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Newsletter
8th November 2016

*Quote for the day: 'Without resilience, resourcefulness and imagination children can easily become stressed, depressed and reckless'.
~ Prof Guy Claxton, creator of Building Learning Power.*

Purwell pupils impress famous artist

Last week was a busy week for Willow Class pupils, as they prepared a display for a special exhibition being held at a local art gallery. Having focused on Doug Hyde's work for our Take One Artist unit at the start of term, our Year 2 children were excited to hear that Doug would be paying a personal visit to Gallery 1066 in Baldock.



It is rare for an artist to be prepared to give up valuable exhibition space but, having seen the exceptional quality of the pupils' work, Mr Hart and the class were invited to work with the gallery to create an eye-catching display, which really caught the imagination of the special guests who attended the event last Friday night. Doug, himself, was so impressed with the work on display that he wrote a special dedication to them and also presented the school with a specially signed rugby ball.

Non-uniform day and competition for Children in Need - Friday 18th November

Children in Need Day, on 18th November, will be a non-uniform day at school. For a 50p donation, children can come to school wearing their home clothes.

Also on the day, Mrs Ison will be running a 'Guess Pudsey's Second Name' competition. The children will have the chance to win a giant, 24 inch high Pudsey Bear, worth over £30, if they make the correct choice of name. It will cost 50p per go. The name will be revealed at the end of the afternoon on Friday, so the winner can take their prize home. All proceeds to Children in Need.

Councillor Judi Billing inspires pupils

Last week, our junior pupils shared an assembly with Councillor Judi Billing. The local leader spoke to the children about her role and duties, and about local and national affairs, as part of the *Pumas leadership* curriculum we are looking to develop with Key Stage 2 pupils. It was not all one-way traffic, and pupils were eager to contribute to the discussion themselves.

More local leaders have taken up the invitation to visit the school and, next week, our two visitors will be Keith Hoskins MBE, from the Hitchin Initiative and Bob Jackson, Station Commander at Hitchin Fire Station.

Gratitude shown for Shoebox Gift Appeal

Reverend Henton-Pusey has asked me to pass on his enormous gratitude to those families who were kind enough to put together Shoe box gifts for his charity. He thanked the children personally, yesterday, in assembly. In the next few weeks, your boxes will be making their way, by road, to refugees in Europe, where they will make someone's Christmas a little more bearable.

Christmas Newsletter

Our special Christmas newsletter will be published on Tuesday 22nd November and sent home with the usual newsletter. This newsletter will contain details of all our festive events.

Purwell School nominated for sports award

We are delighted and proud to announce that Purwell School has been nominated for a Hertfordshire Service to Sport Award. The awards ceremony will take place at the start of December at the University of Hertfordshire and, regardless of whether Purwell wins an award, it is a great achievement to even be considered alongside some of the county's other premier sporting institutions. This is the latest acknowledgement of Purwell's burgeoning sporting reputation, following on from the recent award of School Games Gold Mark, and is something that as a school community we have worked hard to achieve.



Close matches for both Netball teams

Last Friday, our netball teams played two fixtures against Our Lady School. Both matches were keenly contested, with the first match ending in a 2-2 draw and the second match being won 2-1 by Our Lady, thanks to a late second goal. We were delighted to be able to take 17 players to Our Lady for this fixture. This was a tremendous achievement, and bears testament to the hard work we have put in to increasing participation in school sport over recent years. Well done to everyone who played and to all of the parents who came along to support.

PSA Christmas Fair, Saturday December 10th, 11am - 2pm

Do you run a small business? Could you sell your wares or services at the Purwell Christmas Fair? Stall bookings for the Christmas Fair are now being taken. It's a great opportunity to promote your business and a fantastic start to the Christmas season. Pitches will be £10 each.

Midday Supervisor - recruiting

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 £7.52 per hour. Why not think about joining our friendly lunchtime team?

Important date - school will be closed on Friday 2nd December for an INSET Day

Display of the Week



Willow Class's artwork was displayed alongside pieces by artist Doug Hyde.