



PURLEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Upcoming dates

Mon. 19th September
Bank Holiday. The school
will be closed for the
Queen's State Funeral

Fri. 23rd September
World Peace School Sports
Day (£1 voluntary charity
donation)

Mon. 26th September
Year 1 Woodland
Adventures start

Thurs. 29th September
Macmillan Coffee Morning
and charity cake sale after
school

**Sat. 1st or Sat. 15th
October**
Ground Force Day

Wed. 12th October
Flu immunisations

Thurs. 13th October
FOPS AGM

Tues. 18th October
Individual School Photos
(change to original date)

Message from Mrs Holland

And so, a new chapter begins here at Purley Primary School. It has been wonderful to meet so many parents and children this week, whether on the gate or during the school day and I have been made to feel so welcome by the school community, so thank you all!

A new term brings new adventures in learning and I have had the privilege to experience these alongside the pupils. So far, I have enjoyed a rather wet but wonderful Stone Age Adventure to Sulham Woods with Owl Class; shared a story with the children in Hedgehog and Badger Class and worked with Falcon Class in both Maths and mindfulness sessions. Our children here truly do 'love to learn' and their energetic enthusiasm has been truly inspiring.

I've spoken with the staff and many of the pupils about their hopes and dreams for the coming school year, one which will hopefully be less disrupted than the previous two! As part of our ongoing school development, I am sending you a parent survey (see link on the next page) and I'd be grateful if each family were able to complete the survey to inform our future planning. There are also lots of opportunities for you to get involved and contribute to the wider life of Purley School - look out for these on the dates list and as part of the 'Join In' section of future newsletters.

Here's to a wonderful new Autumn Term together at Purley!

Mrs Holland

In Collective Worship This Week....

Our theme in the first week of term was 'Doors of Opportunity'. Each pupil has decorated a small wooden door as a reminder of the challenges and opportunities a new school year brings. We also learned about Abraham's journey to focus our thinking on how we can all work together to make a positive start to the school year. In this second week of term our focus has been linked to our school motto and we have started to revisit our core values of **Love, Courage and Wisdom**.

With the sad news of the death of Queen Elizabeth at the end of last week, we celebrated her life as 'servant Queen' together. Our book of remembrance and celebration is in the reception area and parents are welcome to add written contributions.

Our whole school tribute to mark this historic moment will soon be visible at the front of the school. Please do pause and take a moment to reflect if you have a chance.



School Development

As part of our ongoing School Development, it's important to me that we regularly take the opportunity to hear the 'parent voice'. Many schools issue an annual survey to parents, and as we begin this new chapter together I would like to hear from you. The survey can be found by following this link <https://forms.office.com/r/rh7UQJ4U9n> and it would be most helpful if each family completed it once. It should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete. The anonymous responses will be collated and along with feedback from pupils, staff and governors, used to inform our School Development Priorities. The survey will close on **Friday 30th September** to provide a current snapshot so please submit responses by then. Thank you in advance.

There will also be the chance to meet with me and some of our governing body at our Macmillan Coffee Morning on the 29th September. Please do join us for a chat, beverage and a slice of cake!

Join In

As we start our new term together, there are many opportunities to become more involved in the life of the school.

On **Saturday 1st October** (with the 15th our reserve date in case of poor weather), we will be holding a **Ground Force Day**. I am hoping to make this a termly event. It's a great outdoor activity and provides an opportunity to meet other parents and kids from school, strengthening our community! You can come and join at any time, for however long you can, to tidy up the grounds. Jobs will be varied and include tasks such as pruning the bushes, weeding, collecting leaves or painting benches and fences before winter comes. And when you need a break, refreshments will be available! If you are or know anyone with a horticultural or carpentry background who might be able to assist with larger projects such as the revamp of the Hedgehog mud kitchen or repairing our beloved Wendy house, please send them my way via my email address below....

We are looking to create a 'bank' of **volunteers** upon whom we can call on to support a range of activities as varied as: woodland adventures, class visits outside the school, to train to drive our minibus or to assist with arts and crafts activities. These can be regular or 'one off' commitments. If this interests you, please email me headteacher@purley.w-berks.sch.uk and we can match you with a class or teacher.

Our wonderful FOPS, at the moment a small core group of volunteer parents, are always on the lookout for new members to support the behind the scenes elements of the fundraising they do. The money raised by FOPS has a real and tangible impact on the learning and extra-curricular experience we can offer our pupils. Just a few examples are heavily subsidising the cost to parents of the Y1- Y6 trip to see Rapunzel at the Watermill, the Year 2 swimming lessons and Year 1 Woodland Adventures. Their next meeting is their AGM held at school on 13th October and I know that their current chair Chloe Tigwell would love to welcome new members willing to take on named roles. A specific task they'd love help with is organising the children's discos at Christmas and in the Summer.

Our Exciting Adventures

It's been a momentous week or two for our new children in Hedgehog Class, with many pupils enthusiastically embracing their first ever experience of school. Our pupils are starting to settle well into their new class or Key Stage as they begin the next stage of their learning journey. Please see our picture supplement for glimpses of the Owl Class visit to Sulham Woods on their Stone Age Adventure last week.

World Peace Sports Day

World Peace School Sports Day (WPSSD) has the aim of empowering young people to use sport and physical activity to reaffirm international values of peace and friendship.

The first World Peace Schools Sports Day is planned to coincide with the UN World Day of Peace and we will mark this during our Y1-6 Inter House Tournament on the **23rd September**. EYFS pupils will enjoy a sports themed morning in Hedgehog Class.

On Friday 23rd, we ask that Y1-6 children please come to school in their PE kit, wearing their house colour T-Shirt. A voluntary donation of £1 is requested, with all monies going directly towards humanitarian relief in Ukraine. I know that this is a cause close to our school community and know that the children will enjoy participating in a sporty day as they extend the hand of peace.



World Peace School Sports Day:
Peace Is The Prize



Meet the Teacher Evening

On Wednesday 5th October we will hold our annual 'Meet the Teacher' evening. This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and for us to share expectations of the year group they have just moved into. After a short presentation by the class teacher, there will be an opportunity to ask any questions specific to your child's new class.

Badger Class: 6pm – 6:20pm

Owl Class: 6:25pm – 6:40pm

Falcon Class Year 5: 6:45pm – 7pm

Falcon Class Year 6: 7pm – 7:30pm (the Residential trip to Rhos-y-Gwaliau will also be discussed)