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Newsletter
10th November 2015

Thought for the week, "We are all inventors, each sailing out on a voyage of discovery, guided each by a private chart, of which there is no duplicate. The world is all gates, all opportunities." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Pudsey Bear to visit Purwell School - Thursday 12th November

On Thursday, we will be having a Bring Your Bear to School Day, in return for a £1 donation to Children in Need.

On this day, children can bring into school their favourite teddy or cuddly toy. The children and teddies will be in for a treat, as they will meet, later that day, the country's most famous teddy, Pudsey Bear, who will be visiting the children in their classes.



Olympian inspires Purwell

Last Friday, we had an inspiring visit from Paralympic Silver medallist Alistair Patrick-Heselton. After completing a gruelling sponsored workout with Alistair and his colleague, Jules, the children and teachers were treated, by Alistair, to a very personal story of his 'roller-coaster' life, the challenges he had to overcome and achievements he had to work hard for.



At the end of the day, Alistair, who has visited many schools up and down the country, commented on how impressed he was with the positive attitude and behaviour demonstrated by our pupils and mentioned that our *Building Learning Power* approach could hold part of the reason for this.

He wrote in our visitors' book, "To the most fantastic school. Thank you for your hospitality and hosting me at your *Sports for School* event".

Congratulations to all of the pupils who took part in and completed the sponsored 4 minute Sports for Schools Challenge. Money raised will go towards purchasing additional PE equipment for the school and we would appreciate if you could return any sponsorship money together with the sponsorship form to the school office by next Wednesday (18th November) at the latest. Any sponsorship you can offer will be gratefully received; even the smallest contribution will help make a big difference.

After this date, we will count up the money received in school and any pupils who have raised over £5 will receive a wristband for their efforts. There are also additional rewards of wristbands and posters signed by Alistair if any pupils raise over £15 or £30 respectively.



Y4 will all learn to play the tenor horn

We applied to County for First Access music, whose mission is that every child should have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument. We successfully secured the funding last week, and the Y4s will be learning to play the Tenor Horn in school on Monday afternoons. With a fast turnaround to get it all set

up as soon as possible, they were introduced to Mr Lavelle yesterday and began learning basic musical terms. The horns should be with us next week. For insurance purposes, the horns will need to remain in school. It's a fantastic opportunity for the children to extend their music curriculum and we hope they enjoy learning.

PSA news and important dates

The next PSA meeting will be on Tuesday, November 17th, at 8pm, at the Millstream. **The Christmas Fayre** will soon be here, on November 27th, so we will be planning and looking ahead to events in the New Year. The next **PSA coffee morning** will be on Wednesday, December 9th, from 9-11am in the Community Room. Please save the date and join us for tea coffee, mince pies and Christmas cake!

BAGS 2 SCHOOL - please bring your bags back to school between 8am - 9am on Friday, November 20th. This is a great way to raise money for the school by donating any unwanted clothes and shoes. If you have a bag, but are unable to bring it to school, please let a committee member know.

Parent Workshop - Moving on to Year 7

Parents of pupils in Years 5 and 6 might be interested in attending a workshop on children with SEND moving on to Year 7. The free workshop is organised by the North Herts DSPL and will take place on Tuesday 23rd February 2016 9:30 to 11:30am, at Letchworth City Pod, Northfields School, Letchworth SG6 4PT. For more information, contact Debbie Robins on 07527 828477.

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 £7.05 per hour. Why not think about joining our friendly lunchtime team?

Display of the Week



Holly Class pupils have produced a beautiful display of 'stained glass window' autumn leaves. They look lovely against the backdrop of their class garden