

P U R W E L L N E W S L E T T E R

Purwell Primary School

14th June 2022

Quote of the week. 'If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much'. - Marian Edelman.

Sports Day - Friday 24th June

This year, Sports Day will be on Friday 24th 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, Holly, and Willow Classes, with Key Stage 2 children: Beech, Maple, Aspen and Oak competing in the afternoon, from 1:30pm.

Teachers will be making sure that children have the opportunity to practise 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!

You said, we did

Following the recent parent survey, school leaders have been meeting to agree how best we can respond to the suggestions parents have made for school improvement. The '**you said, we did**' section will be a regular feature of the newsletters this term. **You said, we did** is also the title of a new display board which has been created in the entrance lobby of the school. It details what the school is putting in place to improve what we currently provide for pupils and parents and the return to some post-Covid ways of working.

You said: A return to public celebrating of success and commendation certificates for pupils.

We did: From September, we will bring back Friday's whole school celebratory assembly. We will also be inviting parents back to the last assembly of each term for a sharing opportunity from the pupils and a celebration of success. As far as certificates, we will introduce a new School Values certificate for pupils demonstrating our values of honesty, equity friendship, perseverance, and opportunity. There will be one to two class winners each week, as chosen by their class adults. These will be presented to nominees by Mr Cano at the Friday assembly.

You said: Clarity on use of sanctions in school.

We did: In the next newsletter we will be telling parents all about our therapeutic approaches to behaviour management. The policy the school follows is based on the Herts Steps approach to supporting behaviour with children in schools and has proved extremely successful since its introduction in 2018.

You said: Clarity on what we do to promote mental and physical health for pupils.

We did: Included in the first school newsletter of July will be a report to parents which details what the school does to support mental and physical health.

Fond farewell to Mrs Prue

After 34 years of service Mrs Prue has decide that the time has come to leave teaching at Purwell. Mrs Prue began her teaching career at the school in the late 1980's and has taught over 1,000 children across several year-groups. She will be best remembered for her time teaching the Early Years.

Having worked with Mrs Prue for 22 years, I will certainly miss her very much as will all the staff and children. We wish her well.

Open Day/Evening – Wednesday 13th July

The Open Day and Open Evening for parents will be on Wednesday 13th 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, where 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.

Dealing with bullying update

Since half term we have had one bullying disclosure from a child in upper juniors. They were commended for approaching an adult with their problems, as we ask all children to do in cases like this. We followed-up the allegation and brought all the children involved together to discuss the matter further. The outcome of the meeting was that the incidents were almost entirely isolated to that day and had stemmed from a fall out amongst friendships. The words of unkindness had travelled both ways between the children. An apology was offered voluntarily by one of the children in the group for an unsafe act. Work began immediately on restoring positive relations between these classmates and for one child, prosocial skills support will be started in twice-weekly one-to-one support sessions.

Volunteers needed to help with cycle proficiency training



Mr Brazier is taking Purwell's first Cycle Proficiency training for Year 6 pupils, on Monday 20th June through to Thursday 23rd June. The first half of the week will be based on the playground, but on Thursday the children will be going out onto the local roads with Mr Brazier to apply what they have learned.

For those 4 days, it would be useful to have volunteers helping for school-based training and then as many adults as possible going out with the children and helping to supervise them for the road assessment. Please wear comfortable footwear as you will be on your feet for most of the session. If you are able to help on any, or all, of the afternoons (12:50 to 3pm) please can you let the school office know.

Please ensure that your child's uniform is clearly named

With the fluctuating weather conditions that we are experiencing at the moment; pupils are forever taking off and putting on jumpers and coats. However, many of them are uncollected at the end of the day and end up in our overflowing lost property bin. Please ensure that your child's uniform is clearly named, so we can return clothing property to their owners.

Gardening equipment required for Year 3

Beech class's Science topic this term is plants, and the Year 3 children will be working in our garden and potting up seeds / cuttings. If you have any spare pots, gardens tools (particularly trowels) or compost, any donations would be gratefully received.



School uniform recycle, bring and swap

On Friday 24th June, the same day as Sports Day, all the school uniform that the school holds will be put out on display for parents to take what they need for their ever-growing children. We also welcome from parents, donations of any used uniform that is clean and in good condition. Ideally please bring those with you on the day.

Dates for Summer Term 2022

Thursday 16 th June	-	Year 5 swimming commences
Monday 20 th June	-	Cycle Proficiency Training for Year 6
Friday 24 th June	-	Sports Day, EY and infants am and juniors pm
Friday 1 st July	-	School closed for Inset Day
Thursday 7 th July	-	West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village NEW
Monday 11 th July	-	Maddingley Hall & Gardens NEW Cuffley NEW Shepreth Wildlife Park NEW
Wednesday 13 th July	-	Open Day and Evening
Thursday 14 th July	-	Meet my next teacher morning, for pupils
Saturday 16 th July	-	Purwell Rocks Event
Monday 18 th July	-	Annual reports go out to parents NEW
Wednesday 20 th July	-	Year 6 Leavers assembly
Thursday 21 st July	-	Mountfitchet Castle NEW
Friday 22 nd July	-	Last day of term - Finish at 2pm



Academic Dates for 2022/2023

Autumn Term 2022

Thu 1 st September	Children return to school
Fri 23rd September	School closed for Inset Day
Mon 24 th Oct-Fri 28 th Oct	Half term
Mon 31st October	School closed for Inset Day
Fri 2nd December	School closed for Occasional Day
Wed 21 st December	Last day of term - Finish at 2pm

Spring Term 2023

Thu 5 th January	Children return to school
Mon 13 th Feb-Fri 17 th Feb	Half term
Fri 10th March	School closed for Inset Day
Fri 31 st March	Last day of term - Finish at 2pm

Summer Term 2023

Mon 17th April	School closed for Inset Day
Tues 18 th April	Children return to school
Mon 1 st May	Bank holiday
Tue 30 th May - Fri 2 nd Jun	Half term
Fri 30th June	School closed for Inset Day
Fri 21 st July	Last day of term - Finish at 2pm

Student Travel arriva

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

With the new Academic year approaching, this is the perfect time to find out the travel options that are available to you.

Arriva would like to take the opportunity to inform you about our Direct Debit payment scheme for Student & Child Scholar Saver tickets, which is a cost effective and flexible way of paying for travel costs.

Unlimited Travel – Your child will get unlimited access to travel on any Arriva bus, at any time, across all routes in your chosen area.

No Restrictions - The Saver tickets will cover travel to and from School, evenings, weekends and throughout the holidays too at any time of the day.

Flexible Payments - Arriva's Direct Debit scheme allows you to spread the cost of your ticket over affordable monthly payments. It's an easy way to pay for travel and there's no contract involved, making it an ideal way to get reduced bus travel for the whole Academic year, without paying upfront.

Sign up in advance – Either set your direct debit a future date for when you need the ticket or, you can start your ticket now to get used to the local bus routes

Plan your journey – Please use our 'Plan a journey' tool on our website to work out which bus you require

It's a simple process to apply, to arrange your Direct Debit please visit the website below and, select the region your child's school is in

www.arrivabus.co.uk/monthlytickets

Once registered you can select either to receive your monthly pass by post or sent to your mobile phone. This ticket will rollover every month for as long as the direct debit remains active.

If you have questions regarding the scheme, please email: talktous@arriva.co.uk

***Our tickets do not cover Arriva London/TFL routes**



Parents and carers help and support

Parents and Carers

REMINDER DSPL 1 Parent Survey - Results

We carried out a parent survey during Autumn 2021, we had over 250 responses. Thank you to Raine Simcox our parent representative for carrying this out and collating the data. Please find attached the results. We are looking at the gaps in training and support for parents and have put together an overview of what is already available. This will inform our planning of training. We thank everyone for their contribution.

REMINDER Changes to our Statutory SEND service which will, in time, improve the Education, Health and Care Plan experience for families. You can read all about what's changing and how these changes might affect you in our latest blogpost on the Local offer: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/improvingstatutorySEND



Angels Support Group

[Home - Angels Support Group](#)

REMINDER [Microsoft Word - Angels Summer2022 programme \(angelssupportgroup.org.uk\)](#)

Titles include: (Virtual and Face to Face)

- Support Group
- Q&A Education Issues - EHCP's, Graduated Response, etc
- Techsafe Workshop
- Supporting ADHD Child
- Resistant Eaters
- Visual Supports

NESSie and Angels Support Group

Supporting Children with Additional Needs. Funded by HCC, provided by NESSie and Angels Support Group.

Positively Supporting a Child with **Self-Harming Behaviours** workshop for Parents/Carers 20 June 2022 [Nessie Public Booking Platform \(procfu.com\)](#)

Supporting Children with ASC/ADHD: **Autism, Sexuality and Gender Diverty** 21 June 2022 1pm to 2:30pm [Nessie Public Booking Platform \(procfu.com\)](#)

Supporting Children with ASC/ADHD: **Emotionally Based School Avoidance** [Nessie Public Booking Platform \(procfu.com\)](#)

Supporting Children and Young People who are gender questioning 4 July [Nessie Public Booking Platform \(procfu.com\)](#)

Supporting Children and Young People who are gender questioning 7 July [Nessie Public Booking Platform \(procfu.com\)](#)

[Nessie Public Booking Platform \(procfu.com\)](#)

ADD-vance

Funded training workshops for parents and carers of children and young people with ADHD/ASC - [ADD-vance ADD-vance Events | Eventbrite](#)

NEW [NEW Tips & Tools to Manage Anger - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Thu 9 Jun 2022 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

NEW [Tips & Tools for Managing Self-Harm - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Fri 10 Jun 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

- [Supporting the Transition to Primary School - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Mon 13 Jun 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- **NEW** [ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP for Parents/Carers of Secondary Aged Children Tickets, Tue 14 Jun 2022 at 13:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- **NEW** [Understanding Sensory Differences - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Wed 15 Jun 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- SUPPORT GROUP INFORMATION: [ADD-vance](#)

[SPACE Hertfordshire](#) runs many free online workshops for parents and carers covering many aspects of supporting children and young people who are autistic, have ADHD or other neurodiverse conditions. Upcoming ones include:

Bookings for June and July have just opened and you can book on here <https://spaceherts.org.uk/events/>

Some upcoming ones include:

NEW [Tourette's and Autism Workshop Tickets, Thu 9 Jun 2022 at 18:30 | Eventbrite](#)

NEW [Sensory Signs, Signals and Solutions Workshop Tickets, Tue 14 Jun 2022 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

NEW [SPACE Lego Club - Stevenage Tickets, Wed 15 Jun 2022 at 16:00 | Eventbrite](#)

NEW [Check In and Chat Tickets, Wed 15 Jun 2022 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

NEW [Understanding Specific Math Difficulties \(Dyscalculia\) Tickets, Fri 17 Jun 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

NEW [Understanding Autism and ADHD Workshop Tickets, Mon 20 Jun 2022 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

They also run lots of support groups for parents and carers and accessible and bespoke events and activities for neurodiverse children and young people all across Hertfordshire. You can find out about all of their upcoming workshops and events and book here:

<https://spaceherts.org.uk/events/>

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Conference (13 May) for parents, carers and professionals with the world renowned **Autism expert**, Professor **Tony Attwood** who is flying over to Hertfordshire from Australia in May to join us. The main focus of his presentations will be cognition and Autism – including strategies to help improve motivation, organisational skills and academic achievement; plus Adolescent Issues such as friendships, sexual development, and managing emotions.

You can find out more here: [SPACE HERTFORDSHIRE presents Professor Tony Attwood Tickets, Fri 13 May 2022 at 08:15 | Eventbrite](#)

Supporting Links:

[Supporting Links Home](#)

Alongside our usual Parenting Courses, Supporting Links are pleased to be offering the following workshops. These are open to parents and carers of children with ASD and/or ADHD across Hertfordshire, funded by the Local Authority. **NEW:** Talking Teens - 6 week course 6 June to 18 July (no session 27/6) 7:45pm to 9:15pm. Pre-booking essential! 07512 709556 bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk. Quoting Reference SL507.

[Workshops \(supportinglinks.co.uk\)](#)

[Talking ASD and ADHD: School Avoidance. For parents/carers in Herts \(517\) Registration, Thu 9 Jun 2022 at 19:30 | Eventbrite](#)

[Talking ASD and ADHD: Tech Use \(516\). For parents/carers in Herts. Registration, Mon 13 Jun 2022 at 12:30 | Eventbrite](#)

[Talking ASD & ADHD: Anxiety and Stress. For parents/carers in Herts \(511\) Registration, Tue 28 Jun 2022 at 19:30 | Eventbrite](#)

NEW [Talking ASD and ADHD: The teenage years. For parents/carers in Herts \(515\) Registration, Tue 5 Jul 2022 at 19:30 | Eventbrite](#)

NEW [Talking ASD and ADHD: Responding to Anger. For parents/carers in Herts \(512\) Registration, Wed 13 Jul 2022 at 09:30 | Eventbrite](#)

We accept referrals or parents can self-refer and book places via Eventbrite. [Supporting Links Events | Eventbrite](#)

Family Lives

[Parenting and Family Support - Family Lives \(Parentline Plus\) | Family Lives](#)

[Parenting and Family Support - Family Lives \(Parentline Plus\) | Family Lives](#)

Parenting and family support from Family Lives (formerly Parentline Plus) through our website, helpline 0808 800 2222, email service at askus@familylives.org.uk, live chat and local services.
www.familylives.org.uk

Bringing up **confident children** for parents of children with **ADHD/ASD** 7 June to 12 July 7pm to 9pm OR 8 June to 13 July 9:30am to 11:39am

Bringing up **confident children** for parents of children with **SEN** 6 June to 11 July 7pm to 9pm

Booking: services@familylives.org.uk 0204 522 8700 / 8701 (see flyer)

Sessions will cover :

- * **Special Needs – a whole-family issue**
- * **Understanding your child's behaviour**
- * **Helping your child manage their feelings and outbursts**
- * **Balancing support of siblings**
- * **Learning new parenting strategies to address challenging behaviour**
- * **Making a positive difference in your family life**

Families in Focus

[Current parent courses – Families in Focus](#)

[Autism, ADHD & neurodevelopmental conditions/needs courses Spring 2022 / Parent Networks / Handling anger in child with Autism/ADHD]

Funding from Early Help, Hertfordshire Children's Services. All our courses are evidence based and have a continue to deliver effective, evidence based support to parents caring for neurotypical and neurodiverse children across Hertfordshire. Our SEND courses are accessible for parents who's children may already have a diagnosis and for the may who are on assessment pathways across Hertfordshire Health Services. Parent can access these free session by joining Families in Focus private Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/184975381651870/>

June 2022 Zoom Parent Network:

[Parent Network – Families in Focus](#)

Email: bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk

Guide to Hertfordshire SEN Services 13 June 10am to 12pm

Let's pop the kettle on - SEND Chat, giggles and a cuppa 15 June 9:30am to 11:30am

Professional parenting - getting the most for your child with SEND 16 June 10am to 12pm

Managing Behaviours that challenge (primary aged) 16 June 7pm to 9pm

Book your place: booking@familiesinfocus.co.uk

Summer Courses:

- Handling **anger** in your family
- Complete **guide** to parenting children with SEND
- **Sleep** solutions for parents of children with **autism/ADHD**

Families Feeling Safe

Supporting families with **Protective Behaviours**

[Families Feeling Safe • Families Feeling Safe](#)

HCT Children's Wellbeing Practitioners

[Children's Wellbeing Practitioners Service | Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust \(\[hct.nhs.uk\]\(http://hct.nhs.uk\)\)](#)

Includes supporting self-esteem, ability to self regulate, sleep and many more.

[HCT Children's Wellbeing Practitioners Events | Eventbrite](#)

- [Supporting Your Child With Sleep Difficulties Tickets, Thu 9 Jun 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- [Supporting Adolescents with Sleep Difficulties Tickets, Tue 14 Jun 2022 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- [Supporting Your Child's Self-esteem Tickets, Tue 28 Jun 2022 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Up on Downs

[UpOnDowns Hertfordshire – Down's Syndrome Support Group – Hertfordshire](#)

[SEND news - 15 March 2022 \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Family Centre SEND Drop-In

[North Herts Spring 2022 timetable \(hertsfamilycentres.org\)](#)

First Thursday of each month – booking via Eventbrite [Herts Family Centre Service - North Herts District Events | Eventbrite](#)

[School nurses in Hertfordshire \(hertsfamilycentres.org\)](#)

Young Minds - Parents Helpline if concerned about child's mental health (up to age 25), see link for full details. Helpline, webchat and email.

[Parents Helpline | Mental Health Help for Your Child | YoungMinds](#)

[If your child is too anxious to go to school \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

- [Deaf and Hearing Support Service \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)
- [SEND documents and resources \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)
- [The Dyslexia-SpLD Trust - Parents](#)

Mental Health Support

[Make it Count: Guide for parents and carers | Mental Health Foundation](#)

[If your child is too anxious to go to school \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Just Talk Herts

[Just Talk \(justtalkherts.org\)](#)

[Emotional wellbeing information and resources to help young people in Hertfordshire \(justtalkherts.org\)](#)

[NHS England » What to do if you're a young person and it's all getting too much](#)

It hasn't been easy living through the COVID-19 pandemic which has caused many restrictions, from the closure of schools to changes to social interactions which has led to feelings of uncertainty for many of us. Things can feel overwhelming, and you may feel you can't cope. You might be struggling to adjust to changes in routines, new social pressures and greater expectations from your friends, family or school. You might also feel uncertainty around upcoming examinations and what form these may take. You might feel worried about friendships, your family, school or college including managing the work. You might be feeling down or sad – some of your friends and family members may be feeling the same way – and this can be usual at the moment. Those feelings may have become very deep and intense, and you might not know what to do about them. It's okay not to feel okay, there is hope for you and you can get through this. You're not alone – many people feel like this at some time in their lives – and more people are likely to be feeling this way at the moment because of the impact of the pandemic on our lives. What's important for you to know is that there are lots of ways of dealing with these feelings. It's absolutely possible to come out the other side and feel okay again.

[NHS England » Advice for parents, guardians and carers on how to support a child or young person if you're concerned about their mental health](#)

[Home :: Hertfordshire and West Essex Healthier Together \(hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk\)](#)

[Services for Mental health and wellbeing \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

[Just Talk \(justtalkherts.org\)](#) Links, Resources, Information for Mental Health and wellbeing.

[SEND documents and resources \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Young People

Ambitious about Autism

The Ambitious about Autism youth network is a fun and friendly space for autistic young people, between the **ages of 16-25**, to meet other autistic young people and be themselves. It offers

them a safe and moderated online space to help them understand their autistic identity and reduce isolation and loneliness that many feel.

Young people will be able to take part in peer support sessions which are held on **Tuesday and Thursday evenings between 5:45-6:45** over Zoom. These sessions are a chance to meet new autistic young people across the country, share experiences and find volunteering, work experience and employment opportunities. Sessions are a safe environment where you can stay within your comfort zone, there is no pressure to turn on your camera or microphone. You can choose to participate or just observe.

The sessions are led by [Ambitious staff](#) trained in safeguarding, who you may contact at any point if you are uncomfortable or feel unsafe. Every session has a different theme, past sessions have included arts and crafts, comedy night, DJ sessions, language lessons, and a monthly general knowledge quiz. Youth network members over the age of 18 also have a chance to instant message each other on the platform.

To access the peer sessions, you will need to [request to join the youth network](#).

[Join the Ambitious Youth Network \(ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk\)](#)



[Guest Blog SFYP - Moving on from school \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

[Exam and Revision Stress \(justtalkherts.org\)](#)

[Services for Young People](#)

[Invasion of Ukraine - wellbeing resources for parents - BBC Bitesize Parents' Toolkit - BBC Bitesize](#)

SEND Support

This short video (less than a minute) is designed to give an understanding of what the Local Offer website is, and what kind of information and resources they can find on there. You can see the video on Youtube here: <https://youtu.be/hmcGbFqmsl8>

Herts Parent Carer Involvement

[Herts Parent Carer Involvement \(hertsparentcarers.org.uk\)](#)

[Webinars | Herts Parent Carer Involvement \(hertsparentcarers.org.uk\)](#)

ISL Advice Line

[ISL SEND Advice for Parents/Carers \(hertfordshirefamiliesfirst.org.uk\)](#)

[SEND news - 3 May 2022 \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

[The Hertfordshire Local Offer](#)

SUNFLOWER SOCIAL GROUP

Welcominging Ukranian refugees

"Radi znajomstvu" "Pleased to meet you"

A space to meet in a supportive environment.

Every Wednesday, 11am to 12:30pm

The Wellbeing Centre, 501 St Albans Road, WD24 7RZ

info@lutherbliss8.com or info@hertsmindnetwork.org

Mind Hertfordshire Network