

☺ Welcome back to a new school year ☺

We hope you all had a lovely break, during a hotter 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, curriculum information and home/school agreement

This 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. Also included, will be an updated copy of the home/school expectations document, which is to be read and kept for reference.

The Greatest Learning Powers

This term, Monday assemblies will make reference to something called The Greatest Learning Powers. This title has been inspired by the recent, Hollywood blockbuster, *The Greatest Showman*. Teaching children how they learn best and breaking learning down into various areas, helps them to develop skills in independent learning. We have begun by looking at the learning power of resourcefulness.



Take One Hero

As a change to the usual whole school picture topic, which we traditionally begin the year with, all classes have been taking part in **Take One Hero**. Classes have been looking at what it means to be a hero and what different types of hero we know.

New faces for 2018-19

At the start of this new academic year, we welcome our new members of staff to Purwell. We have two new teachers, Mrs Powers in Beech Class and Miss Southwell with Maple Class. I would like to warmly welcome them both to the team.

A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I
J
K
L
M
N
O
P
Q
R
S
T
U
V
W
X
Y
Z

PSA AGM

PSA AGM Thursday 13th September, 8pm, Purwell Community Room

You are all invited to attend the PSA AGM this Thursday at 8pm in the Community Room. At this meeting, there will be a recap of the last year and consideration of how to spend the money raised, as well as electing a new committee for 2018/19. There are a number of different committee roles for a variety of different skill sets and differing amounts of involvement; from behind the scenes bookkeeping and planning events to front of house running of events. As is the case with all charities, all committee positions will be re-elected. These are: Chair, vice-chair, treasurer, vice-treasurer, secretary, marketing officer and licensing officer. We are particularly looking for a new chair, vice-chair and treasurer as their incumbents are stepping down from their roles. If you would like to know any more about these roles, please speak to Mrs Drury or ask in the school office and a message can be passed on.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for supporting the PSA last year. In the current funding crisis, it is more important than ever that the PSA can be successful at raising funds for the school to spend on things the school is no longer able to fund.

Register for Universal Infant Free School Meals

ALL families with children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 need to register for Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals as soon as possible after the start of the new term. It is a quick and easy process. If you are in receipt of any benefits, your child may also be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM), which is based on family income, and should not be confused with UIFSM. Eligibility for FSM opens up to you a further range of benefits, including free school milk and FSM for any older children you may have. In addition, the school attracts a sum of money, called Pupil Premium Grant, for each child eligible for FSM. This funding is used to offer extra tuition, activities and enrichment opportunities for children in receipt of FSM.

Please register your child for UIFSM at your earliest convenience, but definitely by Friday 21st September, so as to ensure that you do not miss out on any benefits, and the school can fund further opportunities for relevant pupils.

Free School Meals (FSM)

If you are on any benefits, your children may be eligible for FSM. Registering for UIFSM will identify pupils in Reception and Years 1 and 2. However, you will need to apply separately for pupils in Years 3 - 6. You should complete the appropriate form on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals to apply.

Entering the school grounds safely

On entering and leaving the school premises, we ask that parents use either of the pedestrian gates, at both ends of the school. Parents and pupils should not use the main gate into the car park, as it is a vehicle only access point and is dangerous to all pedestrians.

School meals

School meals now cost £2.50 per day, £12.50 per week. Cheques should be made payable to *Hertfordshire Catering Ltd*, or payment can be made on School Gateway.

Local trips

In addition to saving paper with our move to electronic newsletters, we also intend to cut back on the paper we use for sending letters home.

Next week, we will send a generic letter seeking permission, for the year, for all local trips out of school the classes may make. These will be for trips locally and where the trip takes place within the school day i.e. between 8:50am and 3:15pm. You will, of course, be notified, in advance, of when each visit is to be made. This money-saving idea was trialled last year and worked very well.

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

You can keep up to date with what's going on, via Twitter. As it is a closed group, you will need to contact the school, with your Twitter user name, in order to be accepted.

Electronic payments

A reminder that the most secure way of paying for school meals etc is via the School Gateway, although cheques and cash can be paid in at the school office. If you do not know how to access the School Gateway, please ask in the school office. The school cannot take responsibility for cash which goes missing if it has not been delivered directly to the school office by an adult.

Dates for Autumn Term 2018 - please transfer dates to diaries and calendars at home.

Dates for Autumn term 2018

Wednesday 19 th Sept	Sports Legacy Event for Year 6
Monday 24 th Sept	Photographs for individuals and siblings
Wednesday 10 th Oct	Hitchin School Cuts Meeting, 7:15pm for 7.45pm start.
Wednesday 24 th Oct	School Nurses in for heights and weights, Year 6. Parent Consultations Evening
Thursday 25 th Oct	Parent Consultations Evening
29th Oct-2nd Nov	Half term
Tuesday 20 th Nov	Flu Vaccinations - Reception to Year 5
Friday 7 th Dec	School closed for Occasional Day
Wednesday 19 th Dec	EYFS/KS1 afternoon production Christmas (family) EYFS/KS1 evening production
Thursday 20 th Dec	KS2 afternoon production Christmas (family) KS2 evening production
Friday 21 st Dec	1:20pm Christmas assembly and certificates Term ends at 2pm

Other important dates

Monday 7 th January	Inset Day
Tuesday 8 th January	Pupils return for start of Spring Term
Monday 18 th - Friday 22 nd February	Spring Half term
Wednesday 27 th March	Parent Consultations Evening
Thursday 28 th March	Parent Consultations Evening
Monday 8 th - Monday 22 nd April	Easter holidays
Tuesday 23 rd April	Inset Day
Wednesday 24 th April	Pupils return to school for Summer Term
Monday 27 th - Friday 31 st May	Half Term
Friday 28 th June	Sports Day
Friday 12 th July	Inset Day
Wednesday 24 th July	End of the Summer Term

PASS (Primary After-School Spanish) @ Purwell
starts w/c 17 September

KS2 pupils > Mondays 3.15-4.15 pm
KS1 pupils > Wednesdays 3.15-4.00 pm

AUTUMN TERM – KS2 £82.50 / KS1 £71.50
w/c 17 September to w/c 3 December

- minimum of 6 and maximum of 10 children
- materials required:
 - ✓ course book *Vamos al Circo*
 - ✓ exercise book (A4 or A5)

CONTACT My Language Hub for more information on how to enrol, or a monthly break-down of the club's fees

E: admin@mylanguagehub.com T: 01462 612922
www.mylanguagehub.com

If you no longer wish to receive these newsletters, please email admin@purwell.herts.sch.uk to
unsubscribe