



Achieving and growing together

Autumn 1 Newsletter 2022

A very warm welcome to all our new families
From Polly - Head of School

May I take this opportunity on behalf of the nursery team to welcome children, parents/carers and their families to Purley Nursery School. All the children are settling in brilliantly - thank you for your support in making this as easy a process as possible. The children have already shown such amazing confidence and we are looking forward to seeing them grow in independence as the term continues.



Focus for Learning

The Curriculum plans for this term are supporting learning outdoors - particularly around the seasonal changes and preparing the garden for winter. The children have been busy exploring engaging in activities promoting new vocabulary and social interaction with peers to develop friendship groups and self confidence. Staff continue to upload regular images and comments on Seesaw to share learning experiences for children at nursery. Here is a selection of images of our children engaging in some of our rich learning opportunities available to them this half term.



Learning to be Independent at drop off times

The children are developing their awareness of nursery routines and are making great progress following these systems independently with their new friends at nursery. To support early reading and literacy skills, one of our nursery routines includes children finding their name cards on arrival and adding it to the correct letter pouch with links to their names initial letter. Children have loved engaging with this and take great pride in recognising and sharing their names with their new friends.

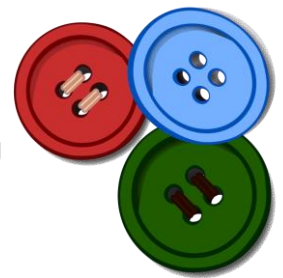
To support children to learn our school values to be caring, respectful and independent we encourage all children to take great pride and ownership of their belongings throughout their nursery session. Each child has their own coat peg and we encourage children to store and hang up their coats/clothing independently. Please encourage and praise your child to do this by themselves at drop off times to develop their independence and learning attitudes towards looking after their belongings. If a large loop of tape, ribbon or elastic is sewn onto the collar of their coats, it can help children do this with greater ease as they develop their fine motor skills to pinch and grip. In addition to this, please ensure that children are wearing trousers or tights that they can manage themselves. Young children cannot always manage belts and buttons or zips very well and we want to give them lots of positive opportunities to face challenges and develop resilience. Purley Nursery School children are taught to take responsibility for themselves and for others - both in looking after one another's things and looking after Nursery toys and equipment.



If you haven't done so already, please could you put your child's name in their clothes - especially items of school uniform.

Coats for outdoor learning

Physical activity is crucial for children's health and well-being. At Purley Nursery School children are able to play outdoors every day whatever the weather. They are always required to put on their coat if it is cold or raining and asked to stay under the covered areas if they are not wearing 'wet-weather gear' which we provide. To support your child to be independent in this, please encourage them to try to put on their coat and outdoor clothes themselves. You may also wish to talk about which clothes they will need for different weathers to keep healthy during Autumn. Independent zips and buttons are also a great way to develop children's fine motor skills to support early writing. The pincer grip used to manipulate zipping coats, buttoning jackets, threading laces etc. are all key activities to support children to have the finger strength to hold drawing and writing resources. The more opportunities children have to develop their strength the greater the progress in mark making.



Home-School Library



Purley Nursery School is proud to introduce our Home-School Library. All children will have the opportunity to access the Home-School Library and bring a book home to share with you. This experience allows children to explore the wide variety of picture books available in our book area and follow the library routine of 'stamping out' and 'returning' books just like in a 'real library'. We aim for children to be able to choose books on a Monday or Tuesday, which they can then keep for up to two weeks. They will need to bring their books back before choosing a new one. Please make sure they are named and that children can recognise them easily. Some children like to attach a key-ring type toy on to them to help them find them quickly. If you wish to purchase a school book bag please contact the school office. Our Home-School Library will be available for children after the October Half. **In order for us to provide this opportunity regularly for children we are looking for parent/ carer volunteers! Please speak to the main school office if you would like to volunteer your time to help the children in this.**

Attendance

Just a reminder that if your child is away from school for any reason please let Julie, Louise or Zaima know. You can phone (020 8660 5639) or email (office@purley.croydon.sch.uk).



If you need to request time away from school, please complete a form (available from the office) but we strongly encourage children to be in school whenever possible. As a Local Authority School, we are expected to monitor attendance and note on registers the reasons for absence. This attendance/absence data is requested by the Local Authority, the Department for Education and Ofsted. We must show how we improve children's attendance. We now have a duty to contact you if you have not informed us already that your child is absent - for any reason. Please, therefore, do contact us as above as it is very time consuming to phone families if you have not contacted us.

What do I do if my child is unwell?

If your child is unwell at all, you should keep them at home.

This is particularly important if they are showing any of the symptoms of coronavirus;

- high temperature
- a new persistent cough
- loss of sense of taste or smell

If children show any of the above symptoms, we recommend that they stay at home. If you have concerns that they may have Covid-19 we recommend that they have a PCR Covid-19 test. If the test is negative your child can return to school once they are well. If the test is positive, the Department of Health recommends that you keep your child at home for 3 days.

Arrival and collection times

Our session times are as follows:

- Morning sessions are 8:30-11:30
- Afternoons sessions are 12:30-3:30

Punctuality is important for children to develop successful routines at Nursery and get the most out of their learning time with us. Children can also become very anxious if they are the last ones to be collected from their group. Please ensure that you arrive and collect on time. We appreciate that as children and new families become more confident separating at pick up and collection, timings will improve.

If you need to collect earlier, please ring ahead and ensure you collect before 11:10 or 3:10. This means the group story and singing times are not disrupted. If you are delayed for any reason, please ring so we can reassure your child and arrange for them to be looked after properly. Persistent lateness can make children extremely anxious and could result in you being charged a late collection fee.

We have spaces in our Breakfast Club at Purley Nursery School to support our working parents. Please see Julie in the school office if this is of interest to you. We do have a waiting list for After School Club however contact Julie in the office to share your requirements and we will try our best to help and support.

Doors/Gates

Please can I bring your attention to how **VERY IMPORTANT** it is that EVERYBODY takes responsibility for **shutting our gates**. Our School is only as safe as WE ALL make it. It is parent/carer's responsibility to make sure the gates are shut and ensure that all children are safe from our surrounding roads. During drop off and collection, please ensure that your child/children remain next to you at all times. Please say goodbye to your child in the classroom rather than allowing your child to walk in independently. Follow the floor marker spots throughout the school entrance, making sure you stand together. Again this is for child safety and to enable nursery staff to welcome you both and. Please avoid bringing buggies or pushchairs into the Nursery. Feel free to use our 'buggy/pushchair park' if needed.

Safeguarding children and families

Our new safeguarding policy is on the school website:

<https://www.purleynurseryschoolcc.com/>

It's important for our school community to be vigilant about safeguarding children and families. If you have any concerns about a child or family or wish to speak to someone in confidence please do not hesitate to speak to our Designated Safeguarding Leads, Polly, Maria and Kelly. Alternatively, contact the school office and they can arrange for you to receive a confidential phone call to support you.

Be Bright and Be Seen!



At this time of year, there is reduced visibility for drivers and pedestrians and as a result, your child can become even more vulnerable near to roads. To help raise your child's awareness of this issue, we have listed below 5 top safety tips so you can discuss with your child and family how important it is to be visible when near roads.



Brightly coloured clothing or fluorescent clothing shows up well in daylight and at dusk when you're heading back and forth from school.



Reflective gear can help you be seen when traveling in the dark. Remember fluorescent clothing can't be seen in the dark. Reflective vests, wristbands and sashes work really well.



Don't forget to accessorize. Even clip-on reflectors, armbands, keychains and stickers are great ways to improve your visibility.



If you and family members cycle to and from nursery, remember it's the law to have clean and working lights on whilst traveling in the dark (white at the front, red at the back as well as a rear reflector)



Of course, being bright isn't the only way to stay safe. Remember if you're out at night, choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and always remember to use the green cross code.

If you would like to find out more games, tips and videos visit the tales of the road website on www.direct.gov.uk/talesoftheroad

Snack and Cooking - VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

To enable the children to have a daily healthy fruit snack during the session and for the children to experience cooking activities each week, we are asking parents to make a voluntary contribution of £1 per week or £13 per term to help towards the cost. We rely on these donations to do this. If we do not receive enough contributions to do this we may need to reduce snack and cooking opportunities in the nursery. If you would like to make a donation please put it in our 'fruit collection bucket' by the school office.



Nut Free School

Please note that there may be children or staff in school with allergies to nuts. We need to keep them safe. Please ensure that all products brought to school do not contain nuts. Some examples of this are: Nutella/cakes/peanut butter/cereal bars.



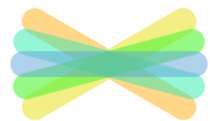
Free Milk for Nursery Children

With the obvious exception of those who must not drink milk, please encourage the children to help themselves to their carton of milk at the end of the morning or afternoon. It is their entitlement and one of the ways that they can learn about a healthy diet from a young age. Please get them to take it even if they don't like milk at the moment – you will be able to use it at home to show them how many things we can eat or drink that include milk to help build strong teeth and bones. It is intended and ordered for the Nursery children only, but surplus is offered on a Friday to younger/older siblings to encourage healthy drinking!



Seesaw

If you have not had a chance to sign up to your child's Seesaw Journal this half term, please have a look. Staff have begun to upload photos of learning experiences in the classroom for you to view with your child at home. The Nursery team have also uploaded home learning 'Activities' for you to explore as a family. These activities are linked to learning carried out at nursery and a great way to reinforce new vocabulary and learning concepts with your child. If you are unsure of how to download or access Seesaw, please speak to your child's key worker, Polly or Maria for help.



School Fund

Here at Purley Nursery School we are incredibly proud of the beautiful grounds and garden area we have for the children to play, explore and learn in. The challenging aspect of having such a space is the constant upkeep required to maintain it as a safe and exciting environment.

As you may be aware, school budgets are being squeezed and we are finding it increasingly difficult to give these areas of our school the care they need to be the best environment possible for our pupils.

Therefore, we are asking all of our school family and extended community for voluntary contributions towards the School Fund. This money would help purchase the materials, and where essential contractors, to nurture these spaces and create an enriching environment for our children and generations of children to come.

We are currently raising funds to replace our Tiger Trail that sadly has succumbed to wood deterioration.

If you would like to make a donation you can do so by handing cash or a cheque to the school office, or by making a payment on the Parent Pay link using "School Fund" as the reference for your payment.

<https://www.purleynurseryschoolcc.com/parent-information/parent-pay/>



Key Dates

- **Friday 31st October 2022 - School closed for INSET**

Parent/ Carer Conferences

To celebrate children's achievements returning and settling into nursery, all key workers are hosting Parent/ Carer and Key worker conferences this term.

New families who joined us in September will be receiving their key worker conference phone call from Thursday 3rd November - Friday 11th November.

Upcoming Parent Coffee Mornings

Next half term, Purley Nursery School is pleased to offer parents/ carers opportunities to come into nursery to meet and share a coffee/ tea with Polly - Head of School and members of the nursery team to discuss key topics in child development:

- **Thursday 10th November from 9.00-9.30am** - Do you have any questions regarding **Special Educational Needs in school**? Come in for a coffee/ tea and a chat.
- **Thursday 17th November from 9.00-9.30am** - Do you have any questions or concerns regarding **toilet training** your child? Come in for a coffee/ tea and we can help?



- **Thursday 1st December from 9.00-9.30am** - Would you like to **volunteer** to support **Forest School at Purley Nursery School and Home-School Library?** Come in for a coffee/ tea and a chat.
- **Thursday 8th December from 9.00-9.30am** - Do you need to have some help with **Seesaw?** Come in for a coffee/ tea and a chat.

Primary School Admissions

- **15th January 2022 - Deadline for applications to Primary School**

If your child was born between September 1st 2018 and 31 August 2019 then you and your family should be preparing to explore local primary schools and apply for a school place. Visit www.croydon.gov.uk/admissions to apply. If you are unsure of how to apply or need any help, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



Our Federation Partner, Christ Church School, is holding an open day on **Tuesday 8th November. There are two sessions, 10am and 6.00pm.** Many schools are welcoming visitors again. Have a look to find out more about what's on offer in Purley by visiting the schools' websites.

Term Dates 2022-23

Autumn Term 2022

INSET Day: Monday 31st October (school closed)

Half Term/Holiday Playscheme: Monday 24th October - Friday 28th October

School opens: Tuesday 1st November

Last Day of Term: Friday 16th December

Spring Term 2022

INSET day: Tuesday 3rd January (school closed)

School opens: Wednesday 4th January

Half Term/Holiday Playscheme: Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February

School Opens Monday 20th February

Last Day of Term: Friday 31st March

Summer Term 2022

School Opens: Monday 17th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May (school closed)

Half Term/Holiday Playscheme: Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June

INSET day: Monday 5th June (school closed)

School Opens: Tuesday 6th June

Last Day of Term: Friday 21st July

Summer Holiday Playscheme: Monday 24th July- 18th August

A message from our Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you all had a restful summer break and that your children have settled into their new classes and have enjoyed the first term of the academic year 2022-23. On behalf of the Purley Partnership Federation Governing Board, I would like to extend an especially warm welcome to those of you who are new to Christ Church School or Purley Nursery School and wish your children the very best as they begin their educational journey within the Purley Partnership Federation.

At the end of last term, we welcomed two new governors to the PPF Governing Board: Piers Tattersall and Sylvia Kerambrum. This term, we have also been privileged to appoint another new governor, Gill Visser. One of our governing board responsibilities is to ensure that the Christian distinctiveness of Christ Church School is maintained, and a key individual in this process is the governor who substitutes for the Vicar of Christ Church who is unable to be a member on the governing board due to a conflict of interests. Since March 2022, we have been without such an individual as the holder of this position moved away from the area. However, I am very pleased to inform you that Gill has now been appointed to fulfil this role. Gill is the co-pastor of Grace Vineyard, Purley which meets at Christ Church School every Sunday morning. Gill comes with a wealth of experience in both education and church life, having been a primary school teacher as well as a church pastor. We very much look forward to working with Gill in the coming years.

I wish you all a peaceful and relaxing half term break.

Best wishes
Sally Marvin
Chair of Governors

Parking at Purley Nursery School

Purley Nursery School values the strong partnerships we have with our local neighbours and surrounding residents. We have been made aware that members of our school community are abusing this by parking in resident car parking spaces and blocking driveways and access. We kindly ask that all families be respectful and considerate towards our neighbours and seek to find alternative parking solutions to visit the school grounds.

All staff at Purley Nursery School wish you all a happy half term break.

Polly Jones

Head of School

Purley Nursery School

Purley Partnership Federation

58 Pampisford Road, Purley, CR82NE

0208 660 5639

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