



# PURLEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Upcoming dates

### **Weds 25th January 6:45pm**

Residential information meeting for parents of current Year 5 pupils

### **Thurs 26th January 7.30pm**

FOPS Meeting

### **Weds 8th February 6:45pm**

Year 6 SATS information session for parents

### **Weds 8th February 7.30pm**

150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Working Party meeting

### **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

### **W/c 27th February**

Book Week

### **Thursday 2nd March**

World Book Day – Author visit

### **Tues 21st, Weds 22nd and**

### **Thurs 23rd March *Timings TBA***

Face to face Parent Consultations

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

End of Spring Term 2

### **Monday 17th April**

Start of Summer Term 1

## **Message from Mrs Holland**

Our return to school this term has had a very positive feel. The pupils certainly seem ready to embrace the comfort of routine and seeing their friends and teachers again!

There a couple of reminders in this newsletter about some of the expectations we have of our pupils here at Purley. Each of these are primarily the responsibility of the children and benefit from the support of the home-school partnership. Thank you in advance for your support of these.

Our development priorities this term remain as per last term: mastery of maths concepts and ensuring the mental health and wellbeing of all pupils. Look out for future newsletter updates for some exciting new initiatives being introduced this term!

Looking ahead to the 'rites of passage' that punctuate pupils' times here at Purley, there are some important meetings coming up. Year 6 look ahead to their end of Key Stage 2 assessments in May (formerly known as SATs) and there will be an information session for parents. Likewise, we will be sharing information about plans for the next week long residential with our current Year 5 parents. Please do attend if you can. We can forward information after the meetings but attending in person is always preferable, and provides an opportunity to ask questions.

In other news, just to confirm that school is closed on the 8<sup>th</sup> May for the King's Coronation Bank Holiday. We will be in touch in due course with details of how we will mark this in school.

*Mrs Holland*

## **Collective Worship**

This half term our theme is 'People of God' and we are learning about key characters from the Bible. This week we focused on Abraham and discussed the theme of 'keeping God's promises'. We have been busy counting grains of sand on a beach and even attempted to guess the total number of stars in the sky....

Christians believe that God made a special promise to Abraham. Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were very old and didn't have any children. Then, God spoke to them and made them a promise: in return for embarking on a challenging journey and placing their faith in him, they would have a son. This must have seemed impossible to Abraham, but then God made an even bigger promise. He said that Abraham's descendants would be more numerous than all of the sand on the seashore and all of the stars in the sky!

Over the next few weeks we will be finding out about more characters from the Bible and what their stories teach us about God.

## Nutkin Club Short Session Update

The trial of the Nutkin short stay session ends at February half term and following review, this won't be ongoing provision from the school. The uptake of this offering has been very limited and has resulted in further expense to the school. Therefore, we will revert to the original provision of 3.15-6pm daily. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

## Homework Expectations

From Hedgehog Class up, each year group is set home learning tasks to complete during the week. Any work set is a consolidation of work in class and is a chance for pupils to rehearse skills that they have learned in school. Details of the expectations for your child were shared at the 'Meet the Teacher' evenings last term.

As a rule of thumb, if time is tight around the school day, reading is a task that should top any priority list. Just 15 minutes daily makes a huge difference. TTRS has also had a high profile in school this academic year and only requires a short daily session. You can best support your child by providing a quiet space, without distractions, to complete their homework tasks.

## Uniform Expectations

Upon our return to school, we have been talking about 'pride in the badge' and how our pupils are representatives of our school wherever they go. Our uniform shows that we are part of the Purley Primary School community. We have the highest expectations from our students with regards to school uniform and appearance, and strongly believe that our high standards promote positive behaviour, support effective teaching and learning and contribute to the ethos of the school. School uniform guidance can be found [here](#) on our website.

Please also ensure that all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name. There is currently a very full 'Lost Property' container just outside Owl Class with many items of school clothing!

## NHS Covid Guidance for Children

We are seeing increased cases of Covid in schools in the area.

A reminder of the latest NHS guidance:

*If a child or young person aged 18 or under tests positive for COVID-19, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days. This starts from the day after they did the test.*

*Children and young people tend to be infectious to others for less time than adults. If they're well and do not have a temperature after 3 days, there's a much lower risk that they'll pass on COVID-19 to others.*

Please keep the school office updated daily during periods of absence to ensure that these are recorded accurately on our systems.

## Census Day - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January

It is Census day on Thursday 19th January. One of the most important aspects of the census is that the money we receive from the Government to pay for KS1 school meals is based on the number of meals taken on Thursday.

**Please encourage your children, particularly in those in Reception, Year 1 and 2 to book a school meal on Thursday (menu attached).** The Pantry have devised a special 'Taste of Italy' menu for the day. The meals are provided at no cost to you if your child is in Hedgehog or Badger Class, but do make a significant difference to school funding. We thank you for your support with this.



## Kids With Bricks

We had a very successful first session with our new Kids with Bricks club. During the start of the club, the children completed a quick build challenge based on the topic we are running in our scheme of work. They had to complete the build within a 10-15 minute time frame. This week we built model bicycles. Miss Allsopp, the club leader, along with the children in the club voted for their favourite. A photo of this has been uploaded onto the Kids with Bricks website.

**That is where we need your help:** All schools are displayed on the Kids with Bricks voting page for everyone to vote on. Please support our entry. You can go onto the website and vote for their school's build! Points are awarded for schools with the most votes. At the end of each term, prizes are sent to all children in the club with the most points! Please vote by Monday

**Please vote for Purley Primary School at: <https://www.kidswithbricks.com/voting-page>**



## Save the Date: 8th July 2023

This year sees the 150th anniversary of our school. Plans are in the initial stages but we have pencilled in a date for a community celebration: Saturday 8th July. This will be the culmination of a week of themed learning in school, exploring life at Purley CofE Primary School over the last century and a half.

**Our next working party will meet at the school on Wednesday 8th February at 7.30pm and you are most welcome to join us.**



The enthusiasm for TTRS has continued over the Christmas break, and we have seen some huge improvements in recall speed over the past couple of weeks.

We have given out many more certificates in Celebration assembly this week and I am sure the children will be eager to share these with you upon their return home with you today. Please encourage them to keep up the good work.

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