

Purwell Primary School

8th September 2015

Thought for the day: "I have always been delighted at the prospect of a new day, a fresh try, one more start, with perhaps a bit of magic waiting somewhere behind the morning." - Joseph Priestly

☺ **Welcome back to a new school year** ☺

We hope you all had a lovely break, during a chillier than expected summer, and are ready to go this term. May I, first of all, thank you for such a beautifully turned out group of children, pristine in their uniform. They really look the part and, I am pleased to say, they all settled very well into their new classes. Some parents, of the many new pupils to Purwell School, have commented on how welcoming the other children have been to them, which is lovely to hear.

Contact details and curriculum information

Next week, you will receive an envelope with details of the Autumn term curriculum. You should also receive a copy of the contact details form we hold for your child. Please check this form, amend as appropriate, sign and return to school as soon as possible.

Take One Map

As a change to the usual whole school picture topic, which we traditionally begin the year with, for the first two weeks of the term, all classes will be taking part in **Take One Map**. Classes have been studying various maps linked to books.

Acorn - *Winnie the Pooh*; Holly - *Local Maps*; Willow - *The Hodgeheg*; Beech - *Miranda the Explorer*; Maple - *The Iron Man*; Aspen - *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*; and Oak - *Harry Potter and the Marauder's Map*.

Morning Reading and Maths for Acorn, Holly and Willow Classes

Parents are, again, invited to come in and share learning with their children, each Wednesday from 8.50 to 9.15am. These sessions will begin tomorrow.

After-school clubs

All clubs will start next week. With this newsletter, you should have received a letter regarding clubs provision for this term. Please read and respond promptly to the letter, to avoid disappointment. You will need to speak with your children with regards to which clubs they are interested to committing to for the term, before returning the reply slip by this Thursday, at the very latest.

PSA news

All are welcome to come along to the first meeting of the year for the Parents' Association. Remember, if you are a parent, then you are automatically a member. Why not come along to the PSA AGM this Thursday, at 8pm, in the Community Room?

Help us to continue to improve attendance

For the fourth year running, school attendance has improved. We would like to thank parents for helping us with our ongoing drive to improve school attendance, which remains slightly better than national averages.

Please remember that parents who choose to take their children out of school in term time for holidays or extended family visits will have the time recorded as unauthorised. Furthermore, should the overall attendance of the child, including sickness, be less than satisfactory i.e. 95%, then it will be brought to the attention of the School's Attendance Improvement Officer and may lead to a penalty fine. Worst cases may escalate to court action. I am sure you will support us in our attempts to continue to improve our pupils' attendance figures.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

As many of you will be aware, on 25th September, there is the World's biggest coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. We all know someone who has been affected in some way by cancer. So we, at Purwell School, would like to do our bit. We would ask that everyone brings in to school that morning some cakes or biscuits - either homemade or shop bought. These cakes will be sold to the children at play time, which will be slightly extended to allow everyone to enjoy a cake!

Please send your children in with 50p to enable them to enjoy a cupcake, a slice of cake or some biscuits that morning. Many thanks for your support in this.

Parent Teacher Consultations: Date Change

Parent Teacher Consultations will now take place on Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd October. Booking sheets for appointments will be available in the entrance lobby from 3.00pm on Friday 9th October.

Water bottles

We have a stock of water bottles with the school logo on. These bottles, which have sports caps, are available from the school office, at a cost of £1.00 each.

School meals

School meals now cost £2.30 per day, £11.50 per week. Cheques should be made payable to *Hertfordshire Catering Ltd.*

Don't miss out on the latest. Get e-connected

Copies of the newsletter can be sent by email. If you would like to be added to the list, please send an email to admin@purwell.herts.sch.uk. By doing so, you will be automatically added to our 'snow closure' list. Also, you can keep up to date with what's going on via the Blog on the school website. Why not add the school website to your favourites? www.purwell.herts.sch.uk

Cookie Club

The Cookie Club is looking for a new member of staff. They are required for one and a half hours each morning, before school, and three hours after school. Duties include supervising children's activities, escorting children to and from school, setting up equipment and preparing snacks. For more information, please contact Sheila on 07719 519578 or email: cookieclub@hotmail.co.uk.

Dates for Autumn Term 2015

Monday 5th October	Braiswick in for individual photos
Wednesday 21st October	Parent Consultations
Thursday 22nd October	Parent Consultations
Friday 23rd October	INSET Day - School Closed

26th-30th October - Half term

Sunday 8th to Friday 13th November	Years 5 and 6 - Kingswood
Thursday 10th December	EYFS/Key Stage 1 production rehearsal
Friday 11th December	Key Stage 2 production rehearsal
Monday 14 th December	1:30pm EYFS/Key Stage 1 production Christmas (family) 6:30pm EYFS/Key Stage 1 production
Tuesday 15th December	1:30pm Key Stage 2 production Christmas (family) 6:30pm Key Stage 2 production
Wednesday 16th December	Visiting Theatre: 'Little Red Riding Hood'
Friday 19th December	1:20pm Christmas assembly and certificates

Term ends at 2:00pm