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**Purwell Primary School  
3rd March 2015**

*'You are worried about seeing him spend his early years in doing nothing. What! Is it nothing to be happy? Nothing to skip, play, and run around all day long? Never in his life will he be so busy again.'* ~Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Emile

**World Book Day - This Thursday**

To celebrate World Book Day, this Thursday, each class will be attempting the Big Book Off challenge, which involves completing as many book related activities as possible. The activities are split into the categories of create, imagine, explore, discover and experience.

**Parent Teacher Consultations**

These will take place on:

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March until 6 p.m.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March until 7 p.m.

Booking forms for these consultations will be in the entrance lobby from 3 pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March for all pupils, from Nursery to Year 6. In the past, only parents of Nursery pupils in their first term of Nursery were invited to parent teacher consultations. This has been extended to include all Nursery pupils.

**PSA Quiz Night - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 7pm for 7.30pm**

Tickets at £10 are on sale now for the ever popular Quiz Night, ably run by Stella and Pete Barnes, complete with a free drink on arrival, tasty fish and chip supper and a licensed drinks bar. Make up a team or come along and join with others on the night. Quiz Night is always good fun with a Last Man Standing raffle and Cocktail/Mocktail quiz.

**Class pets - consultation open**

Some pupils and teachers at school have expressed a wish to explore the possibility of having class pets at school. These would be pets that are in school during the working week, but then are taken home to be looked after by pupils or staff at weekends and holidays. We would like to invite the entire school community to get involved with the consultation, so everyone has the opportunity to express their opinions on the matter. Pupils have discussed this at their pupil voice session today. For parents, a box has been put in the school lobby, near the office area, for parents to post in any questions, comments and opinions they may have. Alternatively, emailed contributions will be printed and added to the box. At the end of the month, the Governors will evaluate all the information and make a decision.

**Help needed to make Aspen the quietest**

Aspen Class has been invited to take part in a County initiative to raise awareness of the problem of noise pollution in society. The class will be taking part in a competition, with other schools, to create the most sound-proofed model room. To help them, Mrs Lancaster would be grateful for any donations, such as carpet scraps, wallpaper, lino etc. Please bring any donations in by this Thursday 5th March. Many thanks.

**PSA Valentines Disco**

Thank you to all those who helped out at the Valentine's Disco. The children seemed to have a wonderful time, and I am delighted to announce that an impressive £408 was raised for the school by the PSA.

**Choir announces dates for public performances**

Our School Choir has announced dates for two performances coming up in the Summer term. This first date will be Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May, at the Walsworth Festival, then they will perform again on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July, at the Hitchin Primary Schools' Concert.

### **Purwell's Junk Orchestra Experience**

On Thursday 26th February, we had a visit from the Junk Orchestra. Saul started his day with two shows, one for Early Years and Key Stage 1 and the second for Key Stage 2. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The afternoon comprised of three workshops for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Children created all sorts of music from old piping, bicycle wheels, pot & pans, pieces of wood and water bottles. It could be heard all over school!

### **How does that work?**

Teachers have come up with an idea that could identify budding engineers of the future. We would like to give mechanically-minded pupils the opportunity to take to pieces old and unwanted telephones, radios, computers, remote controlled cars etc to better understand how they work. This is not an opportunity many schools offer children at the primary age. So, if you have any old and unwanted, smallish, mechanical items at home in your attic or shed, then we would be very grateful if you would be kind enough to donate them to the school.

### **Girls Football Success**

Congratulations to our Girls Football Team which recently finished as runners-up in the Hitchin and District Cup. Having beaten off competition from Our Lady, William Ransom and Breachwood Green in the competition, only a terrific performance from Whitehill in the final denied our girls the chance to compete in the County Round. In fact, the 2 goals that Whitehill scored in the final were the only goals that the girls have conceded all season! A terrific Team Purwell performance all round. Well done!

### **Chess Team**

Having beaten St. Christopher's in their last match, the school's Chess Team hosted Mary Exton in the week before half-term. With many of our more experienced players unavailable for this match, our team included three pupils who were very nervous about playing in their first match for the school. However, the team performed fantastically and despite going down to an incredibly narrow  $5 \frac{1}{2} - 6 \frac{1}{2}$  defeat, can take a great deal of credit for their fine performance. This goes to further illustrate the real strength and depth that we now have in chess at Purwell. Chess Club continues to run on Monday lunchtimes (from 12:30-13:00) and we are always happy to accommodate new members.

### **Photos of the Week**



Ms Christian was delighted with the Girls' team's achievement. Purwell's first district trophy for some time.



Children created all sorts of music from old piping, bicycle wheels, pot & pans, pieces of wood and water bottles.