



*Achieving and growing together*

# Spring 1 Newsletter 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a start to 2021! Firstly, I would like to thank wholeheartedly all children and families across our school community who have supported Purley Nursery School and the staff throughout this recent Lockdown. We appreciate that all families will have been working hard to balance home learning support for their children, work pressures, illness and managing their own anxieties throughout this ever changing situation. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those who have lost loved ones during this time and we as a school remain available to help those in need in whatever way we can. In the words of the late Captain Tom Moore

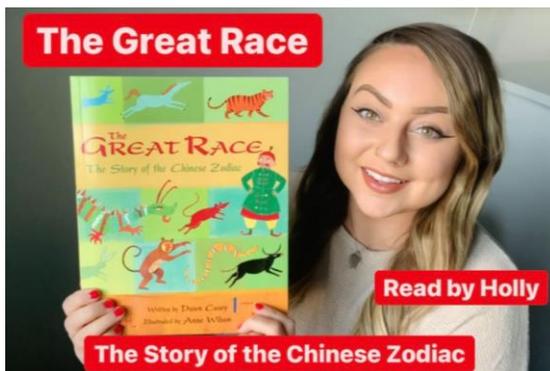
*"For all those people finding it difficult at the moment, the sun will shine on you again and the clouds will go away."*

## Seesaw

Throughout this half term, staff and children have been engaging in the many rich and exciting activities posted on Seesaw. Activities range from watching our key workers reading stories to children, listening and attention games, phonics and number hunts, craft making and cooking activities linked to a learning theme or cultural festival. This week, staff and children have been learning about Chinese New Year and have enjoyed



listening to Holly share a video story of 'The Great Race'. Activities such as lantern making, dragon craft and exploring Mandarin numerals, have been enjoyed by many children through this secure online platform. Staff have loved listening and responding to children's uploads through the Seesaw Class App learning all about the fantastic learning going on at home during this time.



If you haven't downloaded the Seesaw Class App to access your child's Seesaw learning journal and the activities posted by Maria, please email the school office on



[office@purley.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:office@purley.croydon.sch.uk) to be sent the relevant login details. Due to the success of Seesaw throughout this Lockdown, Purley Nursery will continue to provide home learning activities throughout the half term holidays to provide suggestions for families on how they can

support their children's learning whilst 'Stay at home' restrictions are still in place. We will look forward to viewing new uploads from children when school reopens after half term.

### **Seesaw Questionnaire for Parents and Carers**

Thank you to all parents and carers who have completed the recent Seesaw questionnaire to provide us with feedback on how we can improve this provision to support our children and families this year. It is great to know that this additional provision has been helpful and successful to families in supporting children's learning at home. Feedback included:

"My child loved the acknowledgement and interaction with the teachers via message or voice note once he has completed his activity."

"Thank you for setting out interesting activities for the children. They were very well received and it was nice to receive comments back".

"They are doing an absolutely excellent job, we really appreciate and thank them"

"I think you are all doing a great job prioritising the kids education"

As a result of the feedback received so far, Purley Nursery School staff will continue to support home learning through Seesaw throughout the remainder of this Lockdown and upload extension questions and comments to children to support and extend their learning.

Furthermore, after half term Seesaw activities will be reduced to 3 activities a week.

If parents and carers wish to add their comments and feedback to the school regarding their Seesaw experiences please click on this [Google Form link](#) to share your ideas to staff.

### **Website revamp**

To support our local community in accessing information about Purley Nursery School, office staff have worked hard to develop and make improvements to our school website. Large improvements have been made in the layout and accessibility of links and tabs within the website and we encourage our families to visit us on <https://www.purleynurseryschoolcc.com/> to have a look.

### **Message from Jo Richardson, Executive Head teacher of the Purley Partnership Federation**

Dear Purley Nursery Families,

I would like to say thank-you for the kind welcome to Purley Partnership Federation. It has been a very busy first half term, and certainly not the start I envisioned, but I definitely feel like part of the Purley Partnership family! I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Jones and all of the staff at Purley Nursery for their hard work and dedication this half term. But also to thank the children and parents who have been tremendous during this time, supporting the nursery school and ensuring everyone's safety. Thank you. I wish you all a restful, safe and enjoyable half term break.



## **Update from Asha Fowells, Chair of Governors of the Purley Partnership Federation**

Since the start of term, the governing board of Purley Partnership Federation met twice in January, and was due to meet in mid-February as this newsletter was being written. The two January meetings were not planned, but instead were a direct response to the dramatic rise in Covid cases, the latest government lockdown and the changes that meant for the ways in which schools needed to operate. The main focus of the two extraordinary meetings was ensuring the schools were able to function safely and effectively, both on-site and remotely, keeping a close eye on the safety and wellbeing of all children, families and staff members. Governors were diligent in their scrutiny and questioning of school leaders, but also respectful and supportive - the coronavirus pandemic continues to be an extremely challenging time for everyone, both at work and at home, with unexpected and sudden twists and turns that require adaptability and sometimes compromises. It wasn't quite the welcome governors had planned for Mrs Richardson, who only started as Executive Head Teacher in January, but we are all in a situation where everyone has to tackle whatever is thrown at them to the best of their abilities... So that's what we've done, are doing and will continue to do, as a governing board working alongside the leaders of the two amazing schools that make up Purley Partnership Federation.



## **Final message**

Parents and carers will have all now received correspondence from the school office regarding the safety measures and restrictions in place at Purley Nursery School to reduce the risk of infection transmission during the remainder of this National Lockdown. I would urge families to read these documents thoroughly to ensure that our Systems of Controls' remain robust and steadfast as we return after the half term break.

I wish for all families a peaceful and restful break together and hope that you manage to enjoy many family walks, meals and 'game times' together as we continue to follow the National Lockdown restrictions '*Stay at Home, Protect the NHS, Save lives*'.

I look forward to hearing all about the amazing things you have learnt and explored together during this time.

Best wishes to you all

Polly Jones

Head of School  
Purley Nursery School  
Purley Partnership Federation



**Please see Spring and Summer Term dates below:**

**Spring Term 2021**

*INSET day: Tuesday 5th January (school closed)*

**School opens: Wednesday 6th January**

Half Term: Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February

School Opens Monday 22nd February

Last Day of Term: Wednesday 31st March

**Summer Term 2020**

*INSET day: Monday 19th April (school closed)*

**School Opens: Tuesday 20th April**

Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May (school closed)

Half Term: Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

*INSET day: Monday 7th June (School closed)*

**School Opens: Tuesday 8th June**

Last Day of Term: Tuesday 23rd July

These dates are subject to change in regards to the current Covid-19 situation.