

'Thought for the day: 'While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about' ~ Angela Schwindt

Kingswood trip

Despite the cold and damp start to the week, our Year 5 and 6 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their recent residential visit to Overstrand Kingswood Centre. The children made the most of a host of new experiences and in stepping out of their comfort zones they discovered more about themselves. In this week's assembly Mr Cano commented on how many children displayed the school values perseverance, opportunity, and friendship. There was a great deal of bravery demonstrated too.

We would like to thank the staff team who organised the trip: Mrs Lancaster (school-based team leader, Mr Cano travelling team leader and Mr Brazier, Mrs Rook, Miss Plunkett and Mr Burke for their care and dedication throughout the week.

Our Twitter feed was bursting with photos, and we gained many new parent followers who were keen to keep informed about the trip. Here is a tiny selection of some of the photos. Twitter is the best way to keep up to date with everything we do in school but, as it is a closed group, you will need to contact the school, with your Twitter username, in order to be accepted.



Christmas newsletter

With the busy December period approaching, with this newsletter you will receive a separate Christmas newsletter containing details of all our Christmas events. Please note carefully all the dates and information contained in this.

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 7th December

Christmas lunch will take place on Wednesday 7th December. The kitchen staff need to order supplies early and, to do this, they need to have an idea of lunch numbers in advance. Please note that there will be only two options on that day, a Christmas lunch (Red band) and a vegetarian option (Green band). A letter will be sent out next week with the menu choice and a reply slip.

Children get ready for Christmas productions

Rehearsals for the Christmas productions will soon commence. The Early Years and infant classes will have separate performances from the juniors. There will be a small charge for attendance at these performances - £2 for children of primary school age and £4.00 for everyone else. All the money raised will go towards school improvements. Tickets will be on sale at the school office from Monday 12th December for those who wish to attend. A raffle will be drawn for a Christmas hamper at the final evening performance. Tickets for this hamper raffle, which cost £1.00 per strip, will be available at all performances and will also be on sale in the school office from Monday 12th December.

Monday 19th December, 2:15pm and 6.30pm, Nursery to Year 2

Tuesday 20th December, 2:15pm and 6.30pm, Years 3 to 6

Party Day - Friday 16th December (pm)

On Friday 16th December, each class will be having a class party in the afternoon, to celebrate Christmas and the end of term. Teachers will be sending further information out to parents, nearer the time, for what parents can help to provide. This will also be a non-uniform day, with a contribution from pupils of £1.00 to wear non-uniform.

Nursery parents - pupils should attend in the afternoon, on party day, 1.00pm-3.15pm and not the morning.

Santa Dash -Thursday 15th December (am)

After the success of last year's Elf Dash, this year, we have decided to participate in the 'Santa Dash' which will be held on Thursday 15th December in the morning. We would like to encourage the children to join in wearing a Santa hat or any festive headwear.

Parental support, workshops, and events

With this newsletter you will also receive a document which details the local support agencies for parents and carers. These include workshop and events.

Reading at home

Please ensure that you hear your child read regularly at home and that this is recorded in their reading record books. The record books are the only indication that your child is having regular opportunities to read to an adult. Comments in the books that relate to the child's phonological progress and comprehension are the most useful for teachers to read.

PSA upcoming events

PSA Christmas planning meeting

The next PSA meeting will be held on Thursday 24th November, 8pm, venue to be confirmed. All parents are welcome to attend.

Christmas shop

On Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th December a Christmas Shop will be held during the school day. It will be £2 per present for children to buy a secret present for an adult in the house.

Christmas Cake Sale

On Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th December there will be a Christmas cake sale which will be held during the school day. The costs of each cake will be 50p.

Purwell Christmas Disco

On Friday 16th December after the class parties in the afternoon, the children will be able to come back to school to enjoy the PSA Christmas Disco, 5-7pm. All your Christmas Fayre favourites will be on show, but in a disco party atmosphere! The tickets will be £3.50 for primary child aged children.

Dates for Autumn Term 2022

December

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| Friday 2 nd | School closed for Occasional Day |
| Monday 5 th | PSA Christmas Shop, £2 per present for children to buy and wrap for adults at home. |
| Tuesday 6 th | PSA Christmas Shop, day 2. |
| Wednesday 7 th | Christmas School Lunch |
| Monday 12 th | PSA Christmas Cake Sale, day 1 - 50p per cake |
| | Tickets for Christmas productions and raffle go on sale |
| Tuesday 13 th | PSA Christmas Cake Sale, day 2 |
| Thursday 15 th | Santa Dash NEW |
| Friday 16 th | Christmas class party afternoon and Non-uniform day NEW |
| | PSA Christmas Disco, 5-7pm, £3.50 a ticket. |
| Monday 19 th | EYFSKS1 Christmas production (afternoon 2:15pm and evening 6.30pm) |
| Tuesday 20 th | KS2 Christmas production (afternoon 2:15pm and evening 6:30pm) |
| Wednesday 21 st | 1:30pm Christmas assembly with carol singing |
| | Term ends at 2pm |

Dates for Spring Term 2023

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| Thursday 5 th January | Pupils return to school |
| 13 rd - 17 th February | Half-term |
| Friday 10 th March | School Closed for Inset Day |
| Wednesday 29 th March | Parent Consultations |
| Thursday 30 th March | Parent Consultations |
| Friday 31 st March | Last day of term (2pm finish) |

Dates for Summer Term 2023

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| Monday 17 th April | School closed for Inset Day |
| Tuesday 18 th April | Pupils return to school |
| Monday 1 st May | May Bank Holiday |
| Monday 8 th May | Coronation Bank Holiday NEW |
| 29 th May-2 nd June | Half-term |
| Wednesday 28 th June | Sports Day |
| Friday 30 th June | School closed for Inset Day |
| Friday 21 st July | Last day of term (2pm finish) |



Become a Purwell School Governor!

There are two vacancies on the Governing Body for parent governors.

We are seeking people who have an enquiring mind and are keen to contribute to the effective day-to-day running of the school and the educational achievements of its pupils.

We need people who can bring further skills, experience and objectivity to decision making in our meetings.

We would be particularly interested in parents who have financial, legal, ICT or Health and Safety backgrounds, although this type of experience is not essential.

A Governing Body's responsibility is to work in partnership with the Headteacher to promote continuous improvement in the performance of the school. Aligned to its improvement role, the Governing Body also supports and challenges the performance of both the Headteacher and the school.

Typically, a governor's duties will average around 6 hours a month. Hertfordshire governors are fortunate to be supported in their role by relevant training courses.

If you are interested and wish to enquire further, please contact the school office either in person or on 01462 432950 and collect a nomination form. Or, if you have any questions please speak to Mr Cano, Headteacher, or any of the existing Governors. Alternatively, you can email admin@purwell.herts.sch.uk

We look forward to hearing from you!