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Newsletter
20th September 2016

Thought for the day: 'The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn. ~ John Lubbock

Take One Artist

We have had a great two weeks, producing work around chosen artists. Some of the children's work will be on display in the hall and in the classrooms, so why not drop in and take a look?

Contact details and curriculum information

Last week, you should have received a copy of the contact details form we hold for your child. If you have not done so already, please check this form, amend as appropriate, sign and return to school as soon as possible.

Harvest assembly - Thursday 6th October

The harvest assembly will take place on **Thursday 6th October at 2pm** 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 on the Friday. 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.

Mini beasts visit Purwell

Last week, pupils had the opportunity to get up close and personal with an array of wild and exotic creatures, when we were visited by Zoolab. The pupils had the chance to see living creatures such as snakes, tarantulas, beetles and cockroaches.



Book Fair

The Travelling Book Company 'book fair' is in school on Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th 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.

Lunch change on Thursday 6th October

On Thursday 6th October, a special Gourmet Burger Day lunch will be served, either a meat or vegetarian option, so please bear this in mind when looking at the menu with your child. There will not be a packed lunch option that day.

Delay on Autumn Clubs Letter

We apologise for the delay in the clubs letter being released this term. Our new Sports Coach, Lewis Tavernier, who will be running sports clubs, is awaiting news about the part time Sports degree he will be taking on, alongside working at Purwell, which will require him to attend University for one day a week. Until we know which day each week he will be absent, the timetable for clubs cannot be finalised. Thank you for your patience.

Olympic Legacy Event

This week, we will take a group of 26 Year 5 and 6 pupils to an Olympic Legacy event at Knights Templar School in Baldock. After taking part in a torch-relay, as part of the Opening Ceremony, pupils from schools across North Herts will compete in a variety of events, such as wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, netball, table-tennis, boccia and handball.

Some pupils will take on the roles of journalists, reporting on events, whilst others will work as creative teams, promoting the events, and another group of pupils will choreograph and perform a dance routine for the closing ceremony! Medals will be awarded in recognition of outstanding performance, core values, such as determination, honesty, self-belief, passion, respect and teamwork.

Early Season Football Rally

On Saturday 17th September our Boys' football team took part in an Early Season Rally at Wilshere-Dacre Junior Academy. Schools played in a series of friendly matches in preparation for the season ahead, with the Purwell team being paired against Whitehill, Breachwood Green, St. Ippolyts and Wilshere-Dacre. After narrow defeats in their first three matches, it was a case of goals galore in the team's final match, a thrilling 3-3 draw with Breachwood Green. Thank you to everybody who turned up to cheer on the team at this event. The Girls' football rally will be held on Saturday 1st October (also at Wilshere-Dacre) and we know they are just as excited as the boys to be getting their season going.



PSA news and events

- Saturday 15th October - Family Bingo Night. Watch out for the Bingo Night flyer and ticket return slips in book bags soon.
- Saturday 10th December - Christmas Fair
As always, this event will be fun for all the family. Stall booking will be opened up to external stall holders on 10th October so, if you would be interested in having a stall at the Fair, this year, keep an eye out for details in bookbags soon and get your booking in early!
- Don't forget the PSA AGM on Thursday 6th October at 8pm in the Community Room.

Naming uniform

We are delighted at the standard of school uniform at the start of this year and would like to thank parents for your efforts. However, the lost property box is starting to fill

with items that are not named and are unclaimed. Please remember to write children's names in all items that have the potential to be lost.

Flu immunisation consent form returned – Years 1, 2 and 3

The School Nurse will be coming in to school on Thursday to collect the flu immunisation consent forms. If parents of children in Years 1, 2 or 3 want their child to be immunised, you will need to ensure that the form is here by the end of school on Wednesday.

Staff change

Next week, we'll be saying goodbye to one of our teaching assistants. After successfully completing a teaching qualification, Mrs Oustayiannis has now been appointed as a Reception teacher at Samuel Lucas School. We are pleased to announce that Miss Smith, who has been a volunteer in Holly Class for some time, has accepted a role as a teaching assistant, and will work, from next week, in Acorn Class, as she will have completed her teaching assistant qualification.

Displays of the Week



A display of pupils' work, from all classes, created during our Take One Artist week.

Community Network Workshops

If you are currently unemployed or are looking to find new direction and focus in your life, then we have the perfect free course for you. Create Community Network, funded by Hertfordshire Adult Family Learning Services, is launching, in September 'Ready for Work' and 'Ready for Life' courses. Each course is five sessions and includes a free lunch and courses will continue throughout 2016. These are small courses, so numbers are limited, so please do book to reserve your place. The facilitators provide a fun, creative and safe environment for learning, connecting and planning ahead, ensuring that each individual makes positive progress. You will find further details in your child's book bag. The courses are run at The LaunchPad hub at Bizspace in Letchworth. For more information, visit www.createnetwork.community or contact admin@createnetwork.community or call 01462 435052. If transport or childcare is a barrier to attending, please do get in touch as we may be able to support with this.

Free Parent Workshop - Raising Self Esteem

A free workshop is being offered to parents called *Raising Self Esteem and Developing a Confident Child*. It will take place on Tuesday, 1st November 2016, from 9:30am to 11:30am, at Letchworth Garden City Partnership Pod. Places are limited and must be booked by emailing: parentdspl@wilshere.herts.sch.uk. For more information visit www.nhdspl.org.uk