

'There are no seven wonders of the world in the eyes of a child. There are seven million.' - Walt Streightiff

Coronavirus

Schools in Herts have been asked to share this communication from Professor Jim McManus (HCC, Director of Public Health).

As you will be aware, there has been a lot of information in the news about returning trips to Italy over half term in light of the recent measures put in place by the Italian Authorities on Coronavirus. We would like to assure you that there is no cause for concern, none of the school trips run by Hertfordshire schools were within the ten towns which the Italian Authorities have put on quarantine measures and Hertfordshire residents remain at low risk.

If you have returned from the quarantined towns and develop flu like symptoms, please stay at home, avoid contact with other people and call NHS111.

Taking basic hygiene precautions remains the best way to reduce the chances of spreading any virus: sneeze or cough into a tissue, bin it, wash your hands frequently and don't touch your face unless you've just washed your hands. Using a normal detergent to clean the surfaces people touch regularly like door handles and lift buttons is also sensible.

Please visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus for the most up to date advice.

If the school should be forced to close

As part of school's contingency planning, should we be required to close for a period of time, the staff are keen to limit the impact this would have on the children's learning. Additional reading books will be sent home and we will be setting up teachers with special email addresses so that they can set their pupils activities to do at home and receive work back to mark. Please make a note of the following email addresses for your child's class teacher. Once they are activated, we will invite parents to email them, older pupils may have their own email address, in order that the teachers can send and receive any homework or project work that is set for their class.

mrsprue@purwell.herts.sch.uk, mrsbarhey@purwell.herts.sch.uk,
mrskeohane@purwell.herts.sch.uk, mrhart@purwell.herts.sch.uk,
mrspowers@purwell.herts.sch.uk, misscooper@purwell.herts.sch.uk, mrsllancaster@purwell.herts.sch.uk

World Book Day

Thursday 5th March is World Book Day. At Purwell we strive to promote reading for enjoyment all year round and, this year, each class will host its own Reading Café as part of World Book Day. Pupils will have opportunities to visit other classes, share special books and take part in fun reading activities. Pupils should wear normal school uniform but are encouraged to bring in a favourite book that they would like to share in our Reading Cafés. We cannot wait to share the books we love!

Nursery applications

Nursery applications finish on Friday 13th March. If you have a child approaching nursery age, please ensure you register them online, via the school website. Click on Our School > Admissions > and follow the link under Nursery admission arrangements for 2020/21.

Parent Teacher Consultations

These will take place on:

Wednesday 25th March (early) and Thursday 26th March (late).

Booking forms will be in the entrance lobby from 3.00pm on Friday 13th March for all pupils, from Nursery to Year 6.

A Call to Spades!

We are seeking volunteer gardeners for Sunday 15th March, from 12pm. Mr Nash and Mr McCalman hope to have the garden project finished if we can get enough hands helping - Groundforce style! Children are encouraged to come too. Bring warm clothes and wellies and, if you can but not essential, spades and snacks to share. Hot drinks, a warm space and toilets will be provided. Digging and painting is the general plan. It should be a lot of fun. We hope to see you there.

Living Eggs

This month, pupils will be able to experience the awe and wonder of seeing how chicken eggs grow. From incubation last week, 6 chicken eggs are being grown and studied by pupils. With the use of a special light pupils can see how the chicks are developing in the egg. The chicks are due to hatch at the end of next week.

If any of our parents keep chickens and you are able to offer a good home to the chicks, then please let us know. Any remaining chicks will be returned to the chicken farm where the eggs came from.



Nest Cam

In the school canteen area, we have a TV screen on which we are able to show children live pictures from our nest cam. In previous years, we have been fortunate in witnessing a pair of blue tits creating their nest, laying eggs and nurturing the chicks to the point at which they fledge. It's a wonderful opportunity to see nature in action. Over the next few weeks, we will be posting photos on Twitter on their progress.



PSA News

Confirmed dates for your diary:

- PSA meeting on Tuesday 10th March at 8.00pm at the PSA Chair's house.
- Friday 27th March - Spring Disco (for all the family) - 5.00 - 7.00pm.
- Fun run - Sunday 3rd May - for children and adults.
- Purwell Rocks - Saturday 4th July. If anyone knows of any bands which may be able to perform, please let the PSA Committee know.

Pupil Voice

Each Tuesday afternoon, pupils from Years 1 to 6 take part in Pupil Voice sessions which, for the next 3 weeks, will focus on positive relationships. As part of this, our Pupil Voice groups will also discuss bullying, in order to ensure that all pupils are aware, as stated in our School Policy, that *'bullying is when a person or a group behaves in ways—on purpose, often and over period of time—that make someone feel hurt, afraid or embarrassed.'*

Sports update

Our netballers continue to go from strength to strength, continuing their 100% winning record, with an emphatic victory over William Ransom. Last week's fixture with St. Andrews was postponed, due to the weather, but the team is looking forward to this week's match against Whitehill.

Our Girls' football team took part in a tournament at Whitehill last Wednesday and performed with great credit, passing the ball around really well and growing in confidence as the tournament progressed. Thank you also to all the parents who came along to support our team - the players really appreciate you cheering them on so positively.

Our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 gymnasts have been in action today (3rd March) and have shown tremendous dedication to learn their routine for today's competition. The Key Stage 1 team came 4th and Key Stage 2 team 3rd out of 10 schools.

Key Stage 2 Grassed Areas

The grassed areas outside the Key Stage 2 classrooms remain 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.

Dates for 2019/2020

Spring Term 2020

Wednesday 25 th March	Parent Consultations (Early)
Thursday 26 th March	Parent Consultations (Late)
Friday 3 rd April	Easter Certificate Assembly (1:20pm)
	End of term (2.00pm)

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20 th April	School closed for Inset Day
Tuesday 21 st April	Pupils return to school
Thursday 23 rd April	Swimming begins for Y4
Wednesday 29 th April	Class and team photographs
Friday 8 th May	May Bank Holiday
11 th to 15 th May	KS2 SATs week
25 th - 29 th May	Half-term
Monday 1 st June	School closed for Inset Day
Thursday 4 th June	Swimming begins for Year 5
Friday 26 th June	Sports Day (Acorn and KS1 - morning, KS2 - pm)
Wednesday 8 th July	Open Day and Evening
Thursday 9 th July	Meet the teacher morning (pupils visit September class)
Friday 10 th July	Annual Reports go home
Friday 17 th July	Certificate Assembly (1.20pm)
	End of term (2.00pm)
Monday 20 th July	School closed for Inset Day
Tuesday 21 st July	School closed for Occasional Day's holiday

Term Dates 2020/21

Autumn Term 2020

Wednesday 2 nd September	School closed for INSET day
Thursday 3 rd September	Children return to school
26 th October - 30 th October	Half-term
Friday 4 th December	School closed for Occasional Day's holiday
Friday 18 th December	Last day of term

Spring Term 2021

Monday 4 th January	School closed for INSET day
Tuesday 5 th January	Children return to school
15 th - 19 th February	Half-term
Friday 26 th March	Last day of term

Summer Term 2021

Monday 12 th April	School closed for INSET day
Tuesday 13 th April	Children return to school
Monday 3 rd May	Bank holiday
31 st May - 4 th June	Half-term
Monday 7 th June	School closed for INSET day
Friday 2 nd July	School closed for INSET day
Thursday 22 nd July	Last day of term

COMMUNITY WARDROBE

Looking for clothes, shoes, or school uniform?

Browse good quality pre-loved clothing from ages 0 to teen Includes shoes and uniform (hitchin schools and villages only)

To attend the community wardrobe talk to your school, Hitchin Partnership, Family Centre, Settle: Temporary Accommodation Officer or health visitor.

At North Herts Family Centre, Oughton (01462 436927)



We're a community collective that rescues good quality pre-loved and new clothes, shoes and furniture for people referred to us for support through tough times.



**HITCHIN
VOLUNTEER
ARMY**

Are you expecting?

Looking for good quality maternity wear?

Ask your health visitor or midwife for a referral to the **Community Wardrobe**

At North Herts Family Centre, Oughton (01462 436927),



We're a community collective that rescues good quality pre-loved and new clothes, shoes and furniture for people referred to us for support through tough times.

