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**Purwell Primary School**

**14<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

*'How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these.'* - George Carver

**Annual Reports**

This Friday, you will be receiving, via your child, their report for the year, as completed by their class teacher.

**Reception Graduation, Year 6 Leavers and End of Term Assemblies**

This year's Reception Graduation assembly will take place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July, at 2pm. Invitations have been issued to parents of pupils in that class. On the following day, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July, at 2pm, there will be some mixed emotions at the Year 6 Leavers' assembly. At this assembly, Oak Class pupils will say their goodbyes to the school, and the Year 6 Pupil of the Year will be announced.

The end of term Award Assembly is at 1.20pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Parents are reminded that, if babies/toddlers become unsettled during the assembly, they should be taken outside, so as not to disturb other people's enjoyment of the event.

**Choir Impresses at St Mary's Singing Festival**

Audiences at St Mary's Choir Festival, last week, were treated to magical performances from choirs across Hitchin. Purwell Choir represented the school fantastically well and, although we were the smallest and youngest choir there, the children really held their own and did us all proud. A big thank you for all the parent support we had at the church, and for all those who helped out with lifts. The choir members really enjoyed themselves and we are all very excited about forthcoming events for the next academic year. The choir has been booked to perform at the O2 Arena, and will be signed up for the Hertfordshire Gala at The Royal Albert Hall, as well as all the local events we attend. Any child from Year 2 upwards can join the choir, as long as they are prepared to join in all rehearsals and learn words! Please ask for a letter at the office.

**Best Wishes and Warm Welcomes for September**

At the end of this term, we will be saying a fond farewell to Miss Ferguson who has taught at Purwell for six years. We wish her well in the future, and thank her for her part in raising standards at Purwell, particularly in Reading, Writing and with pupil premium funded pupils. Miss Rachel Mayes will be the new teacher starting with us in September. Miss Mayes is a very experienced teacher and will be teaching Year 5.

**Last Day of Term**

School finishes for the holidays at 2.00pm, on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, after the Award Assembly. Parents who come for the assembly may take their children home immediately afterwards, should the assembly finish early.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the staff, to thank our parents for the continued support you have shown the school over the last year. We hope you have a lovely, and enjoyable, family time with your children. We will see you on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, for the first day of term.

## Staffing for September

We are delighted to announce the staffing arrangements for next academic year:

Nursery	Mrs Barhey
Reception	Mrs Prue
Year 1	Miss Young
Year 2	Mr Hart
Year 3	Mrs Ison
Year 4	Mr Edwards
Year 5	Miss Mayes
Year 6	Mrs Lancaster

## Pupils Make Rapid Gains with their Learning

### SATs results

This year's school results for children taking tests, are:

**Key Stage 1** (the first column shows those children reaching Level 2 and above)

Reading	97% Level 2	47% Level 3
Writing	90% Level 2	27% Level 3
Maths	100% Level 2	43% Level 3
Science	100% Level 2	30% Level 3

*These results are very pleasing, indeed. Congratulations to the children, Mr Hart, Mrs Lalite and Mrs Caller on a commendable achievement.*

**Key Stage 2** (the first column shows those children reaching Level 4 and above)

Spelling/Grammar	88% Level 4	62% Level 5
Reading	100% Level 4	58% Level 5
Writing	86% Level 4	46% Level 5
Maths	89% Level 4	48% Level 5
Science	93% Level 4	69% Level 5

*Another excellent sets of results again this year from Year 6. Well done to the class, Miss Ferguson, Mrs Walker and Mrs Hockett.*

### Reception

In addition to impressive KS1 and KS2 results announced last week, we have some more good news to let you know about.

The figures below show the percentage of children reaching or exceeding expected levels in the EYFS:

Communication and Language	86%
Physical Development	93%
Personal, social and emotional dev	93%
Literacy	79%
Mathematics	79%
Understanding the world	89%
Expressive art and design	89%

*In every area, the results are above County and National averages. Well done to Acorn Class, Mrs Prue and her team for achieving these fantastic results.*

### Year 1 Phonics Results

93% of Year 1 pupils passed their phonics tests this year. This means that, for the fourth year running, Holly Class pupils have bettered County and National averages. Congratulations to Holly Class, Miss Young, Mrs Lalite, Mrs Lawson and Mrs Caller for helping the class achieve these impressive results.

### **After-school clubs**

All after-school clubs will have their last session, before the Summer holiday, on the relevant day this week, apart from the following:

**Key Stage 2 Cricket** - The last session was last week. Ms Christian will be unavailable today, as she will be at the Athletics Finals, as will a number of the children who attend the club.

**Gardening** - The last session was two weeks ago.

Clubs will resume in September. You will receive a letter about this in the new term.

### **Payments**

A reminder that, as the end of term is approaching, all outstanding payments should be cleared as soon as possible. This includes dinner money, trip and music payments, any uniform purchases and milk or fruit/vegetable money. All payments should be made by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July, at the very latest.

There is a uniform order form at the end of the newsletter. Please return to the school office, with payment, by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July, if you would like to order more uniform.

### **Key Stage 1 Summer Day**

The, typically, wet British weather couldn't dampen the spirits of our Key Stage 1 pupils for their Summer Day yesterday. Pupils from Holly and Willow Classes were able to dodge the showers when walking over to Wymondley Woods. Whilst there, they carried out a range of activities such as identifying leaves, working out the ages of trees and navigating their way around an orienteering course in the upper plantation. After a picnic style lunch, the children enjoyed a Beach Party in school, during the afternoon, which included music and games, as well as visits from an ice-cream van and a Punch and Judy theatre show. There was a phenomenal array of beach towels, sunglasses and beach inflatables on display, and this really helped create a strong sense of Summer, despite the inclement weather! Thank-you to all of the parents of our Year 1 and 2 children, your support for each of our Seasons Days this year has been invaluable.

### **Mr Cano in Thames Walk Challenge**

Mr Cano will, once again, be putting on his trekking boots for a new walking challenge. At the end of the month he will attempt to walk the 184 miles of Thames path from Cirencester to the estuary in London, in seven days. He is trying to raise £400 for the Alzheimer's Research Charity. If you would like to sponsor him you can do so, via the Just-giving website and searching for his name and challenge. Many thanks.



**Display of the week**



*The School Choir members perform in their new black, choir T-shirts.  
Mrs Todd described their performance as 'ridiculously good!'*

**Midday Supervisor - recruiting for September**

The school needs to recruit midday supervisors to work anything from one to five days per week. The hours are 11.55 a.m. to 1.05 p.m. Duties include supervising pupils in the dining room and on the playground. The rate of pay is £7.05 per hour. Why not think about joining our friendly lunchtime team?

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**School Uniform – Order Form**

I would like to purchase the following item(s):

.....	Size .....	Price .....
.....	Size .....	Price .....
.....	Size .....	Price .....
.....	Size .....	Price .....
.....	Size .....	Price .....

I enclose £..... cash/cheque\* to cover the cost of the purchase.

\* Please delete as appropriate.

Please make cheques payable to *Purwell Primary School*.

Name of child to take the uniform on delivery \_\_\_\_\_

OR

Contact phone number \_\_\_\_\_