

Purwell Primary School  
29<sup>th</sup> January 2019

*'The best teachers are those who show you where to look but don't tell you what to see.'*  
*Alexandra K. Trenfor*

**School closures - Winter 2018/19**

As part of the school's planning for emergencies, parents are reminded that incidents that necessitate school closure include such things as extreme weather and loss of essential electrical, water or heating services. Details of school closures will be texted to parents via Schoolcomms. They will also be displayed on the front page of the school website and on Twitter.

On days when the weather conditions are poor, but the school is open, parents are advised to walk to school. Those who choose to drive are advised to park on Purwell Lane or Kingswood Avenue and walk the remainder of the journey.

**Dressing for Winter**

With the cold weather upon us, please make sure your child brings a warm coat to school every day, along with a hat, scarf and gloves. Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly named. In the event of snowfall, appropriate boots should be worn. Please also ensure that your child brings their tracksuit for PE lessons, as we encourage these to be worn for PE during the winter months.

**Key Stage 2 Grassed Areas**

The grassed areas outside the Key Stage 2 classrooms have been cordoned off to give the grass a chance to grow and to avoid too much mud being brought into the building. Please encourage your child to use the steps and paths.

**Keeping children safe on the internet - Educational Workshop for parents**

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January, parents are invited to come into school to take part in a workshop designed to educate parents on the risks to children posed by social media and the internet, more generally. A group called PHASE will be delivering this event, which is timed for an evening, as it is anticipated more parents will be available to attend an evening session. PHASE will be delivering another workshop tailored to Year 6 pupils. At this one, pupils will be informed about the very latest risks posed to them by social media and the internet, more widely.

The dates are as follows;

Year 6 workshop - Tuesday 29th January, 1:00-3:00pm

Parents' workshop - Wednesday 30th January, 7:30-8:30pm

Until then, you can find a range of useful E-Safety information on the school's website, under Parents' Information ( <http://purwell.herts.sch.uk/parents-information/esafety/> ).

**Year 5 Maths Competition**

On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January, Miss Twitchett will be taking a team of talented mathematicians from Year 5 to participate in a County Maths Challenge that is being held at Hartsfield School, Baldock. This promises to be a wonderful experience and we have no doubt that our team will rise to the challenges set for them.

**Clubs**

With clubs having commenced, just a reminder that pupils are expected to attend each club session, or their place may be allocated to a child on the waiting list for that club.

**Building Works**

Work to improve the school's roof continues. The work is progressing well and we remain optimistic that this will be completed by the end of February, as scheduled.

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## **PSA News**

An enormous thank you for all your help and support through the Autumn term. The Halloween Party, Bingo Night and Christmas Fayre have already raised almost £1600 of much needed funds for the school, which is a great start.

Dates for your diary:

Spring Disco - Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>

Tickets for the Spring Disco will soon be on sale at £3.50 each. In a return to the usual format, the Early Years and Key Stage 1 Disco will be from 3.15 - 5.00pm and Key Stage 2 from 5.30 -7.00pm. EYFS and Key Stage 1 children need to be accompanied by an adult.

Pamper Night

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March, the PSA will be hosting a fantastic evening of Pizza, Prosecco and Pampering! (Non-alcoholic drinks are also available). Mini treatments including manicures, massages and many more will be available. Keep the date free and watch out for more details soon!

## **Sports Update**

Today (Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January) we will be taking a team of 20 pupils from Years 5 and 6 to a Sports Hall Athletics Competition at The Highfield School. Pupils will earn points by taking part in a range of running, jumping and throwing events leading to the highest scoring schools progressing to the next round of the competition. This competition is always hotly contested and we look forward to seeing how our team performs against schools from across our local sports partnership.

On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January, our Girls' football team will replay its Wix Cup Quarter Final, at Purwell, having drawn 2-2 in the original fixture at Ickleford last term. Our A Team footballers are in league action away at Weston on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January and then again, this time at home, against St. Andrews on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February.

Netball matches will commence in February, after the mid-season break. Miss Saville has organised several fixtures and our netballers are very keen to get playing again!

There are several other competitions coming up this term, including cup-stacking, gymnastics and football. Netball rallies are held during the Summer Term. Watch this space for updates!

## **Curriculum information booklets**

Each family should have received a booklet with details of the curriculum for the Spring Term. These are available for parents to access on our website ( <http://purwell.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/> ).

## **Parent Teacher Consultations**

These will take place on:

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March (early) and Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March (late)

Booking forms will be in the entrance lobby from 3.00pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March for all pupils, from Nursery to Year 6. In the past, only parents of Nursery pupils in their first term of Nursery were invited to parent teacher consultations. This has been extended to include all Nursery pupils.

### **Middy Supervisor – Recruiting**

The school needs to recruit midday supervisors to work anything from one to five days per week. The hours are 11.55 a.m. to 1.05 p.m. Duties include supervising pupils in the dining room and on the playground. The rate of pay is £8.49 per hour. Why not think about joining our friendly lunchtime team?

## Dates for Spring Term 2019

Please put them into your diaries

Tuesday 29th Jan	PHASE Workshop for Year 6, E-Safety (1-3pm) Sports Hall Indoor Athletics
Wednesday 30th Jan	PHASE Workshop for parents (7:30-8:30pm)
Thursday 14th Feb	Speed Stacking Competition (Year 4)

Half term - 18th to 22nd February

Wednesday 27th Feb	Year 3 begin swimming
Tuesday 5th March	Gymnastics Competition NHC Theatre Group (pm)
Wednesday 13th March	Mathlon at Fearnhill School, Year 5 Football Rally, at Whitehill, Year 4
Friday 15th March	School closed for INSET Day
Tuesday 26th March	Quick-sticks Hockey at Hitchin Boys' School
Wednesday 27th March	Parent Consultations (early)
Thursday 28th March	Parent Consultations (late)
Wednesday 3rd April	Football Rally, at Highover, Year 4
Friday 5th April	Easter Certificate Assembly (1:20pm) End of term (2.00pm)

## Dates for Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April	School closed for INSET Day
Wednesday 24th April	Children return to school
Thursday 25th April	Swimming begins for Y4
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 visit to a Saxon village
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	A Team Netball Rally
Wednesday 1st May	Class and Team photographs B Team Netball Rally
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday
13th to 17th May	Key Stage 2 SATs week

Half term - 27th to 31st May

Thursday 6th June	Year 5 swimming begins
Wednesday 26th June	PHASE in for second visit to Y6, E-Safety
Friday 28th June	Sports Day (Acorn and Key Stage 1 - morning, Key Stage 2 - pm)
Tuesday 9th July	Hitchin Schools' Athletics
Wednesday 10th July	Open Day and Evening
Thursday 11th July	Meet the teacher am (pupils visit September class)
Thursday 11th July	Annual Reports go home
Friday 12th July	School closed for INSET day
Wednesday 24th July	Certificate Assembly (1:20pm) End of term (2.00pm)

**Term Dates 2019/20**

Please note that these are Hertfordshire term dates. The school's five Inset Days and one Occasional Day have not yet been added.

**Start of term:** 2 September 2019

**Half term holiday:** 28 October 2019 - 1 November 2019

**Christmas holiday:** 23 December 2019 - 3 January 2020

**Half term holiday:** 17 February 2020 - 21 February 2020

**Easter holiday:** 6 April 2020 - 17 April 2020

**Half term holiday:** 25 May 2020 - 29 May 2020

**Summer holiday:** 22 July 2020 - 2 September 2020

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