

Quote for the day: 'The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other' Burton Hillis

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.

End of Term Assembly

Our end of term assembly will take place on Friday 19th December at 1.20 p.m. At this assembly, commendation awards will be presented. Children will also be performing some festive songs. Everyone is most welcome to join us at the assembly. The school day finishes at 2pm.

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 £556.35. An especially big thank you to Mrs Watson and her team for organising it.

New Staff Member for the Spring

In the Spring Term, Mrs Doggett will be joining the staff as a Teaching Assistant in the Nursery. We welcome her to the team.

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 2 should be in by next Monday. If you haven't placed an order, you have just a few days to do so. The details are given below:

- Milk costs £12.39, and cheques should be made payable to *Hertfordshire County Council*
- Fruit and vegetables participation costs £6.27, and cheques should be made payable to *Purwell Primary School*.

Garden House Hospice

Once again the school is supporting the Garden House Hospice Christmas Appeal. Festive emblems will be brought around daily to the classes and pupils may purchase one with a donation to the appeal.

School Office

Tuesday 16th 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.

Parking on Fairfield Way

We have had complaints from our neighbours on Fairfield Way and Wilshere Crescent that a few parents are inconsiderately obstructing their driveways and the bus route at school pick up and drop offs. We advise parents to park along wider roads, like Purwell Lane or Kingswood Avenue, and make the short walk in, thus avoiding all the bother.

Birthday Books Idea

A very good suggestion has been made to the school of an alternative for anyone who would prefer not to bring in birthday sweets (although they will still be acceptable). The idea is that, on children's birthdays, rather than children buying sweets to give out to classmates,

P
U
R
W
E
L
L
P
R
I
M
A
R
Y
S
C
H
O
O
L
N
E
W
S
L
E
T
T
E
R

they could donate a book for the class. In the book could be written the child's name and class and that fact that the book was donated to mark their birthday. The book can be enjoyed for years to come and will make a lasting memory of the child's time at Purwell.

School Closures - Winter 2014/15

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



We were inundated with some amazing Christmas decorations for the '100% recycled' competition. Later this week many will be chosen to adorn our school's entry at Holy Saviour Church, on Radcliffe Road. Why not pop along and see how our tree compares?

Term ends on Friday 19th December at 2.00pm

Merry Christmas to you all



Spring Term begins Tuesday 6th January 2015