

Purwell Primary School
8th December 2015

Thought for the week, 'From Home to home, and heart to heart, from one place to another. The warmth and joy of Christmas, brings us closer to each other'. Emily Matthews

Christmas Production - Monday 14th December: Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and Tuesday 15th December: Years 3 - 6.

Don't forget to buy your tickets for the school Christmas productions this coming Monday and/or Tuesday. Adult tickets are £2 and children's are 50p. We do not expect to sell out, but do get them early, just in case!

Family performances (babies and toddlers are welcome).

Evening performances (babies and toddlers may not be brought)

For the afternoon performances, car parking will be available on the infant playground, and on the junior playground for the evening ones. Please do not park on Fairfield Way. Pupils should return to school from 6pm ready for a 6.30pm start. **Children should come to all performances so as not to let down their class and teachers.** If you wish to use a still or video camera at either concert, please inform the school office as soon as possible. Please note that secondary aged children will only be admitted if they are with a parent and they have a brother or sister in the concert. Unaccompanied teenagers will not be allowed in.

Christmas lunch

We will be having our Christmas lunch at school tomorrow. If your child is having the vegetarian option, rather than the traditional Christmas lunch, or is having a home packed lunch, you should already have advised the school office. It is assumed that all other children, from Reception to Year 6, will be having the Christmas lunch. Thanks are due to the PSA for providing Christmas crackers for the event.

Christmas Fair in the Square

On Saturday 12th December, Key Stage 2 pupils have been invited to sing carols in Hitchin market square. Children will need to meet at 11:30am ready for and 11:40am concert. The children will be required to wear school uniform and when finished will be free to go, about 12pm. The cheerleading squad has also been invited to perform. Cheerleaders should meet at 12.20pm, ready to perform at 12.55pm. The performance will be finished at 1.15pm.

Letters have been sent to everyone invited to perform at this event. Please return reply slips tomorrow, if you have not done so already.

The event is being run by the Hitchin Partnership, a charity based organisation, which is invaluable to the work at our school. Hitchin Partnership has supported and still supports many of our children and families through counselling, mentoring, family support workers, food banks, clothing vouchers and much more.

Children to enjoy a panto treat

The Market Theatre group will be visiting the school to perform **Little Red Riding Hood** to the children. Our gratitude is due to the Hitchin Youth Trust for funding this special Christmas event for our children.

Last assembly of the year

This is the last day of term for Purwell School. The children should come to school in their Christmas Jumpers. Anyone wishing to make a donation to the charities supported by Text Santa may do so. Children in Year 1 to Year 6 may bring in a small game or activity, but should not bring anything electronic or expensive. Everyone is welcome to join us at 1.20pm

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for our Award Assembly, where we will end the term with award certificates and some festive singing.

PSA Christmas Fair

A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make the PSA Christmas Fair such a fantastic and enjoyable evening. A suitably festive time was had by all and, by the end, the event had raised a fantastic £400. An especially big thank you to Mrs Tart and her team for organising it.

All hands on deck for the Purwell Christmas tree

Over the past two weeks, all children and some staff have been busy creating the Purwell Christmas Tree for the festival this coming weekend. It is truly a whole school initiative with over 400 leaves being 'grown'. Please come along Holy Saviour Church, on Radcliffe Road, over the weekend to support the event and, of course, vote for our tree.

PSA decoration competition winners

The winners of the Christmas decoration competition were chosen last week, with Lucan, Indigo and George taking home the cuddly teddies. The tree looks fabulous this year covered with the children's own work. Many think we should decorate it this way every year. A HUGE thank you to the PSA for organising this for the school.

Note: If anyone would like to make a donation to the school and take home a beautiful Christmas tree, after the assembly on Friday 18th, then please notify the school.



Fruit and vegetables and milk

All orders for the Spring Term for fruit and vegetables for pupils in Years 3 - 6 and milk for pupils in Reception - Year 6 should be in by Friday. If you haven't placed an order, you have just a few days to do so. The details are given below:

- Milk costs £12.76, and cheques should be made payable to *Hertfordshire County Council*
- Fruit and vegetables participation costs £6.84, and cheques should be made payable to *Purwell Primary School*.

PSA news

On Wednesday, December 9th, there will be a PSA Christmas Coffee Morning, from 9am-11am in the Community Room, with tea, coffee, mince pies, Christmas cake and things to keep little people busy.

Also, in place of a final formal PSA meeting for the term, the Committee members would like to invite you to join them, from 8pm on Thursday, December 17th, at the Millstream for a drink and an opportunity to meet and get to know the committee and other parents.

School Office

Tuesday 15th December is the last day that money can be paid into the school office this term. This includes dinner money. It is also the last day that uniform can be purchased.

Clubs

There will be no clubs in the first two weeks of the Spring Term. A letter about clubs will be issued after Christmas.

School closures - Winter 2015/16

As part of the school's planning for emergencies, parents are reminded that incidents that necessitate school closure include such things as extreme weather and loss of essential electrical, water or heating services. Details of school closures are displayed **on the front page of the school website, via the Blog**, plus www.hertsdirect.org and local radio stations.

In making a decision to close a school, the headteacher is required to take the following elements into consideration:

- Hazardous conditions, including roads and footpaths inside and outside the school.
- Whether enough staff can get in to supervise pupils.
- Whether a reasonable working temperature can be maintained in the school building.
- Whether water is available.

Highly recommended: Parents are invited to leave an email address where the school can contact them immediately with details of school closure.

The school will email parents with closure details. If you have not yet left an email address but would like to be on the school's e-mail list please send an email to admin@purwell.herts.sch.uk requesting that you are added to the existing list. It would be very helpful for parents who receive notice of school closure to let other parents know.

On these days, parents are advised to walk to school, if possible, and, for those driving, it is advisable to park on Purwell Lane or Kingswood Avenue and walk the remainder.

We hope you appreciate that the decision to close is never made lightly, as the safety and welfare of our children, school staff and parents/carers is of paramount importance, and no one would like to see this compromised.

Display of the week



Term ends on Friday 18th December at 2.00pm

Merry Christmas to you all



Spring Term begins on Tuesday 5th January 2015