so we ask that you attend these appointments with your child. This allows us to have a meaningful conversation together.

Mr Hammond will also be available on these days to answer any online safety questions you may have.

When you arrive, please come through the main school entrance for your appointments and exit via the main school entrance. We look forward to seeing you in school.



### **Harvest Festival**

It was lovely to have Andy from the Harlow Foodbank join us for our harvest assembly. Each class from Reception to Year 6 shared their harvest-themed creative work with the rest of the school and sang harvest songs. We would like to say a huge thank you for your wonderful donations which will make a difference to the local community.

### **Reception Class for September 2024**

Applications for September 2024 open on 6th November 2023. If you are expecting your child to start school next year (or know someone who is) you will need to apply through the Essex website:

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-school-places>

Children attending our nursery must also apply for a place in reception.

Our first tour of the year took place this week and our House Captains did an amazing job, sharing information about the school and showing new parents how fantastic the school is. Dates for future tours can be found on our website.

### **My Happy Mind**

We have introduced a programme to all year groups at school called myHappyMind. myHappyMind helps children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves!

myHappyMind is delivered in schools by class teachers through a series of interactive lessons and then the children apply these learnings throughout the day. To further embed this learning and ensure that you are able to engage in these topics with your child, myHappyMind has developed a set of resources for parents. These resources can be accessed online on your computer, or through an app on your phone. The resources allow children to continue to practise some of the habits they have developed at school, such as Happy Breathing. Also included are activities for you to do together at home, to complement the in-school lessons.

**To access these materials just go to <https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> and enter your name, email, and authentication code. Your authentication code is 139950**



Or scan this QR code to sign up

## **Friends of Purford Green (FOPG)**

Our first event of the school year will be a movie and popcorn night on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. This is always a popular event for the children and we will send out more information nearer the time.



## **Sports Tournaments**

The sports calendar has begun with a flurry of events: we have had a Sports Festival, futsal, girls' football and Year 5/6 boys' football competition. All teams have done very well with the girls' team having a fantastic morning of games. The boys' football team played well in their qualifying round and the futsal team only lost to the eventual winners of the competition. We are looking forward to the rest of the sporting year.

## **Pupil Leadership and Pupil Voice in School**

This year, we have expanded our student leadership opportunities. In addition to the existing roles of class reps, sports reps, and science ambassadors, we are excited to introduce a new initiative: the Pupil Leadership Council. This council comprises of pupils from Years 4, 5, and 6 who will focus on enhancing teaching and learning, promoting positive behaviour and attitudes, and fostering greater pupil engagement throughout our school community.

Our Class Reps are: Yr1 Leyo, Yr2 Gracie, Y3 Grace, Y4 Maddox, Y5 Aarian, Y6 Annabelle, Finley, Ivan and Peyton.

Our Science Ambassadors are: Yr 1 Sienna and Stanley, Yr2 Emily and Bora, Yr3 Rachel, Yr4 Rhys and MiMi, Yr5 Vinnie and Olivia, Yr6 Connie and Fletcher.

## **End of the day**

We ask that children do not play on the play equipment after school as this is not supervised by members of staff. The gates will be locked at 3.20pm so we ask that you make your way to the exit straight after school. If you have an appointment with a teacher that goes beyond 3.20pm, the teacher will escort you to the main door to leave.

## **Parking**

We have been approached by local residents who have said that parents have been parking across driveways and blocking pathways at the beginning and end of the school day. We pride ourselves in working with the whole local community and ask that you are courteous to our residents when dropping off and collecting your child from school.

We would also like to remind you that you should not be parking on zigzag lines outside of school. This restricts people being able to use the road safely to drive and walk. Please Park considerately and help to keep everyone safe.

## **Building Site**

We are aware that lorries have been delivering goods to the building site at the beginning of the school day which, of course, is unacceptable as it is unsafe for our children when crossing the road. Mrs Thomson and Mr Walker met with the building site manager and a

representative of Essex County Council on Thursday to ensure that this will not continue. They have assured us that lorry deliveries will not take place at the beginning or end of the school day.

### **Medical Appointments**




We appreciate that it is sometimes necessary for medical appointments to be taken during the school day, especially hospital appointments and emergency GP appointments. However we do ask that if your child has a routine optician appointment or routine dental appointment, they are made in out of school hours so that learning is not disrupted.

### **Mental Health Support for Parents and Carers**


There will be a Drop In Afternoon Tea with Mind in West Essex (the mental health charity) on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 -1:30 to 3:00 at Purford Green School

This is a fantastic opportunity for all parents to meet the Mind in West Essex team who can offer advice on any issues you are experiencing with your children, plus they can signpost you to help your own mental health and wellbeing. Refreshments will be available.

Mind are also offering online parent support groups. Please see below for details.



## Online Parent Groups



**Supporting Teenagers Emotional Wellbeing**

Suitable for parents of children aged 12-19 years. This course is run over 3 weeks, with an optional fourth session. This will look at ways to help your teenager manage their emotional wellbeing.

Monday 6th November 2023  
Monday 13th November 2023  
Monday 20th November 2023  
Monday 27th November 2023 (optional)


5:30-7pm via Zoom


**Challenging Behaviour (at home)**

Suitable for parents of children aged 4-11 years. This course is run over 6 weeks. This will focus on an issue you are experiencing with your child and will work on strategies and ways to help deal with the issue/behaviour.

Tuesday 7th November 2023  
Tuesday 14th November 2023  
Tuesday 21st November 2023  
Tuesday 28th November 2023  
Tuesday 5th December 2023  
Tuesday 12th December 2023

7-8:30pm via Zoom





**Helping your Child Manage their Fears and Worries**


Suitable for parents of children aged 4-11 years. This course is run over 4 weeks. This will help parents work on a focussed issue they are experiencing with their child and work out strategies to help.

Thursday 9th November 2023  
Thursday 16th November 2023  
Thursday 23rd November 2023  
Thursday 30th November 2023

1-2:30pm via Zoom

**To access this FREE service you must:**

- Have a child attending an school that our Mental Health Support Team (MHST) are currently working with in Harlow, Epping Forest District and Uttlesford.
- Have access to Zoom
- Able to attend ALL pre-planned sessions

If you are interested, please complete the application form by scanning the QR code 

## Dates for your diary

Tuesday 17th October—Parent Consultations afternoon (Year R – Year 6)

Wednesday 18th October—Parent Consultations evening (year R -Year 6)

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October Year 3 library visit

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October Year 1 library visit

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Non uniform day

Monday 23rd October—Tuesday 31st October Half term

Children return to school on **Wednesday 1st November**.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November -- Parent Consultation for RSE policy

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – World Café Day

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November Nursery Parents consultations this week

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November -- Year 3 theatre trip – Matilda

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November - Year 4 cinema trip

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Year 1 trip to Walton-on-Naze

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Movie and Popcorn night (organised by FOPG)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November – New Nursery Intake meeting

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Year 5 trip to Kidzania

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – Year 3 cinema trip

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – non-uniform day for Christmas Fair donations

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Year 3 library visit

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Inset Day (school closed)**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November Y2 trip to Colchester Zoo

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Christmas Fair

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Cinderella Panto @Passmores

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December pm - YR/Y1 Nativity Performance to parents

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December am - YR/Y1 Nativity Performance to parents

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 4pm Year 2/3 carols to parents

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December Non-Uniform Day – School finishes at 1.30pm