



# PURLEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Upcoming dates

### **Weds 4th January**

Start of Spring Term 1

### **Mon 9<sup>th</sup> January**

After School (sports and activity) clubs start

### **Weds 11<sup>th</sup> January, 6pm**

Working Party Initial Meet re: 150<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations

### **Fri 10th February 3.15pm**

End of Spring term 1

### **Mon 13th – Fri 17th February**

Half Term

### **Mon 20th February**

Start of Spring Term 2

### **Thurs 30th March 1:15pm**

End of Spring Term 2

*Thank you to all of you who donated to our Reverse Advent Calendar collection this year. We will be donating this to our local ReadiFood bank.*

## **Message from Mrs Holland**

Here we are, at the end of our first full term of the school year! We have enjoyed a very busy past couple of weeks, full of festive activities in the build up to Christmas.

We've also taken time to reflect on the last term:

**'Learn to love'** - in our RE lessons and in Collective Worship, and during lunch and break time, we have focused on friendship and how we can be a good friend. 'Odd Socks Day' provided a focus on celebrating difference and embracing our unique strengths. Our charity fundraising activities, which you and your families have so generously supported, have raised awareness of these causes among the children and almost £500 for our chosen charities.

**'Love to learn'** – from farm and theatre visits, to exciting learning activities involving sparklers, climbing mountains in Wales, erupting (model) volcanoes or chatting to a real life explorer, our pupils have benefitted from a diverse range of learning opportunities. Many children have also fed back on how much they've enjoyed the special 'house' events, working alongside children in all year groups. Our school focus on Maths, notably on times tables recall, has yielded good results, as pupils work more confidently on arithmetic tasks in class.

I would like take this opportunity to wish you all a very blessed and joyful Christmas and New Year. I hope that you enjoy this Christmas break with your loved ones and look forward to welcoming you back to Purley in 2023!

*Mrs Holland*

## **Christmas Carol Service**

We gathered earlier today to mark the festive season at St Mary's church. It was lovely to welcome so many of our friends and families as we retold the story of Christmas and joined in with traditional songs and carols. Thank you to Miss Turner Hurd and Mrs Lyn Jones for their work in preparing the choir and music for the service, and to our many pupil readers who read with confidence and expression.



## National Lorry Week Competition Winner

During the October half term holiday, it was National Lorry Week. Some of our Purley pupils rose to the challenge and entered a national competition. They had to design and make a lorry from reclaimed materials. The standard of entries was very high but we were delighted to find out that Leyla Mackrory in Y2 was one of 3 chosen winners!

A huge congratulations goes to Leyla who won a £300 Amazon voucher for the school as well as a £50 Amazon voucher for herself.

A representative from RHA (Royal Haulage Association) visited the school on Wednesday to present Leyla with her prize and to show all our classes around one of their very special RHA lorries. It was an exciting moment and the children learnt about road safety and blind spots.

*Mrs Lyn Jones*



## Christmas Craft Day



On Friday, pupils worked in house groups to create four beautiful handmade crafts, ready to gift for Christmas. The children very much enjoyed working in their different groups and it was lovely to see older children helping the younger ones.

A huge thank you to the staff for their preparation and tuition during the day, and to our army of volunteers who stepped up to help thread needles, assist with arranging the materials for still life collages, stir buttercream and help with painting technique!

The feedback from pupils was overwhelmingly positive so we may well see Craft Day becoming one of our festive Purley traditions.

Please see attachments for a collage of images from the day.

*Mrs Holland*

## Badger Class Woodland Adventures Autumn Term 2022

This term the children have continued their team building activities in the Woodland at Basildon Park. Come rain or shine they have made dens and shelters, climbed trees, played hide and seek, gone on a bug hunt, made minibeast habitats and hunted for fungi. We ended the term with a walk to the house, enjoying the illuminated woodland walk and having our hot chocolate break under a thatched gazebo.

Here are a few of our favourite things:

*Sadie*: "Looking at the wood at Christmas because it's all wet and springy" *Gino*: "making a den in the rain" *Reggie and Lottie*: "Playing hide and seek". *Daniil*: "Watching birds" *Jaxon*: "Playing with my friends" *Ariyah*: "Using the binoculars to look for things far away" *Elliot*: "Making dens" *Darcie*: "Climbing logs and finding different coloured leaves". *Layne*: "Using all the wood logs to make a den".

We look forward to our return after February half term. *Mrs Hodsdon*



## Congratulations!

... to Mrs Solari (nee Burton), our Hedgehog class teacher. We wish her and husband Emilio every happiness in their married life together.



It has been a busy couple of weeks on Times Tables Rock Stars at Purley! I am so impressed by the improvement in speed and rock 'status' by our children.

Congratulations to...

Ella B, Jake S and Layla who are now **Wannabes**. Wilf is now a **Garage Rocker**. Esme, Phobe Ti and Zaynah are now **Buskers**. Alfie has achieved **Gigger** status and Sam M is an **Unsigned Act**. Keaton and Harry V are now **Breakthrough Artists** while Brandon, Rory and Sienna are **Headliners**. Harry C, Archie C, Julia and Jacob are now **Support Acts**. We have three **Rock Stars** in Ollie, Daniel and Arthur, while Lily- May, Ella B and Annabelle are all **Rock Legends**!

Keep up the good work everyone, and look out for another **Battle of the Bands**, coming in early 2023!

A reminder that a Parent Guide and further information about TTRS can be found at the dedicated page of our [website](#).