



Purbrook Park School Purbrook Park Newsletter



Week commencing Monday 15th December 2025
WEEK B

1. Notes from the Headteacher
2. Calendar
3. Messages
4. Parent Survey – thank you!
5. Department Leader Boards & Pupils of the Week
6. PE Bulletin
7. Year 9 & 10 Textiles Trip
8. PDL Panel
9. House Competitions 2025-26
10. House Attendance & Praise Point Leader Boards
11. Smart Living



Choir Performing at Carrick Court, Drayton

1. Notes from the Headteacher

Thank you so much for your positive feedback in our recent Parent Survey. Purbrook Park is seen as a “**happy, safe, well-behaved, opportunity-rich school**” where children are doing well, and families feel proud to be part of the community.

With best wishes,

Paul Foxley



2. Calendar

Date	Event
Monday 15.12.25	Choir Visit - Wellington Retirement Home – 9.45am – 12.00pm Year 10 Prize Giving Assembly - PDL Staff Briefing – 3.10pm – 3.20pm Department Meetings – 3.20pm – 4.20pm
Tuesday 16.12.25	Christmas Hamper Collection – PDL & period 5 Panto Reward Trip - Kings Theatre – 5.30pm – 9.30pm
Wednesday 17.12.25	Christmas Lunch – school restaurant Year 11 Prize Giving Assembly - PDL
Thursday 18.12.25	School Day
Friday 19.12.25	Christmas Jumper/Non-Uniform Day School closes early at 11.50am

3. Messages

Year 7 RS trip to the Gurdwara

On Tuesday last week, 45 year 7 pupils visited Gurdwara Nanaksar in Southampton to complement their learning of Sikhism in Religious Studies this half term. Pupils enjoyed a free meal given by the Gurdwara and some pupils even helped the volunteers at the Gurdwara with the washing up after they had eaten.

Pupils then experienced a talk about the Gurdwara in the **Diwan Hall**, and learnt more about the Sikh religion. They enjoyed listening to a Sikh hymn known as **Kirtan** from the **Guru Granth Sahib** (the holy scripture). Some of our pupils even got to experience what it would be like to wear a turban.

Our Year 7s were a credit to our school, demonstrating great kindness, gratitude, and excellent manners to the volunteers at Gurdwara Nanaksar. The Gurdwara loved having us there and are looking forward to our next visit!



Miss Tomlinson – Teacher of Religious Studies

End of Autumn Term

Friday 19th December 2025 is a Non-Uniform/Christmas Jumper day. Pupils and staff are invited to wear non uniform and/or a Christmas jumper for a £1.00 donation. **The school will close to pupils at 11.50am on Friday 19th December 2025.**

The school is closed for staff training on Monday 5th January 2026. **We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026.**

Pastoral Team

Science – Celebrating Success

Sparx

The Top 3 Science Sparx users in each year group for the week beginning 1st December. Each have been awarded 25 praise points.

Year	1 st Position	2 nd Position	3 rd Position
7	Max (WBO)	Molly (LBR)	Maddie (API)
8	Dior (CSI)	Jake (SSR)	Alia (CBR)
9	George (AKO)	Ava (RHA)	Elliot (JMS)
10	Bethany (TGO)	Noah (GEV)	Jack (TGO)
11	Skye (DMA)	Sam (SWI)	Brad (SST)

Scientists of the Week

The following pupils have been nominated as “Scientist of the Week” by Mr Herman for their continued hard work and sustained effort within lessons and have been awarded 50 Praise Points: Isaac (9TKE) and Alyssia (8EMI)

Competition

CENTRE FOR PERSONALISED MEDICINE ART COMPETITION 2025-26

What for you makes medicine personalised?
Is it tests and measurements?
Is it being listened to?

Send in your art about the meaning of 'personalised medicine'

For students in Years 7-9
Prizes: £100 for winner, £50 for runner-up, £10 for highly commended entries
Closing date 30th January 2026

Visit cpm.ox.ac.uk/art-competition
or follow the QR code to find out more

We can't wait to see what you create!

Mr Evans – Lead Teacher of Science

Planned Motorway Closure

A reminder that the M27 will be closed in both directions between Junctions 9 (Whiteley) and 11 (Fareham) from 8pm on 24 December 2025 until 4am on 4 January 2026. Please subscribe directly for updates during the school holidays. Subscribe to the e-bulletin:

<https://smc-lp.s4hana.ondemand.com/eu/p/LzJHU>

Pastoral Team

Food Practical Reminders

FOOD PRACTICAL LESSONS

11C Christmas bake 15.12.25

8Z Gingerbread 15.12.25

Christmas cookies 17.12.25

8X Christmas cookies 16.12.25

7Z Christmas cookies 16.12.25

8Y Christmas cookies 17.12.25

10B Christmas bake 17.12.25

7X Christmas cookies 18.12.25

CHRISTMAS BAKE

- You will have the support of a number of Christmas bakers and helpers
- Bring in all ingredients and a cooking apron
- Presentation is key!
- Please avoid using plastic plates or paper tablecloths
- Think about presentation and set tables!



ITS GOING TO BE A PURBROOK CHRISTMAS BAKE OFF!

CHRISTMAS COOKIES



METHOD

1. Pre heat oven to 190c/gas mark 5.
2. Pour the icing sugar, vanilla extract, butter and egg yolk in to a bowl and stir together with a wooden spoon.
3. Add the flour in to the bowl and mix to a firm dough.
4. Shape the dough in to 2 flat discs, wrap in clingfilm and put in the fridge to chill for 10 minutes.
5. Roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface to the thickness of two £1 coins.
6. Use the cookie cutters so cut out shapes and place them on a greaseproof baking tray.
7. Bake for around 10-12 minutes until lightly golden.
8. Let the biscuits cool down then decorate with coloured icing and sprinkles.

Ingredients:
(Between 4)
140g icing sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 egg yolk
250g butter
375g plain flour
To decorate:
200g icing sugar
Red and Green food colouring
Christmas sprinkles

GINGERBREAD



METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 180c/gas mark 4
2. Line a baking tray with greaseproof paper
3. Melt the butter, golden syrup and sugar in a saucepan over a low heat. Remove from the heat once melted.
4. Sieve together the flour, bicarb, ginger and mixed spices then stir the melted ingredients into the dry ingredients to form a dough.
5. Turn the dough onto a lightly floured surface and roll to 5mm thickness
6. Use a cookie cutter to cut around 12 shapes from the dough and place on your baking tray
7. Bake in the oven for around 8-10 minutes until just set and starting to colour at the edges

Ingredients (In pairs)
160g plain flour plus a bit extra
65g butter
50g caster sugar
2 tbsp golden syrup
½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 tsp ground ginger
½ tsp mixed spice

Mrs Millar – Assistant Lead Teacher of A, D & T

<p>Christmas Market Total</p>	<p>Christmas Market – Thank you from the PTFA Our Christmas Market on Saturday 22nd November was a huge success. The total raised was £3073.69 Thank you to each of you who attended or helped in any way to make this a success.</p>  <p>Please visit our page on the school website: https://www.purbrookparkschool.co.uk/page/?title=PTFA&pid=1135</p> <p>If you would like more information then please email to find out how you can get involved: purbrookparkschoolptfa@gmail.com</p> <p>Lisa Bailey - PTFA Chair</p>	 <p>We will be starting to plan our events for 2026 in the new year, and we are looking for new members to join us on the PTFA. We are a friendly group of parents and staff from Purbrook Park who share a goal of providing the best opportunities for the pupils at our school. If you are creative and like to get involved in school events to raise money then we would love to welcome you to our group!</p>
<p>Choir Visit</p>	<p>Congratulations to the Purbrook Park Choir (pictured on the front of the newsletter) who visited Carrick Court in Drayton this week to sing Christmas Carols to the residents. Pupils sang an array of Christmas hits and gave out cards made by our pupils.</p> <p>A huge thank you to Brenda and Carrick Court residents for making them feel so welcome and donating £100 to our music department.</p> <p>Mrs Brook – Performing Arts Technician</p>	

Parent Survey - Thank you!

A big thank-you to everyone who took part in the Parent Survey (21–28 Nov 2025).

With **over 100 parent responses**, we've got a really strong and helpful picture of what's working well for families and where we can keep improving together.

The big positives (and there are lots!)

Parents are clearly telling us that Purbrook Park is a happy, safe place where children thrive:

- **Children are happy** at school, and enjoy coming in each day.
- **Children feel safe** and supported.
- **Behaviour is a real strength** — families recognise the calm, respectful culture across the school.
- **Children do well here**, both academically and personally.
- **Clubs and activities shine** — parents really value the breadth of opportunities available.
- **You'd recommend us** to other families, which is a fantastic vote of confidence.

Overall, this feedback celebrates the strong community feel of the school and the way pupils are helped to succeed.

Areas we're going to improve (with confidence!)

Parents also highlighted a few areas where we can strengthen things even further. We really appreciate this thoughtful feedback and are already working on improvements — especially around:

- **How we share curriculum and learning information with families**, so you feel fully informed about your child's journey.
- **How we communicate and follow up when parents raise questions or concerns**, making sure processes feel clear, responsive, and consistent.
- **SEND support:** We're continuing to build on our provision and communication here to ensure every child feels well supported.

What this means going forward

Your responses give us a lot to celebrate: Purbrook Park is seen as a **happy, safe, well-behaved, opportunity-rich school** where children are doing well, and families feel proud to be part of the community.

You've also helped us identify clear priorities for our next steps — and we'll keep you updated as we move these improvements forward.

Thank you again for your support and for helping us make Purbrook Park even better, as we continue on our journey to be exceptional in everything we do.

Week commencing 08th December 2025

Historians of the Week!



Congratulations to...



Year 7 – Brayden. P

7WBO



Year 8 – Bella. B

8JFR



Year 9 – Sophie. L

9MBU



Year 10 – Lily. B

10GEV



Year 11 – Alfie. A

11LGU



Week commencing 8th December

LanguageNut LEADERBOARD



Year 7 – Ana (7FMI)

Year 8 – Olly (8SSR)

Year 9 – Elana (9MBU)

Year 10 – Maddie (10TGO)

Year 11 – Jasmine (11KSH)

Congratulations!

50 praise points
for each winner

Sparx Legends of the Week

Year 7 – David (7FMI)

Year 8 – Oscar (8JFR)

Year 9 – Lewis (9AWA)

Year 10 – Bethany (10TGO)

Year 11 – Lexie (11LMI)

**50 Praise Points for
each Winner!**

English:

Pupils of the week 😊

Year 7 – Mia G (7 API)

Year 8 – Stan S (8 JHE)

Year 9 – Jessica B (9 NSD)

Year 10 – Scarlett S (10 IPU)

Year 11 – Matilda M (11)

PE Bulletin

England Lionesses Trip

On Tuesday 2nd December 2025 some lucky PPS footballers travelled to St Mary's Stadium to watch the England Lionesses play Ghana in the homecoming series, following their brilliant success over the summer. England took an early lead within 10 minutes, but Ghana then played a great defensive game blocking all England attempts until a penalty was given in the 95th minute. This was particularly exciting as Alessia Russo took to the spot right in-front of our seats to score a brilliant penalty. The support from our girls was fantastic, cheering and encouraging England and they all really enjoyed the game and were inspired by the talent seen by these Euro winners.

Miss Brailey



Hampshire Rugby Development Day

A huge well done to the 24 girls who represented Purbrook at this year's Hampshire Schools Rugby Festival at Trojans. Despite the miserable weather, every player threw herself into the games with enthusiasm, finishing each match covered head to toe in mud but still with a smile on their faces.

Both the Year 7 team and the combined Year 8/9 team performed brilliantly. Even without having trained or played together beforehand, they won all but one of their matches—an outstanding achievement. The day was filled with impressive tries, plenty of laughter, and memories that will last a lifetime. Thank you to all the girls for a brilliant and entertaining day.

Miss Brailey



BSGA Southern Region Trampoline Competition

On Sunday 7th December the PPS trampolining team travelled to Abingdon, Oxford to compete against lots of high performing schools in our region. Spectators even included Kate Middleton who was seen supporting her daughter. All pupils did fantastically well and the extra training paid off resulting in neat, clean and strong technical routines.

In the boys' Year 7-9 novice category Brody H (7FMI) came 1st and Tommy B (7LBR) came 2nd, both successfully qualifying to the next round. In the girls' Year 7-9 novice category Anya G (7FTU) finished 5th in the biggest category of the day, also successfully qualifying to the next round. Both Isla R (7FTU) and Evelyn H (7SGR) completed the team and also jumped amazingly to give Purbrook a 3rd place overall as a team, reaching the podium and being awarded medals and trophies. In the Year 7-9 intermediate category Brooke C (9RHA) finished an amazing 6th place, narrowly missing out on qualification despite this being her first trampolining competition and jumping straight into a more advanced category.

All pupils should all be incredibly proud of themselves, it was a fantastic effort from all and wishing those in the next round lots of luck.

Miss Brailey



BARBICAN

DIRTY LOOKS LONDON



Desire and Decay in Fashion

The human desire to reconnect with the earth – a romantic longing or ‘nostalgia of mud’ – finds many expressions, as three pairs of rubber Wellington boots owned by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and London’s supermodel Kate Moss exemplify. Spending time in nature, whether on horseback or trawling through the muddy fields of Worthy Farm at Glastonbury, is often seen as a welcome antidote to our saturated and digital lifestyles.

Fashion has long been characterised by glamorous and perfect surfaces that will not tolerate any form of ‘filth’, defined by anthropologist Mary Douglas as ‘matter out of place’. However, over the past fifty years, forms of both real and fake dirt have infiltrated and decorated fashion, signalling rebelliousness, non-conformity and decay as well as concepts of femininity, spirituality and regeneration.

Dirty Looks explores the many ways in which fashion has embraced ‘dirty’ aesthetics. From the poetic and the political to the subversive and humorous, the exhibition traces an ongoing dialogue of mud, from ancient parchments tucked in the bag to new fabrics where a spiritual connection to the earth is expressed through garments. Examining the influence of decolonial attitudes and indigenous perspectives, it also demonstrates what alternative practices – from original textiles and regenerative dyes to regenerated fibres and intelligent use of natural resources – could offer the industry.

Fashion, as a deeply meaningful cultural practice of adornment, is also the most visible gateway to the world. By taking a ‘dirty’ look at fashion, we might begin to reckon with what this says about our relationship to the earth, changing the connections created by consumption and creation.



TATE

Year 9 & 10 Textiles



Year 9 & 10 Textiles pupils went to London to see the Dirty Exhibition at the Barbican this week.

They had the opportunity to see real life Alexander Mc Queen, Vivienne Westwood, Giles Deacon, Matty Bovan, Shelley Fox and Issey Miyake garments all relating to Decay.

We then went to the Tate gallery to see more inspirational pieces and starting points.



Thank you to everyone who came on the trip, you were all extremely kind, polite, respectful and a dream to have for the day.

Miss Cumbo 😊



Can you help us by becoming a PDL Panel Expert?

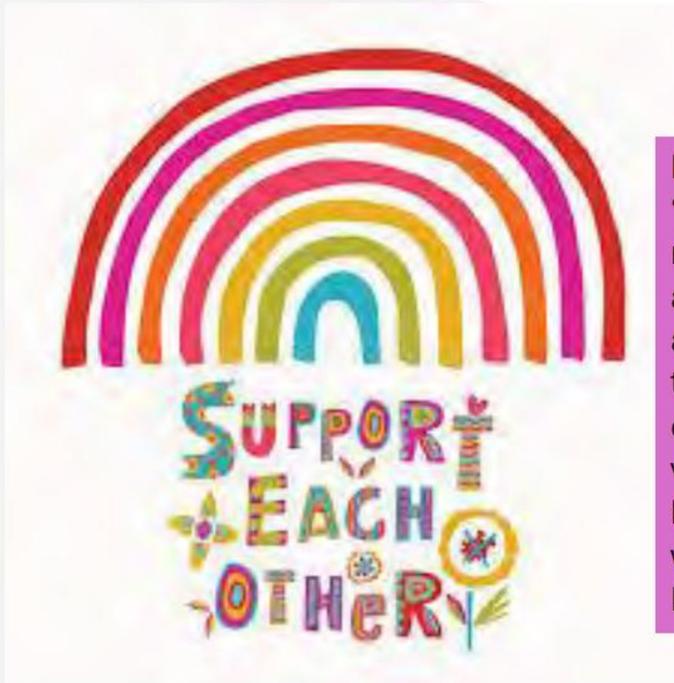
During PDL (Personal Development Learning/ Tutor Time) we are often asking our pupils to engage with the wider world by making phone calls, contacting local businesses, interviewing members of the public, sending out surveys and various other external forms of contact.

We are looking to create a database of people in our community who are willing to share their email and/ or mobile data with us so that they can be first on our list to be contacted to answer specific questions around our PDL studies. You can be from any walk of life but need to be over 18 please. If you or anyone you know is willing to be part of this database, please contact awalsh@purbrook.hants.sch.uk. Additionally, if you have a specific tutor group that you would like to be attached to please do make this known. **Your contact details will not be shared with all the pupils** instead, our tutors will have a designated group of "panel experts" that they can ask for support from. Any further questions please just email me. THANK YOU



Every Thursday of Week B at PPS we will be taking part in House Competitions during the PDL session to encourage our tutees to work as a team in their Houses and to boost their competitive spirit. See below for the winners of our most recent House Competition this academic year who have been awarded 1000 praise points to their house total!

House Competitions 2025-2026

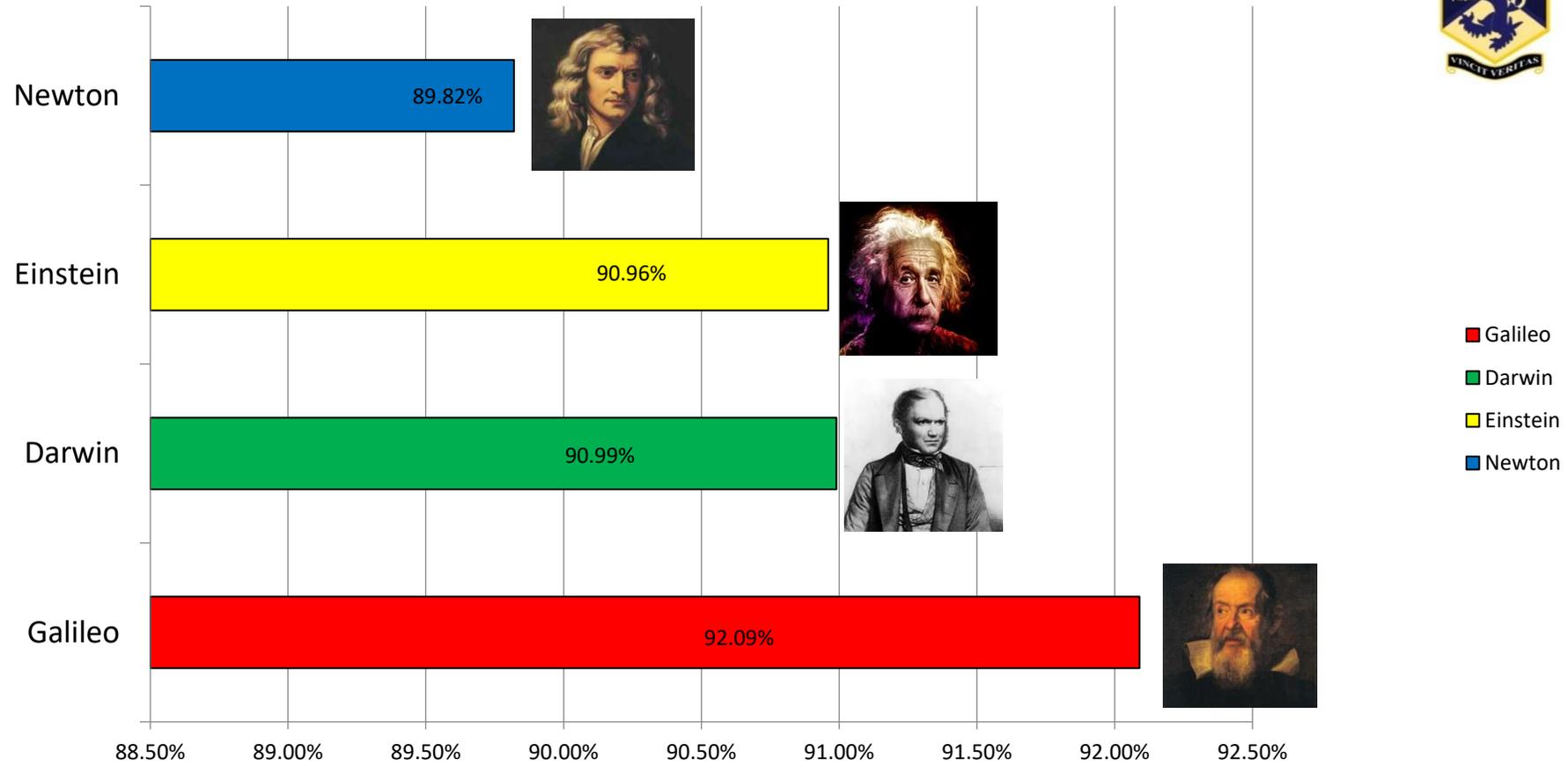


In response to the theme of “Togetherness” as promoted by so many organisations and charities at Christmas our tutees were asked to create a poem linked to this theme. There were some exceptional entries. You would be very proud of the humanity shown by your children here at PPS. This week once again the winners were Darwin!



1.	Darwin
2.	Galileo
3.	Einstein
4.	Newton

Weekly House Attendance - 01.12.25 - 05.12.25

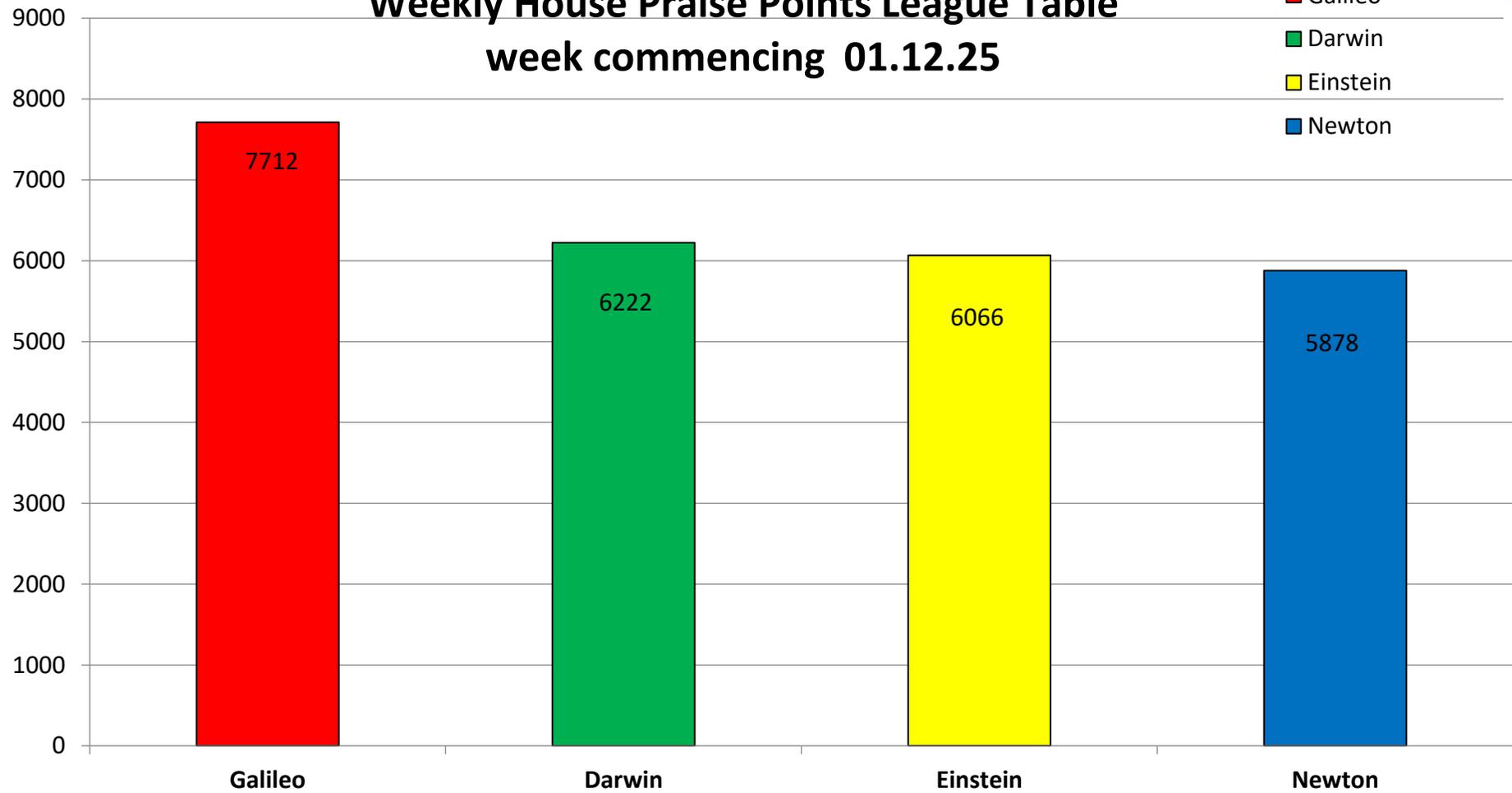


- Galileo
- Darwin
- Einstein
- Newton

Weekly House Praise Points League Table

week commencing 01.12.25

- Galileo
- Darwin
- Einstein
- Newton



E- Praise Leaders This Week



Talent is a gift, but
character is a choice.

John C. Maxwell



Yr 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Matilda FTU	Dev D NBO	Daisy H AWA	Tommy B BSO	Daisy B LGU
Maddie I API	Marlie B JFR	Ruby V ATO	Harley C FCO	Brad L DMA
Max F WBO	Cassie P JFR	Dexter T JMS	Dolce S MWA	Sam R SWI

A huge well done to all our E-Praise Leaders. Your efforts make you stand out from the crowd.

The green gift guide

Sustainable and low waste gift ideas



Hampshire County Council's waste minimising initiative, [Smart Living](https://hants.gov.uk/festivesavings), has launched its annual campaign to help people save money and reduce their waste during the festive season. Follow the Smart Living Christmas character, Holly, during December, as she gives out lots of hints and tips to help families have fun, save money and reduce waste. Find festive hacks and the [Green Gift Guide](https://hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/smartliving/festivesavings) on the webpage: www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/smartliving/festivesavings