

Thought for the week: "Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.", Mark Twain

New Buddy Bench Installed

Earlier in the year, the team of Wellbeing Ambassadors decided they would like a Buddy Bench on the KS2 playground. We are delighted to say that, through the support of our hardworking PSA and a successful application to our local councillor, we were able to fund the bench.

The Ambassadors delivered a session during a recent assembly to tell the children about the bench. It is designed to be a place for children to sit if they cannot find anyone to play with or if they need support from their peers. During the assembly, the Ambassadors explained that it is everyone's responsibility to offer friendship and support to children sitting on the bench. They suggested that if children see someone sitting there, they should invite them to join their game or simply check that they are okay. We look forward to seeing the children enjoy the bench for many years to come, and we would like to thank the PSA and Councillor Ian Albert for their support and generous contributions.



England World Cup Matches

We know that many families will want to watch England's forthcoming World Cup matches against Croatia and Ghana. To support those families who wish to enjoy the games, while still ensuring children attend school the following day, we will keep registers open until **10:30am** on the mornings after both fixtures.

This applies to the mornings after:

England v Croatia, kick off 9pm

England v Ghana, kick off 9pm

Children arriving before 10:30am on those mornings will not be marked late after the register has closed. School will still be open as usual from the normal time.

Please note, that this DOES NOT apply to England's warm-up match versus Costa Rica tonight.

Sports Day - Friday 26th June

This year, Sports Day will be on Friday 26th June. The organisation of the day will be similar to previous years, with children taking part in a range of athletic events such as long jump, javelin and discus, in addition to running races on the track. In the morning, from 9:30am, it will be the turn of Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children: Acorn N, Acorn R and Cherry Class, with Key Stage 2 children: Sycamore Aspen and Oak competing in the afternoon, from 1:30pm.

Teachers will be making sure that children have the opportunity to practice each of the events as part of their PE lessons this term. All children should make sure they have their PE kit (including proper trainers) in school so that they can take part.

Parents are most welcome to watch their children on Sports Day - come and join us!

Inter-House competitions

This term's inter house competitions will soon begin, and the children will be very excited to start earning points for their teams, with our winning team due to be crowned at our Sports Day on Friday 26th June.

Last year's winners were our green team, Fairfield, and they will be very keen to regain the trophy. However, Benchley, Blue, Fairfield, Yellow and Wilshere, Red, will all be keen to get their colours on the shield this year.

In addition to the points that will be won on Sports Day, points will also be earned by some junior-aged pupils through basketball, dodgeball and tug-of-war competitions.



Open Day/Evening - Wednesday 8th July

The Open Day and Open Evening for parents will be on Wednesday 8th July. Parents are invited to come into their child's class from 2.15pm, until 3.15pm, where they will be invited to join the children in fun learning activities which reflect our diverse and creative curriculum.

To accommodate the later-working parents, the school will open again at 6.00pm, with refreshments in the hall, when Mr. Cano will be saying a few words before introducing to the parents the teachers for September and announcing class allocations. After this, parents will be free to tour the school. There will be displays of children's work, subject information and interactive computer demonstrations, with staff and pupils available to guide and answer any questions.

PSA news

You may have spotted two new benches around school over the last few weeks - the colourful rainbow buddy bench in KS2 and the brand-new, very durable picnic bench in KS1, replacing the old broken one. These have been purchased with the help of the PSA, using money raised by you. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Purwell Party Pack - Eco-Friendly Fun for Just £5!

Planning a birthday bash or class get-together? Don't forget about our **Purwell Party Pack** - the easy, affordable and planet-friendly way to celebrate.

For just **£5 per hire (+£1 refundable damage deposit)**, you'll receive:

- 30 cups, plates, bowls, and cutlery sets
- Serving dishes, jugs and bunting
- All dishwasher-safe and reusable

Every hire supports school fundraising, so it's a win-win! To book, email the PSA at purwell.school.association@gmail.com

Easyfundraising

A huge thank you to everyone already raising donations through Easyfundraising. Every little bit really does help.

Not joined yet? It's simple and completely free. Sign up, shop online with your favourite brands, and they'll donate to us at no extra cost to you.

With over 8,000 retailers involved - including John Lewis & Partners, BT, Expedia, Argos, ASOS, Just Eat, Uswitch and many more - your everyday shopping can help fund exciting opportunities for our children.

Join here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/purwellprimaryschoolhitchin/>

Summer Term Dates 2026

Friday 26 th June	Sports Day
Friday 3 rd July	Athletics team to Ridlins Athletics stadium
Wednesday 8 th July	School Open Day
Thursday 9 th July	Pupils meet their new teacher for September
Friday 10 th July	Inset Day
Thursday 23 rd July	End of Term 2pm

NEXT ACADEMIC SCHOOL DATES 2026/2027

Autumn Term 2026

Tuesday 1 st September 26	School Closed for Inset Day
Wednesday 2 nd September 26	Children Return to School
Mon 26 th Oct-Friday 30 th Oct 26	HALF TERM
Friday 4 th December 26	School Closed for Occasional Day
Friday 18 th December 26	END OF TERM

Spring Term 2027

Monday 4 th January 27	School Closed for Inset Day
Tuesday 5 th January 27	Children return to School
Mon 15 th Feb-Fri 19 th Feb 27	HALF TERM
Monday 22 nd February 27	School Closed for Inset Day
Friday 26 th March 27	END OF TERM

Summer Term 2027

Monday 12 th April 27	School Closed for Inset Day
Tuesday 13 th April 27	Children Return to School
Monday 3 rd May 27	Bank Holiday
Mon 31 st - Fri 4 th June 27	HALF TERM
Friday 9 th July 27	School Closed for Inset Day
Thursday 22 nd July 27	END OF TERM