



PURBROOK INFANT SCHOOL
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Headteacher: Lisa A de Carteret
Assistant Headteachers: Zoe Bailey and Paul Stray
School Business Manager: Hazel K Dean



20 July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been another fantastic year at Purbrook Infant School. We would like to thank all the members of staff for their selfless commitment to ensure that the children of Purbrook Infant school can learn, grow and thrive together in such an inclusive, supportive and caring environment. The PTFA led by Lorraine have done an amazing job throughout the year to provide fun and wide-ranging events to raise funds to support your children.

The Governing Body recently asked you to complete a Parent and Carer Survey, and we would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who completed this. As Governors, our role is to support and challenge the school leadership team to ensure the highest standards of education and well-being for your children. Your feedback gives us vital insight into what is working well and where we must focus our attention.

"100% would recommend Purbrook Infant School to another parent."

Key Strengths Celebrating Success

- **Outstanding Staff & Leadership:** Parents consistently praise the dedication, approachability, and professionalism of staff at all levels. Mrs de Carteret was specifically highlighted for leading a strong, supportive team.
- **Safe, Caring & Nurturing Environment:** The school is widely described as warm and welcoming. Parents feel their children are secure, happy, and genuinely cared for.
- **Children Love School & Thrive:** Feedback repeatedly notes that children enjoy attending and are making good academic progress within an engaging, creative learning environment.

Areas for Improvement

- **Communication Overload & Confusion:** We recognise that using multiple platforms (Seesaw, Parent Mail, newsletters, and emails) makes it hard to track information, leading to ambiguous or overwhelming messaging.
- **Fundraising Pressure & Event Timing:** Parents noted an excessive clustering of events, and we hear you regarding the tone of some fundraising messages, which has been perceived as insensitive during difficult financial times.
- **Wrap-Around Care & Club Limitations:** The lack of flexible, ad-hoc booking for our breakfast and after-school club is a significant barrier for working parents and shift workers. We also note the demand for more engaging activities and more clubs for Year R.

Next Steps

- **Improving Communication with Parents**

We have taken steps to condense and streamline our communication with parents. Seesaw will now only be used to share children's learning and to respond to parent queries. All general communications will be sent through the school office via ParentMail. This will provide leadership with greater oversight and help us monitor both the quantity and consistency of messages being sent to families.

- **Greater Transparency Around Trips and Fundraising**

To support oversight of educational visits and fundraising costs, we will share with parents in September the total cost of trips and visits planned for the academic year. While contributions towards these activities are voluntary, they are essential in enabling us to continue providing these valuable enrichment opportunities, as school funding alone does not cover the full cost.

Parents will have the option to **either**:

- ❖ Pay the total annual amount at the beginning of the year and have it settled in one payment **or**
- ❖ spread the cost across the year through instalments.

In addition, PTFA fundraising activities and associated costs will be carefully planned and communicated to ensure that financial requests do not all occur at the same time, helping families to budget more effectively.

- **Club Limitations**

The provision of free clubs is dependent on staff giving up their own time to provide these; currently all teaching staff run at least one club. Without bringing in paid external providers for which the cost would have to be passed onto parents and carers there is no scope to further expand this.

The Governing Body will be working closely with the Headteacher and Leadership Team to review, reflect and act on this information, as we seek to continuously improve Purbrook Infant School to be the best it can be. We will provide a progress update on these initiatives at the end of the next term.

We hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer holidays with your children and we look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

D. E. Hutchins

Diana Hutchins
Chair of Governors