



Autumn 1 Newsletter 2025

A very warm welcome to all our families
from Maria - Acting Headteacher



Firstly, I want to take this opportunity on behalf of everyone at Purley Nursery School to welcome all our children, parents/carers and their families.

The children are settling in brilliantly and we thank you for your support in making this as easy a process as possible for the children. The children have already shown such amazing confidence and we are looking forward to seeing them grow in independence as the term continues.

Secondly, a huge 'thank you' for all the support that has been shown in regard to forming Parent Partnerships. We are always seeking ways in which Parents' and family members can be more involved in the life of the Nursery and their children's learning. So far, there has been a good take up of children and families connecting to **Seesaw** and we have welcomed several volunteers to join us with activities in school.

🍁 Focus for learning 🍁

The children have settled well into Nursery and have been focusing on:

- **getting to know one another**
- **following the school routines and boundaries**
- **taking turns and sharing**
- **developing listening and attention skills**

Our learning themes have included:

- **Me and my family**
- **Seasonal Changes - Autumn**
- **Diwali**



Next Steps: Learning to be Independent

Our school values are to be **caring, respectful and independent.**

We encourage all children to take ownership of their belongings and as such each child has their own coat peg. Please encourage your child to put on and take off their coats/clothing by themselves and to hang these on their pegs, especially when dropping off or collecting.

A large loop of tape, ribbon or elastic sewn onto the collar of their coats, can help children do this with greater ease as they develop their fine motor skills. Also, If you haven't done so already, please could you put your child's name in his/her clothes - especially items of school uniform.

All staff at Purley Nursery School wish you a happy half term and look forward to seeing you and the children again on **Monday 3rd November 2025.**

With Best Wishes,

Maria

Other Useful Information

Home-School Library - Every Thursday



We hope that all children are enjoying their 'Home-School Library' books this half term. This experience allows children to explore the wide variety of picture books available in our library and follow the routines of 'stamping out' and 'returning' books just like in a 'real library'.

You do not need to bring a book bag back to school every day. Please keep the book and reread it as many times as you wish until your child wants to change it.

Children are encouraged to talk about the book they borrowed when they change it for a different one, so please make sure that children are encouraged to look at the book at home and be part of the early reading process, for example: asking "What do you think might happen in this story? What are the illustrations showing you?"

If you wish to purchase a school book bag please contact the school office.

Forest School 'Spinney' Sessions - Wednesdays

At some point during their time with us all children will have the opportunity to engage in Forest School, 'Spinney' Sessions. This involves visiting the Spinney at Christ Church School each week for a small block of learning where they will participate in a range of outdoor activities focused on the natural world.

The staff team selects a small group of children to attend each block and we will prioritise children who are moving on to Reception this year. The first group has already enjoyed their sessions.



In order for these curriculum opportunities to run, we need and very much welcome offers of help from parents who are able to volunteer their time. Full training will be given. If you are interested, please come and speak to Maria or Olivia

Snack and Cooking - Voluntary Contributions

Another key part of the Nursery Day is snack time. To enable the children to have a healthy fruit snack everyday during their 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.

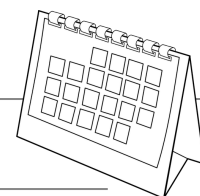
If you would like to make a donation please put it in our 'fruit collection bucket' by the school office or follow this link to our website and make a payment using Parent Pay:

<https://www.parentpayshop.co.uk/schools/Payments/3061002.html>

Just write '**Fruit donation**' in the '**Reason for payment**' box.



Key Dates for Autumn 2



Parent Conferences

Your first formal opportunity this year to meet your child's keyworker, to discuss how your child has settled in, the learning and progress they have made so far and plan some next steps together.

Wednesday 5th November	Rikta
Thursday 6th November	Maureen AM/Claire PM
Friday 7th November	Claire AM
Monday 10th November	Rachael
Tuesday 11th November	Olivia
Wednesday 12th November	Kelly
Thursday 13th November	Emma

Christmas Events

In the lead up to Christmas we will be inviting parents, carers and families to join us at several events with the children. I will send more details nearer the time but for now save the dates.

Wednesday 3rd December	Christmas Stay and Play
Tuesday 16th December	Christmas Songs and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 18th December	Christmas Parties (Children only)

Term dates 2025/6

Autumn Term 2025

Autumn 1 - Open Tuesday 2nd September - Close Friday 24th October at normal time
Autumn 2 - Open Monday 3rd November - Close Friday 19th December at normal time

Spring Term 2026

Spring 1 - Open Tuesday 6th January - Close Friday 13th February at normal time
Spring 2 - Open Monday 23rd February - Close Friday 27th March at normal time

Summer Term 2026

Summer 1 - Open Tuesday 14th April - Close Friday 22nd May at normal time
Summer 2 - Open Tuesday 2nd June - Close Friday 17th July at normal time

Please note:

Bank Holidays:

Monday 4th May 2026
Monday 25th May 2026 (during half-term)

Staff Training (subject to change):

Monday 1st September 2025
Monday 5th January 2026
Monday 13th April 2026
Monday 1st June 2026
Monday 20th July 2026



Attendance and Punctuality



As a School, we are expected to monitor attendance and note on registers the reasons for absence and lateness. This data is requested by the Local Authority, the Department for Education and Ofsted. We must show how we improve children's attendance and now have a duty to contact you if you have not informed us already that your child is absent - for any reason.

If you need to request planned time away from school, please complete a form (available from the office) but we strongly encourage children to be in school whenever possible.

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.

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.

If you do need to contact us to report absence or lateness, you can phone - **020 8660 5639** or email - **office@purley.croydon.sch.uk**

What do I do if my child is unwell?

If your child has a high temperature or is unwell and cannot cope with normal daily activities, you should keep them at home.

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell. You can find more NHS advice here:

https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

It is important to phone the school to let us know that your child won't be in and give us the reason for absence.

If your child seems well enough to come to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, please let someone at the nursery know when you arrive.



Safeguarding children and families

Our new Safeguarding policy is on the school website:
<https://www.purleynurseryschoolcc.com>



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, Maria and Olivia. Alternatively, contact the school office and they can arrange for you to receive a confidential phone call to support you.



School Entrances



**Please help us to keep your children safe in school by shutting all of our gates.
Our School is only as safe as we all make it.**

It is a Parent/Carer's responsibility to make sure children are safe from our surrounding roads and other dangers when entering and leaving school.

During drop off and collection, please ensure that your child/children remain next to you at all times and please come right into the classroom to say goodbye, rather than allowing your child to walk in on their own.

Autumn Focus: Be Bright and Be Seen!



Road safety week is between the 16th-22nd November 2025. 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 travelling 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 accessorise. 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 travelling 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



Nut Free School



There are children and staff in school with allergies to nuts. Help us 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 your child to take 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 ask 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!



Did you know?

Purley Nursery School is one of two schools that make up the Purley Partnership Federation. We work collaboratively with our neighbouring school, Christ Church Primary School and share a Governing Body.

A note from our Chair of Governors, Theo Turner



Dear Parents,

A quick update from the Purley Partnership Federation Governors.

We are delighted to confirm that **Maria Reeve** has been appointed as the **full-time Head of School for Purley Nursery**. Maria previously held the role one day a week and has recently been acting in the full role, so this appointment formalises what many of you have already seen in practice. You will not notice any change in the day-to-day running of the nursery.

In addition, while governors continue the process of recruiting a new **Executive Headteacher** based at Christ Church Primary and overseeing both schools, Maria is also serving as **Acting Headteacher**. This temporary arrangement has been in place for a little while and ensures continuity and stability for staff, children, and families.

Best wishes,

Theo Turner

Chair of Governors

Purley Partnership Federation