

Purwell Primary School

25<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Quote for the day: "No problem can withstand the assault of sustained thinking."

— Voltaire

**Accessing funding for your child**

As you will be aware, school's up and down the country are currently experiencing a funding crisis. You can help your child's school claim extra funding that will directly benefit your child and the other children in their class.

If you are on any benefits, your children may be eligible for Free School Meals. If so, please contact the school and we will help you register, via [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals) to apply. The online form can be completed, in confidence, with the help of our Pupil and Family Support Worker, Lisa Yates. It will take about 10 minutes. Please get in touch as soon as possible to make an appointment.

**A call to spades! Workers needed.**

Our caretaker, Mr McCalman and one of our parents, Mark Nash, have put their heads together and come up with a plan for rejuvenating a neglected part of the school's outdoor space. Their ambitious plan is to turn the area behind the hall into a functional garden and educational area by Spring, but they need the help of some willing and able volunteers. Work will include digging, clearing and planting.

The first step is digging up and replanting some young trees that were seeded last year. If you are interested in volunteering some Sundays between now and Spring then please pass your details to the school office, either in person, or by email. Don't forget children are welcome to come along with you, we have some child-sized tools in school. They can lend a hand too.

**Harvest assembly - Thursday 11th October**

The harvest assembly will take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October, at 2:15pm, in the school hall. Everyone is most welcome to attend this service. Donations of produce should be brought into school either 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.

**Parent Teacher Consultations**

These will take place on:

**Wednesday 24th October until 7.00pm**

**Thursday 25th October until 6.00pm**

Booking forms for these consultations will be in the entrance lobby for all pupils, from Nursery to Year 6, at 3pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October.

**Book Fair**

The Travelling Book Company 'book fair' is in school on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th October, to coincide with Parent Teacher Consultation evenings. It will be open from 3.20pm until 5pm on these days, for you and your child to come and visit. Please support us, as the commission goes towards new books for school.

**PE kit**

As the weather is now turning a bit chillier, it is important that pupils have the proper outdoor PE kit, in addition to their indoor kit, for outdoor lessons. This is a navy, Purwell PE sweatshirt and jogging bottoms.



### **Junior Football at lunches**

Over the autumn term, we allow Years 3 to 6 to continue to play football on the field at lunchtimes. Each class gets a day allocated to them, on a rota. Year 6 on Monday, Year 5 on Tuesday, Year 4 on Wednesday and Year 3 on Thursday. There is no football on Friday. The children will need a change of home clothes/tracksuit and trainers/boots, as they will not be allowed to wear school PE kit or school uniform. We are mindful not to add unnecessary burdens to parents, by having muddy clothes coming home daily.

### **Music tuition**

The school accommodates private music lessons, during the school day. Lessons are conducted by visiting teachers employed by the Herts Music Service. Instruments currently taught are piano, guitar and brass. Lessons cost £150.95 per term for an individual 20-minute lesson, once a week. Remission of a percentage of fees can be applied for if your child is on Free School Meals. If you would like your child to pursue music tuition, please ask at the school office, to see if there are any available places and for further details.

### **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.

Today, you will receive 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.

**Display of the Week**



*Willow Class pupils have made a lovely display, with a thoughtful message, 'We are each unique and beautiful, but together we are a masterpiece'.*



**HITCHIN FORUM**  
Caring for our Town

AND



PRESENT

**HITCHIN'S  
BIG GREEN  
LITTER PICK**

WITH **LITTLE TREASURES  
TO BE FOUND**

**21ST OCTOBER 2018  
10AM - 12NOON  
ALL OVER HITCHIN**

TO JOIN IN EMAIL:  
[litter@hitchinforum.org.uk](mailto:litter@hitchinforum.org.uk)  
BY 14TH OCTOBER

MADE POSSIBLE WITH KIND SUPPORT FROM HITCHIN INITIATIVE &  
NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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