

Thought for the week: *"In a world where you can be anything, be kind."* - Jennifer Dukes Lee

**Sports Day on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

The organisation of our forthcoming Sports Day will be like 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, 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 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!

**Open Day/Evening - Wednesday 9th July**

The Open Day and Open Evening for parents will be on Wednesday 9th 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.

**Best Wishes to Miss Larking and Welcome back Mrs Powers**

We'd like to share some lovely news that Miss Larking, who works in our Early Years class, will be starting her maternity leave next week. Miss Larking has been a wonderful part of the EYFS team. She will be greatly missed by both staff and children alike. We wish her all the very best for the exciting journey ahead and look forward to hearing her happy news in the coming weeks.

At the same time, we are delighted to be welcoming back Mrs Powers from her maternity leave. Mrs Powers will be returning to take over the teaching of Beech Class (Year 3), and we're thrilled to have her back as part of the team.

**Sports update**

Our cricketers have had a very busy couple of weeks during which our players have participated in three fixtures and some players enjoyed a trip to Lords to watch Middlesex's victory over Essex. All of this whilst preparing for our County Finals Competition this Thursday 26th at St. Margaretsbury Cricket Club!

An in-house friendly arranged at short notice had our team narrowly lose at Wilshire-Dacre but this was followed up with a very strong performance to win at home against St.Ippolyts on the day after our trip to Lords.

Mr Cano, Mr Brazier and some members of the cricket team visited Lords in London, and had a fabulous afternoon and evening on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June watching Middlesex v Essex. The pupils behaviour throughout the afternoon and evening was a credit to the school.

Fixtures for this Thursday's County Finals have not yet been released but we know that our team will represent the school with pride, demonstrating our Purwell values and doing their best all the time. Good luck, Team Purwell!

Other fixtures before the season concludes are;

*Wednesday 25th June - Whitehill, Friendly @ Purwell*

*Thursday 26th June - County Finals*

*Wednesday 9th July - Purwell v Purwell, End of Season Friendly @ Purwell*

Just a reminder that, due to our cricket team's success, our Sports Day has been rescheduled and will now take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July. In PE, pupils have been busy practising for their events. Last week we had some particularly hot days and, to ensure the safety and well-being of our pupils, these PE sessions were adapted to focus on the same skills but took place in our air-conditioned school hall.

Sports Day points from other intra-house events are already being accumulated and, last Wednesday, Mr Cano umpired a very competitive Basketball competition on the KS2 playground. Each team colour played all the other teams in a 'round-robin' style competition cheered-on by the KS2 children and staff. The matches were fast-paced and closely contested, with excellent teamwork, sharp passing, and some impressive shooting. It was fantastic to see every team displaying sportsmanship and determination. The final results were incredibly close, reflecting the competitive spirit across all year groups. Well done to all the players for their energy and enthusiasm.

Next week also promises to be a busy one, with Cycling Proficiency training for Y6 all week and a Letchworth Greenway Cycle Ride for the Y4/5 Purwell Pedallers, after school, on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Also on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>, but this time during the school day, some of our pupils are going to Hitchin Girls School for a Gym and Dance display.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

As we approach the end of the school year, many of our children are preparing for important transitions. We recognise that change can be challenging, and we are committed to supporting all our pupils through these times.

The EYFS team is working closely with our reception children to help them get ready for their move into Year 1. For our Year 2 pupils transitioning to Key Stage 2, we are offering them the opportunity to spend one break time each week in the KS2 playground during this half term. They will be supported by familiar staff to ensure this new experience is a positive and reassuring one.

Behind the scenes, a lot of work is taking place to support our Year 6 pupils as they prepare to move on to secondary school. Transitioning to a new setting can be exciting but also a little overwhelming. If you would like some advice on how to support your Year 6 child at home, this helpful blog from Young Minds may be useful: [!\[\]\(9c2e8d1b5bd77cb5c9f83b7a9cff79fd\_img.jpg\) Helping Your Child Manage the Move from Primary to Secondary School](#)

## **Thank You!**

A huge thank you to everyone who came along and supported the Big Purwell Picnic on Saturday. We hope you had a wonderful time - it was great to see so many families enjoying the sunshine together!

A special thank you goes to all the amazing volunteers who helped set up, run stalls, and tidy away - we couldn't have done it without you!

## **Sports Day Refreshments**

We'll be providing refreshments at Sports Day, so be sure to stop by and grab a drink or snack to keep you going while you cheer on the children.

## **Frozen Fridays Are Back!**

Get ready for Frozen Fridays throughout July - we'll be selling ice creams (£1) and ice lollies (50p) after school each Friday. Perfect for cooling down after a warm summer day!

## **Support Us with Easyfundraising!**

Did you know you can raise money for our school just by doing your usual online shopping? Easyfundraising turns everyday purchases into free donations for our school = at no extra cost to you!

It's simple to use:

1. Go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and search for our cause.
2. Sign up and choose our school as your charity.
3. Start your online shopping via the Easyfundraising website or app - retailers will donate a percentage of what you spend.

With hundreds of retailers like Amazon, John Lewis, eBay, and more taking part, it's an easy way to help us raise valuable funds. Thank you for your support!

Facebook - Purwell School Association - for updates, events, and school news!

PSA email - [purwell.school.association@gmail.com](mailto:purwell.school.association@gmail.com)

**Next PSA meeting - Wednesday 16th July, 8pm, Purwell Community Room**

## **Local Support and workshops for parents**

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

All the dates below are on our website; [www.purwell.herts.sch.uk](http://www.purwell.herts.sch.uk)

## **Dates for Summer Term 2025**

Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Cricket Team to County Finals
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	School closed for Inset Day
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	School Open Day and Evening meeting
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Meet the teacher and Secondary transfer day for Y6
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of term (2pm finish)

## **Academic Year 2025/26**

### **Autumn Term 2025**

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

### **Spring Term 2026**

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

### **Summer Term 2026**

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