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16 December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

# Parent/Carer Survey – "You Said, We Did"

Following our parent/carer survey in the summer of last year, which overall we were incredibly pleased with the positive feedback, there were a few keys areas we took away to review between the Governors and the Schools Leadership Team as we continuously strive to do better for our school and its children. An update on these is provided below.

# PE & Forest School Days

There was feedback it was hard to keep track each week when PE and Forest School was scheduled. Unfortunately, it is not possible to fully standardise this, due to complex timetabling and staff rota constraints. However, we have tried to simplify this as far as possible and improve visibility; complimenting the weekly Year Group Seesaw post with a lookahead also included in the footer of the Friday Flier.

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

There was feedback it would good if there was more choice and availability of after school clubs. Unfortunately, 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 and also two Governors run further clubs. As such without bringing in paid external providers for which the cost would have to be passed onto parents/carers there is no scope to further expand this. Previous attempts at this have been undersubscribed and therefore not financially viable. Please can parents/carers also be mindful not to book their child onto two clubs running at the same time! If any parents/carers have any time to spare and could support running a club please contact the school office. Thank you to all the staff who give up your personal time to who run the clubs the school does offer.

## Donations

There was feedback of a lack of visibility of requested donations to support extra-curricular activities for our children and for specific charities such as Royal British Legion and Children in Need; plus some concern over the cost of these.

We have sought to improve visibility of this through a calendar of events/donations which was shared at the start of the school year and is also available on the school website; we have also looked to better spread these through the year.

We are proud of the extra-curricular activities we offer to enhance the learning of all our children, and offer experiences they may not be fortunate enough to have outside of school. Unfortunately, these do have to be paid for and there is no allowance made in the funding we receive from the Government to provide these, some costs are subsidised by the PTFA and any shortfall requested from our parents/carers. We believe these experiences offer great value and are always a highlight for the children but we are unfortunately reliant on the contribution by all to ensure we can keep providing these.

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#### **Christmas Message**

The first term of 2024/25 has flown by, with the new children and staff all settling in and becoming firmly part of the Purbrook Infant School "Family". Our regular visits affirm that the school is a happy, caring and inclusive place which puts the children front and centre of every decision made. The school continues to be well led and managed, continuously striving to improve and we offer thanks to all the fantastic staff and volunteers, including the PTFA who selflessly commit themselves to helping your children to learn and grow together.

However you celebrate the festive season, we hope your children have enjoyed the run up to Christmas and that all children, parents/carers and staff do enjoy the school holidays with your family, friends and loved ones.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy 2025.

Yours sincerely

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Richard Merefield Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Body