

# PURBROOK

**Purbrook Junior School** 

Headteacher – Mr C Williams

## Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers

Here we are again, at the end of another busy, albeit short, half-term. Even though we have only had 5 weeks at school (including 2 bank holidays), we have managed to fit a lot in! Our swimming programme for Years 3 and 4 is coming to an end today, with the swimming pool being taken down and moved to another school next week. The programme allows for children to swim every day, building their confidence in the water and developing their swimming strokes.

Year 3 have been working on their Romans theme, looking at Roman architecture and creating some beautiful art work together with sewing their own stone age bags.

On Thursday this week Year 4 welcomed Paul Ullson, our Viking visitor into school. The children re-enacted the great battle between the Anglo Saxons and the Danes. They also learnt about the story 'Ragnarok' from Norse Mythology foretelling the end of the world. A great experience for the children and very much enjoyed.

Year 5 have been working on their Ancient Greek topic, including discussions about important Greek inventions/innovations and their continued importance in the world today. The children designed, built and painted their own Greek clay pots too.

The beautiful weather we have had this half-term has allowed all the year groups to get outside and start practicing for sports day, and Year 6 have been training for the Dale Cup too.

I would like to say a massive "well done" to all Year 6 children who completed their SATs tests last week.



The children have shown real maturity in both their attitude and behaviour. It was great to see them enjoying a well-deserved ice cream on Friday afternoon!

I would like to thank Year 4 for vacating their classrooms during the mornings. I know this was really appreciated by the Year 6 children, so that they could use their classrooms and the area was nice and quiet for them to concentrate. My thanks go to the Year 6 teachers for their passion and drive in helping the children achieve to the best of their potential. I would also like to thank the rest of the staff 'team' who have pulled together to make the SATs tests run as smoothly as possible, including provision of breakfast for the children.

All children in school were really respectful to the Year 6 children sitting the tests and are a credit to the school.

As I am writing this newsletter, the school is preparing for the Dale Cup. Year 6 have been eagerly awaiting this annual event. The Dale Cup was first run in 1978 and has been an annual tradition ever since (unfortunately a couple of years were missed during the COVID pandemic). The course is a mile long and takes the children around the field and playground, out onto Elizabeth Road up to the park and then back again, finishing on the field to the cheers of Years 3, 4 and 5. Members of the school Cross Country Team will be joining Year 6 in this race. Some children will be aiming for a medal, or maybe even a record time. For others, their challenge will be finishing the course. What's important is that they all try their best! I'm really looking forward to cheering them on.

#### Taking your child out of school?

Please can I remind you that you need to inform the school in writing (using a Leave of Absence form) if you are taking your child out of school for any reason. Leave of Absence forms are available on our website and also in the school office. Thank you for your help with this issue.

#### School Meals – Price Increase

Our school caterers, Dolce have informed us that the cost of a school meal will increase to £3.27 with effect from September 2025. I am sure that this will not come as a surprise as food costs, the National Living Wage and employers contributions for National Insurance have all increased since April. Dolce are looking forward to working with us again next year, providing our pupils with the highest quality, freshly produced school meals possible.

I would like to wish everyone a very happy half-term. I look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.





23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025 Issue 31

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY** Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Inset Day

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day (weather permitting) Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Reserve Sports Day

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Year 3 Residential to Peter Ashley Activities Centre

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Production

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 trip to Paultons Park

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Start of the summer holidays

INSET DAYS Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026 Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

### HOUSE POINTS

Check out the latest House Points total by visiting our school website homepage https://www.purbrookjun.hants.sch.uk/

Need to contact the school office?

Schooloffice@purbrookjun.hants.sch.uk or telephone 023 9225 4577 between 8.30am and 3.45pm