

Thought for the day: "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." - Arthur Ashe

Purwell Page Goes Public on Facebook!

After half term, we'll be saying goodbye to our school Twitter account and moving over to Facebook instead. Since Twitter became X, the platform has unfortunately seen an increase in inappropriate material, which doesn't reflect our school's values.

Our new public Facebook page will allow us to celebrate and share all the wonderful things happening at Purwell more widely. It's a great way to raise the school's profile and keep our community up to date with events, achievements, and all the exciting moments that make Purwell special.

After half term, we'll be sending home information and permission letters, asking parents to allow us to feature pupils on the page. We hope you'll join us with this new endeavour and help us spread the word about all the good things happening at Purwell Primary School! You can follow our page from today. Here's the link. <https://www.facebook.com/share/1B63hmAAso/?mibextid=wwXIfr>. You will need to be logged into Facebook, to then access the Purwell Primary School page with the link above.

Halloween Makeover

The canteen's had a spooky makeover and it's looking fang-tastic! 🎃 Big thanks to our kitchen team for the Halloween decorations and to Year 2 for growing these brilliant pumpkins in the school garden! 🍂👻



Music Updates

The children were treated to a Showcase Assembly with a twist on Tuesday 21st October as Mr Day, one of our instrument teachers from Herts Music Service, came in and gave pupils a ukulele and cello demonstration. The pupils were excited by the diversity of the cello, Mr Day played Soda Pop from K-Pop Demon Hunters amongst a selection of well-known tunes. The children were then offered the opportunity to try out the instruments, with the Year 2 children enjoying a class visit to see the ukulele.

If you'd like to sign your child up for lessons, which take place during school hours, please follow the link below - <https://ukhertfordshire.speedadmin.dk/registration#/> which takes you to the Purwell school page.

Sports Report

Cycling

National Cycle to School Week was a huge success in school, where the children learnt about the importance of sustainable modes of transport. We saw an increase in the number of pupils travelling to school by bike/scooter. Our Year 2/3 and Year 5/6 cycling clubs also enjoyed time exploring the Greenway and we'd like to say a huge thank you to the parents who volunteered their support and came along by bike and on foot. Cycling club will now be taking a break and we look forward to starting back up in the spring. We'd like to ask all parents and carers to support us in ensuring the children continue to ride safely to and from school as well as following the rule regarding dismounting at the gate and walking their bikes across the playgrounds.

Cross Country Running

With cycling going into hibernation for winter we'll be turning our attention to a new club, with Cross Country Running taking the Tuesday night slot. The club is aimed at Years 4-6 and children will be running

5km each week, making their way to and from the school and along sections of the Greenway. In order to run the club we will need a core group of parent volunteers who can run with us, if you're keen to help between 3.15pm and 4.15pm each Tuesday please pop to see Mr Brazier.

Football

Fresh from a 4-2 win over Oughton in our first league fixture last Thursday, our team took on Wymondley in the Wix Cup yesterday (Tuesday 21st October). Although Purwell took the lead in the first half, Wymondley came back strong to win through in what was a competitive and close contest. It has been wonderful to see all of the teams fielding mixed teams of boys and girls across both matches, there have only been two free kicks awarded - and both for handballs. This is a real testament to the way that the players from all 3 schools have been encouraged by staff to play - competitively but also fairly. Well done to Miss Taylor and all our players who have upheld these values so strongly- we are proud of you all.

Upcoming fixtures (after school):-

Wednesday 5th November - ESFA Small Schools Rally @Priory School

Wednesday 12th November - Whitehill (away)

Netball

Due to staff changes in schools across Hitchin, the start of inter-school netball fixtures has been delayed. With the night's drawing in (and the clocks going back soon), this week will be the last netball club until January. We have now received a schedule for netball fixtures and will be organising dates for these ready for when we resume. The quality of play during our club sessions has been tremendous and the attendance has been incredible, standing at very nearly 100% throughout the term. Well done everybody!

PSA News

Halloween Disco, this Friday!

Virtual Halloween party tickets are now on sale!

Tickets are £3.50 (£4 on the door)

Younger siblings (under 3s) and grown-ups go free. KS1 children must be accompanied by an adult.

You can pay online to:

Purwell School Association(Business account)

Sc: 090129

Ac: 37165077

After you pay, please email the PSA, purwell.school.association@gmail.com, confirming your child's name and class that you have paid online a parent contact number for any unaccompanied Year 3 to Year 6 children. Alternative payment? Send cash in an envelope to the office, clearly marked with the same details. Payment deadline is 6pm on Thursday 23rd October for online payments.

If you can spare half an hour to help before, during, or after, we would be very grateful, please email the PSA or contact your Class Rep.

We will be doing a Halloween Trail as usual- details as follows:

Halloween Trail - Thursday 31st October - 5-7pm

We will be holding our family friendly Halloween Trail around Purwell again this year. If you would like your house to appear on the map please contact your class rep or email the PSA with your address. The more houses the merrier!

We will provide you with a spooky sign for your window/door so that the children know you are a safe house to visit on Halloween. And remember you don't need to be at home the whole time- you can just leave a bowl of sweets on the doorstep!

The trail will start from 33 Thatchers End where trail maps will be available for £1 and some seasonal refreshments will be on offer too! This year there will be a trail puzzle to solve for the chance to win a prize! Maps available until 6:30pm.

Calling All Supportive Businesses!

Do you run a small business, work for a local company, or have links to a well-known brand that loves giving back? We're currently gathering prizes for our Christmas Raffle, and we'd be incredibly grateful for any donations.

Whether it's a voucher from a nail salon, a bottle of bubbly from a supermarket, or a treat from your own business, every contribution helps make the raffle a festive success and supports our school.

If you're able to help, please get in touch - we'd love to hear from you!

Curious about where your support goes?

If you're interested in seeing what we raised and how we spent it during the 2024-25 school year, head over to our recent Facebook post for a full breakdown. It's a great way to see the impact of your generosity and how it helps our school!

Stay Connected with the PSA

Calling all Nursery, Reception and other new families to the school!!

Want to stay in the loop with school events, updates, and everyday chatter?

- Join our Facebook Group: Purwell School Association
- Make sure you're in your Class WhatsApp Group - perfect for quick questions, lost jumpers, party invites, and homework reminders! Please note the Nursey group is a little thin on ground at the moment so please do get in touch if you are a nursery parent!

New to Purwell and not sure who your Class Rep is? Just drop us a line at

purwell.school.association@gmail.com and we'll point you in the right direction.

COMING UP:

- Halloween Disco - Friday 24th October 4:30-6:30pm
- Purwell Halloween Trail - Friday 31st October 5-7pm
- After Half term - after school hot chocolate sale, Christmas shop and hopefully a Christmas craft session! More details to follow!

Reception Admissions 2026-2027

Information for admissions into the Reception class are available on the Hertfordshire website, www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions The online system opens on **3rd November 2025** and the deadline for applications is the **15th January 2026**.

Secondary Transfer for Year 6 pupils

All the information you need is available on the website www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions. The website has full details about the application process and a school directory providing information about secondary and upper schools in Hertfordshire. Apply online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions. You should visit the website to view admissions information and apply online because: • it is quick, easy to use and secure • you will receive immediate confirmation that your application has been received and you can view it at any time. If you do not have internet access at home, you can apply online from any Hertfordshire library. The closing date for applications is **Friday 31st October 2025**.

Dates and events for Academic Year 2025/26

Autumn Term 2025

Wednesday 22 nd October	Parent consultations (online appointments)
Thursday 23 rd October	Parent consultation (face-to-face appointments)
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
Wednesday 10 th December	Christmas Lunch and Xmas jumper day
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Productions (EY and KS1)
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Productions (KS2)
Friday 19 th December	1:30pm Christmas assembly with carol singing. Term ends at 2pm

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