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**Purwell Primary School**

13<sup>th</sup> January 2014

☺Happy New Year and welcome back to the start of  
an exciting new term at Purwell School ☺

**Welcome Back to School**

Happy New Year and welcome back to the start of the Spring term.  
The new year has brought with it new features around the school which the more  
keen eyed of you may have already noticed.

**Wonderful Willow Structures**

First is the appearance of two living willow structures, created at either end of  
the school. These beautiful creations will offer outdoor class spaces as well as  
shade for the children in the hot summer months. I'm sure they will enjoy  
playing in them, too. We thank the PSA for funding this ambitious project,  
which can be enjoyed by children at the school for years to come. Another  
thank you is extended to Mr Staddon (Anabel and Andrew's father) for planting  
and weaving them over Christmas in some of most horrendous weather  
conditions.

**Purwell TV Prepares to Go Live**

The second feature is the electronic bulletin screen (or the BFG's iPhone as the  
children are calling it) outside the main office. This screen has been created as  
part of the launch of the Purwell TV project. Once established, the all-weather  
bulletin board will offer parents up-to-date information about school matters,  
reminders about forthcoming events, the latest news and information, as well as  
informative content on subjects like healthy eating. Eventually, it is hoped that  
the children will start producing their own creative, entertaining content for the  
channel.

Two further screens inside the building will offer pupils and staff similar  
relevant information.

**Curriculum Information and Homework Expectations**

Tomorrow, each family will receive a booklet with details of the curriculum for  
the spring term. These can soon be found on our web site.

With this information will be the expectations that the teachers have with  
regards to homework. The extra learning children do at home is a valuable  
supplement to a child's development. There may be deadlines set that children  
must meet. Please can you help your children to meet these regularly.

**PSA News**

The next PSA Planning Meeting will be on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January, at 8pm, at the  
Millstream. So why not come along, share some good ideas, meet some great  
people and have some fun? First-timers are always made very welcome.

The PSA currently has a vacancy for the Deputy Chair, so if you are interested  
in stepping up to this role, please contact Michelle Watson either on the  
playground (normally the infant playground) or by email [shellwatson41@gmail.com](mailto:shellwatson41@gmail.com).

### **PSA Quiz Night - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 7pm for 7.30pm**

Tickets will soon be available for the ever popular Quiz Night, ably run by Stella and Pete Barnes, complete with a tasty supper and a drinks bar. Make up a team or come along and join with others on the night. Quiz Night is always good fun.

### **Club News**

**Netball club** will start on Thursday 23rd January. A reminder that the club finishes at 4.15pm.

**Multi-skills club** will start on Wednesday 22nd January.

The **KS1 tennis club** started this week, there are still a few places left if any further children in Years 1 or 2 would like to join. The club takes place on Monday lunchtime in the hall. If you require another leaflet, please ask at the office.

This Friday's **circuit training** will be the last session. From next week the hall will be used by the Film and TV Club.

### **Sports Hall Athletics Year 5 and 6**

Sports Hall Athletics Event at Fearnhill School - Some children from years 5 and 6 have been selected to take part in an indoor athletics event next week. They will be competing against local schools in events such as long jump, javelin and various relay races. Mr Jones, our Sports Apprentice, has been working hard to provide them with the training they need to ensure they can perform to the very best of their ability. We wish them luck in what promises to be a super evening of sport!

### **Taking Holidays During Term Time**

Another reminder to parents that you should not take your child on holiday in term time, as it can be disruptive both to your child's education and to the school.

### **School Meals**

A reminder that school meals now cost £2.05 per day, £10.25 per week. Cheques should be made payable to *Hertfordshire Catering Ltd.*

You should receive, with this newsletter, a balance statement for lunches. If the balance has a minus sign in front of it, it is money which is owed, and this should be paid as soon as possible. If the balance shows a figure other than zero, this is money which is available for lunches for your child.

### **Helpers wanted: EYFS Leaflet Distribution**

At this time of year we distribute leaflets to the houses around our catchment area. These leaflets contain useful information about our Nursery and Reception classes. However, our regular helpers are unable to do it this year so we need someone else to step forward. There are 500 leaflets to be posted through all the doors around Purwell and as far as Granville Road. We would be very grateful for your time and can offer some recompense.

## Fundraising for Syria

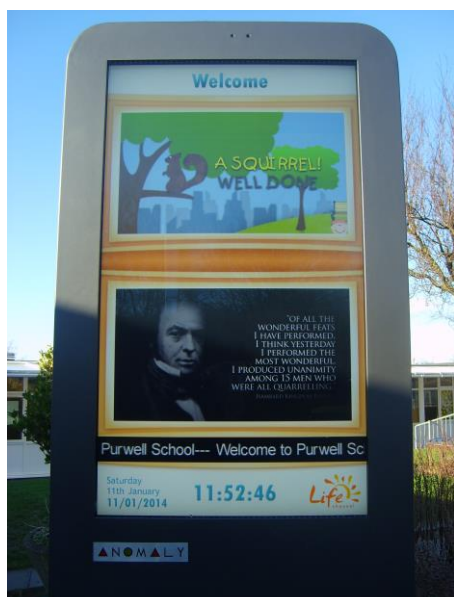
On Saturday 18th January, at 4pm, the Minority Ethnic Forum in Hitchin is organising a Winter Appeal for Syria. Why not go along and see what going on?

## Newsletters

This term newsletters will be issued on the following Tuesdays:

28 <sup>th</sup> January	11 <sup>th</sup> February	3 <sup>rd</sup> March
18 <sup>th</sup> March	1 <sup>st</sup> April	

## Display of the Week



*New Purwell TV bulletin board*

## Term Dates for Your Calendar

### Dates for Spring Term 2014

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Governing Body meeting 7pm
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	School Nurse Visit for Reception Children
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>School Closed for INSET</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> February	<b>Half-term</b>
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	School Choir visit the Royal Albert Hall
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>School Closed for INSET</b>
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent consultations evening
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent consultation evening
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	PSA Quiz Night
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	1:20pm, Easter Assembly, term ends 2pm
7 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>Easter Break</b>

### **Dates for Summer Term 2014**

Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Summer Term begins
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Governing Body meeting, 7pm
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>May</b>	<b>Y6 SATS Week</b>
<b>26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Half term</b>
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Transition Day
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>School Closed for INSET</b>
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Annual reports to go home
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Governing Body meeting, 7pm
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	1:20pm, Special Assembly, term ends 2pm