

Thought for the week: *"Be the reason someone smiles today."* – Dick Van Dyke

Wellbeing Ambassadors Hard at Work

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors have made a fantastic start to their new roles and have already been busy planning their first initiatives. In their recent meeting, they agreed on a set of priorities aimed at promoting wellbeing across the school. Their exciting plans include creating and publishing a wellbeing leaflet for the school website, learning a selection of playground games to teach other children at lunchtime, and designing informative displays to showcase their work. We're very proud of their enthusiasm and look forward to seeing the positive impact of their efforts this term!

Mental Health and Wellbeing

In each edition of our newsletter, we will share a useful website or top tip to support your child's mental health. You can also visit the mental health and wellbeing section of our school website, which contains up-to-date information about support available both within school and in the wider community. If you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing, please don't hesitate to speak to their class teacher or Mrs Mullan.

This week's recommended website: Young Minds – Parents' Support

Parent Coffee Mornings – All Welcome!

We are pleased to share two upcoming dates for our parent coffee mornings, held in the Community Room at 9am:

Thursday 13th June – Join us for an informal session introducing Energy Accounting, a helpful tool that supports children in recognising how different activities affect their energy levels and overall wellbeing. This session is open to all parents—your child does not need to have a diagnosis or identified additional need. It's a great opportunity to connect with other parents and staff. Please contact the school office to book your place; the session will run subject to sufficient interest.

Thursday 3rd October – Our autumn coffee morning will feature a guest from the Angels Support Group, who will share information about the services they provide and answer any questions you may have.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sports Update

Cricket – We are in a fabulous position cricket wise this summer with enough players to make up 4 teams and competition for places for our league matches is hot. Following a pre-season friendly victory against Whitehill we played a Purwell v Purwell fixture at the end of April to give our squad more match practice. We took on Samuel Lucas on Friday 9th May, in an incredibly even game. Meanwhile, in school we've had a fabulous turnout at a KS2 girls cricket club and look forward to getting a couple of fixtures under our belt before the end of the summer.

Cycling – Our riders are really hitting their stride at our after school club and are building up to the start of the summer racing season. Our first race outing will be on Sunday 18th May at Ashwell and we look forward to seeing how our riders fare against experienced club riders.

PSA News

Plant Sale Today! After school on **Wednesday, 14th May**, our plant stall will be brimming with a fantastic selection, including tomatoes, sweetcorn, courgettes, cosmos, and more!

Find us under the covered area outside the classrooms in the KS2 playground, where you can pick up beautiful plants to brighten your garden and support our school community.

We're looking forward to a fantastic "**Dare to Be Different Day**" on **Friday, 16th May!** It's a great opportunity for students to have fun and express themselves while **bending a few selected rules**. On this day, students will have the chance to break any of the following rules:

1. Only water in drinks bottles
2. Only wear dark coloured socks
3. Only wear black trainers
4. Only fruit for break time snack
5. No nail varnish or temporary tattoos

To join in the fun, we're asking for a **sweetie jar** in exchange - ideally a decorated jar to add some creative flair! These will be used on our tombola stall at the Walsworth Festival. So, let's dare to be different, show off those decorated jars, and make this day one to remember!

Please note children are **expected to wear normal school uniform** (with the exception for socks/trainers as above). We also kindly remind parents that all **other school rules** remain in place, and children are expected to behave as usual throughout the day. Respect, kindness, and responsibility are still at the heart of our school community, and we ask that students follow these expectations so everyone can enjoy the day safely and positively.

Walsworth Festival - Sunday 18th May - please pop along on Sunday and say hello! We will be running our very popular Sweet Jar Tombola stall as usual. The festival runs from 10am - 4pm on Walsworth Common and is great fun for the whole family. Our stall normally sells out by lunchtime so make sure you come by early!

The Big Purwell Picnic - Saturday 21st June!

Summer is just around the corner, and that means it's nearly time for this year's summer event - The Big Purwell Picnic! Join us for an afternoon of fun, music, and community spirit on Saturday, 21st June, from 12 to 2:30pm.

There will be plenty to enjoy, including:

- 🎵 A Come and Try music area
- 👯 Various music and dance performances featuring some of our amazing students
- 🍰 A cream tea stall and a cake stall for some delicious treats
- 🍹 A bar for refreshing drinks
- 🎮 Games and a craft area to keep everyone entertained
- 🎈 A bouncy castle and hula hooping for active fun!

Please note: There will be no BBQ this time, so please bring your own picnic along with a picnic blanket to relax and enjoy the afternoon! We can't wait to see you all there (please keep your fingers crossed for good weather!!).

Upcoming events -

- 14th May - Plant Sale
- 16th May - Dare To Be Different Day (in return for sweet jar donations)
- 18th May - Walsworth Festival
- 4th June - PSA Meeting, 8pm
- 21st June - The Big Purwell Picnic, 12-2:30pm
- Fridays in July - "Frozen Fridays" (after school ice lolly sales!)

Purwell Party Pack - The Perfect Eco-Friendly Party Solution! Planning a celebration? Don't forget to **hire the Purwell Party Pack!** For just **£5 per hire** (+£1 damage deposit), you'll get **30 cups, plates, bowls, cutlery sets, serving dishes, and bunting** - everything you need for a fantastic gathering. Even better, it's **planet-friendly** and **dishwasher-safe**, making cleanup a breeze! Plus, every hire helps **raise funds for the school**. **Email the PSA to book.**

Stay Connected with the PSA! - Want to keep up with all things PSA? Join our **Facebook Group - Purwell School Association** - for updates, events, and school news! Don't forget to **join your class WhatsApp group**, too! It's great for staying in the loop on everyday school life - whether it's missing jumpers, birthday parties, or checking homework details. If you're new to the school and unsure who your Class Rep is, just email purwell.school.association@gmail.com, and we'll be happy to help!

Next PSA meeting - Wednesday 4th June, 8pm, Purwell Community Room

Sporting Fixtures

W/C 19th May (**date to be confirmed**)- Cricket League Fixture (home v St.Ippolyts)

Tuesday 3rd June - Dynamos Cricket tournament (Hitchin Cricket Club)

Wednesday 18th June - Cricket League Fixture (away v Wilshire Dacre)

Tuesday 24th June - Cricket League Fixture (home v William Ransom)

Thursday 26th June - School Sports Day (am - EYFS and KS1, pm - KS2)

Summer Clubs

Mondays	Y1, 2, 3 Gymnastics Y5, 6 Cheerleading KS2 Cooking	Lunchtime (12:30-1:00) After school (3:15 - 4:30) After school (3:15 - 4:30)
Tuesdays	Y1,2,3 Multisports KS2 Cycling Club	Lunchtime (12:30-1:00) After school (3:15 - 4:30)
Wednesdays	Yoga KS2 Hama Beads Y5 Dodgeball	Before school (8:00 - 8:45) Lunchtime (12:30-1:00) Lunchtime (12:30-1:00)
Thursdays	Y5,6 Cricket Homework	Lunchtime (12:30-1:00) Lunchtime (12:30-1:00)
Fridays	KS2 Girls Cricket KS2 Badminton KS2 Tug-of-war	Lunchtime (12:30-1:00) Lunchtime (12:30-1:00) Lunchtime (12:30-1:00)

To enrol your child in any of the clubs or to express an interest (except cycling) please email mwatson@purwell.herts.sch.uk your preference and the child's name and year.

Help shape the Hitchin-wide response to smartphones

A reminder to parents that there is still time for you to share your views about smartphones to help shape how Hitchin schools and local politicians/policy-makers respond to the issue.

The new 5-minute survey looks at current/intended phone use (smartphone and retro phones) among Hitchin children/teens and explores parents' attitudes and concerns relating to children both having smartphones as well as not having them.

Please share your views before 23rd May and help spread the word to other Hitchin parents - thank you in advance! Survey link: bit.ly/HitchinKidsSurvey

Sun Safety at School

Now that the sunshine has finally arrived, we wanted to remind everyone of our 'Safe in the Sun' approach to help keep children comfortable and protected during the warmer months.

Shade

We are lucky to have plenty of shaded areas around the school, especially under the trees and by the gazebo. On very sunny days, children are actively encouraged to take their breaks in these cooler spots.

Sun Hats

All children should bring a named sun hat or cap to wear during outdoor play. Purwell School caps are available to be purchased from the school office.

Sunscreen



Please apply sunscreen to your child before they come to school. We recommend long-lasting, all-day protection products, as children should not bring sunscreen bottles into school for reapplication.

Water Bottles

Children must bring a named water bottle to school each day to stay hydrated. To avoid spills, these must have a sports cap (not an open neck). Please do not freeze bottles, as this can cause leaks. However, bottles with freezable inserts to keep water cool are perfectly fine.

PE Kit

Please ensure your child has their summer PE kit in school every day. This should include shorts and a t-shirt - long trousers can be too hot and uncomfortable for active sessions outside.

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe and happy in the sun!  

Local Support and workshops for parents

With this newsletter there is an additional document attached with information about local events and workshops for parents.

Dates for Summer Term 2025

Wednesday 14 th May	PSA Plant Sale
Friday 16 th May	Non-uniform day (in return for sweetie jar donations)
Sunday 18 th May	Walsworth Festival
26 th May- 30 th May	Half-term
Saturday 21 st June	PSA Summer picnic event
Thursday 26 th June	Sports Day
Friday 27 th June	School closed for Inset Day
Thursday 10 th July	Meet the teacher and Secondary transfer day for Y6
Wednesday 23 rd July	Last day of term (2pm finish)

Academic Year 2025/26

Autumn Term 2025

Wednesday 3 rd September	School closed for INSET day
Thursday 4 th September	Children return to school
27 th Oct- 31 st October	Half-term
Monday 3 rd November	School closed for INSET day
Friday 5 th December	School closed for Occasional day
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term

Spring Term 2026

Monday 5 th January	School closed for INSET day
Tuesday 6 th January	Children return to school
16 th - 20 th February	Half-term
Friday 27 th March	Last day of term

Summer Term 2026

Monday 13 th April	Children return to school
25 th to 29 th May	Half-term
Monday 1 st June	School closed for INSET day
Friday 3 rd July	School closed for INSET day
Thursday 23 rd July	Last day of term