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**Newsletter**  
**6<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**Quote for the day:** 'Employ your time in improving yourself by learning from others, you shall come easily by what others have labored hard for.' - **Socrates**

**Harvest assembly**

The harvest assembly will take place on **Thursday 15th October at 9.30am** in the school hall. Everyone is most welcome to attend this service. Donations of produce should be brought into school either on the day before or on the morning of the assembly. These items will be distributed amongst the senior citizens living in our community. The school holds a list of senior citizens in the area. Please let us know of any new senior citizens who have moved into the area, or of any who have not received harvest gifts from us before but would like to do so now. Pupils are invited to decorate a shoebox and bring it to school to be used to distribute our harvest gifts.

**Running achievements for Acorn staff**

Congratulations to Mrs Barhey and Mrs Doggett on their running achievements last week end. Mrs Barhey completed the London half marathon and Mrs Doggett the Standalone 10K. Miss Syme, also of Acorn Class, has been entered for the London Marathon, in the spring. We wish her luck on her training for it.

**Pupils' attendance may result in Mr Cano making good on his promise**

I am delighted to announce that school attendance, at Purwell, is improving year on year and we would like to thank parents for supporting us in our efforts in improving this. Last year, we achieved a school record best of 96.2% for the year.

Three years ago Mr Cano promised pupils that if they could achieve an annual, whole-school average of 97% (a big challenge at the time) the pupils could vote on a trip destination, for the whole school to go on, in the summer. So far they are well on track to achieve this, with the September average being 98%!

**Early Season Football Rally**

On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, the Girls' football team took part in an Early Season Football Rally at Highover School. Despite having little experience of playing matches, the girls quickly got into it and had some really positive results, including their first win! The attitude of all the players was fantastic, with everyone adopting a growth mindset, this helped themn to do their best but also have a really enjoyable experience. Ms Christian and Mr Edwards were incredibly proud of those involved and were grateful for all those who came along to cheer on the team.



### Book fair

The Travelling Book Company 'book fair' is in school from Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, to coincide with Parent Consultation evenings. It will be open from 3.20pm until 4pm on these days for you and your child to come and visit.

### Cake sale thanks

A big thank you to everyone who helped us with our Macmillan cake sale. We raised £150. Cakes were sold during, and after, school as we had had so many donations. As a school, we feel it is such a worthwhile charity to support, as there are not many of us that have not had a family member or close friend suffer from cancer.

### Purwell Pumas

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September, a new club began, called the Pumas, which focuses on developing life skills, teamwork and learning beyond the curriculum. In their first session, the Pumas worked in small groups and tried to build the highest paper tower possible. Mr Edwards was particularly impressed by the way the juniors and infants worked well together. This half term, the Pumas will be working on independent projects to do with the Environment and Nature.

### Any unwanted KNEX?

Miss Young is collecting unwanted KNEX equipment for use in Key Stage 1. If you have any unwanted KNEX at home, please consider donating it to the school. Many thanks.

### Free Family Junk Percussion Workshop - Saturday 17th October 1:00-3:00pm

Musicnet and Hertfordshire Music Service are hosting a family music day, free of charge. Go and have some musical fun with junk percussion, led by Mark Howe. He visited us last year in school and the children had inordinate amounts of fun. For all ages 5 - 70! No musical experience required. Places are limited, so please book on : 01462 434052 or e-mail: [hitchinmusicenquiries@Hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:hitchinmusicenquiries@Hertfordshire.gov.uk) North Herts Music School, Highbury Road, Hitchin SG4 9RU.

### Display of the Week



*Maple Class pupils' impressive pastel robots. Inspired by the book 'The Iron Man', by Ted Hughes.*