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Purwell Primary School

1st July 2014

'A child can ask questions that a wise man cannot answer.'

~Author Unknown

Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies

Next week, the children of Aspen and Oak Classes will be putting their own twist on a traditional English myth, as they present *Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies*.

There will be two opportunities to see the comedy play, Monday 7th July, at 1.20pm and Tuesday 8th July, at 6.00pm. Tickets are on sale at £2 per ticket and 50p for primary aged children. Refreshments will be available at the interval. Even if you do not have children in those classes it will be a very enjoyable experience for all, so do buy your tickets and come along.

Parent Questionnaire

With this newsletter you should receive a questionnaire requesting your views about various aspects of school life. This questionnaire is part of the school's self evaluation process and pupils have also been completing a similar one at school. Your views are important to us and we would very much appreciate the time you take to complete and return it.

Meet the Teacher

Next Thursday 10th is secondary transfer day for our Year 6 pupils. This allows our children the opportunity of spending part of the morning with the teacher that they will be having from September.

You may have seen of the news that some teaching Unions have earmarked that day for a National Strike. There are more details below, but Transition Day for all Year 6 pupils will still go ahead.

Strike Action

Thursday 10th July coincides with planned strike action by some teachers' unions. Due to that day being an important day for us, as it is our meet the new teacher day, I am happy to say that most classes will be able to come in on Thursday 10th as most teachers will not be striking however we do not have enough to cover every class. At the moment we have enough teachers to cover classes Acorn (including Nursery), Holly, Willow, Beech and Maple on that day. However, unfortunately, Aspen class will not be able to come in as we do not have a teacher to cover that class.

Pupils Become Business Minded

Watch out Mrs Barnes! Some of the classes at Purwell are showing that they could well be the school business managers of the future, as they embrace Sir Richard Branson's Fiver Challenge. As part of our citizenship education, pupils have been given £5 to start-up a business and each group of pupils has come up with a different imaginative enterprise for making money for the school. Any money pupils make from their initial £5 can be re-invested to maximise the profits they make.

In a collaborative project with Willow Class, pupils in Maple Class spent their fivers on drinks and snacks to sell to parents during last Friday's sports day. They have also purchased popcorn, which they will be selling for 50p during a movie lunchtime in their classroom tomorrow (Wednesday 2nd July). Many parents commented on how polite the children were when selling their refreshments and, thanks to your generous support, the pupils in Maple Class have already raised over £50.

A big well done as well to Oak Class pupils for their entrepreneurial skills in advertising and selling. They would like to say a big thank you to everyone who

supported them. All the profits they have made will go towards their leavers' prom.

Best Wishes and Warm Welcomes for September

At the end of this term we will be saying a fond farewell to:

- Miss Eames who has taught in our Year 2 class this past year, on a maternity cover for Mrs Lancaster, who will be returning.
- Also, Mrs Coyle, Miss Dollimore and Miss Grimmer will all be leaving at the end of the term. We wish them well in the future and congratulate them on their various promotions.
- Miss Young will be replacing Miss Dollimore in September, and we also look forward to giving a warm welcome to Mr Edwards and Mrs Ison.

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	Mrs Lancaster
Year 6	Miss Ferguson

Summer Fair Fun

A big thank you to all those who helped make Saturday's PSA Summer Fair such a big success. The rain clouds did not dampen people's spirits and, when all was counted up, the event has helped to raise an impressive £695. A special thank you to the PSA committee members for their commitment and hard work in organising the event.

There is a PSA meeting this Thursday, 8pm, at the Millstream. Another date for your diary is the AGM, which is Thursday 18th September, in the Community Room, at 8pm. Hope to see you there!

Purwell Panthers to Gym and Dance Show

After wowing audiences in their debut performances last week, the Purwell Panthers cheerleading squad will be visiting Hitchin Girls School, tomorrow, to see a gym and dance show.

Displays of the Week



Some of Aspen Class display their knitting. The children are working with some of our local senior citizens on a collaborative knitting project.



Acorn, Holly and Willow children get into the act this week, as they enjoyed a lively drama workshop.



Purwell Panthers perform at the Summer Fair



Children go under and over in a rain-free Sports Day.

Term Dates 2014/15

Monday 1st September
 Tuesday 2nd September
 27th - 31st October
 Friday 5th December
 Friday 19th December

Autumn Term 2014

School closed for Inset Day
 Pupils return to school
 Half-term
 Occasional Day's holiday
 Last day of term

Monday 5th January
 Tuesday 6th January
 16th – 20th February
 Friday 13th March
 Thursday 2nd April

Spring Term 2015

School closed for Inset Day
 Pupils return to school
 Half-term
 School closed for Inset Day
 Last day of term

Monday 20th April
 Tuesday 21st April
 Monday 4th May
 25th – 29th May
 Friday 10th July
 Wednesday 22nd July

Summer Term 2015

School closed for Inset Day
 Pupils return to school
 May Bank Holiday
 Half-term
 School closed for Inset Day
 Last day of term

Parent Questionnaire

We are always aiming to do the best for your children so would appreciate you spending a short amount of time to give your views about the school.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
My child likes school					
My child is making good progress					
My child feels safe at school					
Pupils behave well					
Incidents of antisocial behaviour are dealt with appropriately					
Teaching is good					
Parents evenings and reports inform me about how my child is getting on					
I feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions					
I use the school website					
The school celebrates my child's successes					
The school is well led and managed					
Staff treat my child fairly					
The school seeks the views of parents and takes into account their views and concerns					
The school provides appropriate homework and staff explain how I can help my child					
Staff encourage my child to become mature and independent					
There is a good range of after school activities available					
The arrangements for my son/daughter to settle in when he/she began school were good					
The school encourages my child to be healthy					
The school has a good reputation locally					
I enjoy coming to the social and fund-raising events at school					
Comments and suggestions for improvement					