

PURWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL
28th January 2026

P

Thought for the week: "In the simple joys of life, children remind us to rediscover wonder, curiosity, and the beauty of the present moment."

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Children's Mental Health Week, (9th-13th February 2026)

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We are busy planning a range of activities for the children in celebration of Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is "This is My Place."

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Last year, we were fortunate to have several parents and carers, volunteer their time to come into school and run activities with the children. This was a great success, giving pupils the chance to experience a wider range of activities than would otherwise have been possible.

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If you feel you could support us in any way during this special week, please do get in touch. Your involvement will help make the week meaningful and memorable for all our children.

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Wellbeing Ambassadors Update by Scarlett, Amy-Rose and Rosie

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This year we started Wellbeing Wednesdays. This is when the children from KS2 go to the KS1 playground at lunchtime to play together. We have shown the children how to play games like duck duck goose and chicken hero twin. We want to help pupils at Purwell feel happy and included in games.

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We have decorated boxes for classrooms so that everyone in Purwell can share their opinions and ideas. We have voted for the ideas and presented them to Mr Cano.

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Parent Coffee Morning

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You are warmly invited to our next SEN Coffee Morning, taking place on Thursday 12 March 2026, from 9:00-10:00am, in the community room on the junior playground. You do not need to stay for the full session, and refreshments will be available.

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These informal sessions provide a relaxed opportunity for parents and carers to meet, share any worries, ask questions, and support one another. Mrs Mullan (SENCo) and Mrs Walker (Pastoral LSA) will be available for a chat and to offer advice or guidance.

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If there is anything in particular you would like to discuss or learn more about, please feel free to get in touch with us in advance. We look forward to seeing you there.

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Attendance update

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As part of our regular feature on attendance, I am pleased to announce that the current attendance for the school stands at 93.5%, which means we are slightly off-track to achieve our 94% target this year. So, let's keep coming to school every day! Last week's attendance award was won once again by Acorn Class. That's three weeks on the trot.

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We would like to thank parents for their support with this initiative to help boost school attendance.

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Clubs for this half term

Clubs for this term have now begun and details can be found below. Please contact the office if your child would like to attend any of these clubs, or if you would like to receive any further information about them.

After school clubs for this half term;

Cheerleading - Mondays (3:15 - 4:30pm)
Cookery Club - Mondays (3:15 - 4:30pm)
Chess Club - Mondays (3:15 - 4:30pm)
Running Club - Tuesdays (3:15 - 4:30pm)
Netball Club - Wednesdays (3:15 - 4:30pm)

Yoga continues to be offered by an external provider on Wednesday mornings (8:00 - 8:45am).

Running Club

This weekend runners from our Cross Country Running squad, William R, Eljay and Jayden are representing the school at the Hertfordshire Schools Association's Annual Cross Country Championship. The morning kicks off with the Year 6 race at 10am which William will be running in and then Eljay and Jayden will be running at 10.40am. We would like to wish them all the best of luck and look forward to sharing their achievements with the school community next week.

Fixtures

Our first sports fixture of this term took place last Monday (19th January) and saw our A Team footballers travel the short distance to Highover for a league match. It was a thrilling game that saw our team bounce back to 2-2 at half time, having gone 2-0 behind early on. In an end-to-end second half, Highover eventually won 6-3 in what was an incredibly enjoyable match - and one where both teams played some wonderful 'total' football with fluent passing and movement. All of the players represented the school admirably and a special mention is definitely deserved for McKinley who scored a hat-trick of three goals - his first ever - to join an exclusive band of players to achieve this whilst playing for our school team. Well done all!

Fixtures and sports events for this half term

- Y6 Dodgeball (at Knights Templar Sports Centre, 1:30 to 3:30pm) - Wednesday 28th January
- KS2 Sports Hall Athletics (at Hitchin Boys' School Sports Centre, 3:30 to 5:30pm) - Thursday 29th January
- A Team Football v. William Ransom (home) - Tuesday 3rd February
- Boys' Netball v. Whitehill (away) - Wednesday 4th February

Communicating with teachers

If you wish to contact your child's teacher for any reason, please do so via the school office by email, Absence-Misc@purwell.herts.sch.uk or by phoning 01462 432950. Alternatively, if you are able to, you can speak directly with the teacher at the start and the end of each day, before they enter the classroom to start the day, bearing in mind the limited time they have, but it might be long enough to deliver a message, or to arrange a meeting, if necessary. We can now also arrange video meetings on line for parents.

Nursery Admissions 2026

Nursery admissions are open and the deadline for applications is 20th March. Application forms can be obtained from the office or on the school website, Nursery admissions is with the school not HCC.

PSA News

Lots to look forward to this half term, thanks to our brilliant PSA.

Wednesday 4th February

Wednesday Warmer, after school hot chocolate sale  

Friday 13th February

Friendship Disco  

Please keep an eye on the PSA Facebook page for more details coming very soon 

Next PSA meeting

Wednesday 28th January, 8pm, Community Room.

Everyone is very welcome, we would love to see some new faces 

Taking holidays during term time

Another reminder to parents that you should not take your child on holiday in term time, as it is disruptive both to your child's education and to school and could result in a severe fine. The next academic year's dates are shown below, so any parents making holiday plans can check they fit around the school dates first before booking anything

Dates and events for Academic Year 2026

Spring Term 2026

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
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 25 th - Friday 29 th May	Half term
Monday 1 st June	Inset Day
Friday 26 th June	Sports Day
Wednesday 8 th July	School Open Day
Thursday 9 th July	Pupils meet their new teacher for September
Friday 10 th July	Inset Day
Thursday 23 rd July	End of Term 2pm

Next Academic Year 2026/27

Autumn Term 2026

Tuesday 1 st September	School closed for INSET day
Wednesday 2 nd September	Children return to school
26 th Oct- 30 th Oct	Half-term
Friday 4 th December	School closed for occasional day
Friday 18 th December	Last day of term

Spring Term 2027

Monday 4 th January	School closed for INSET day
Tuesday 5 th January	Children return to school
15 th - 19 th February	Half-term
Monday 22 nd February	School closed for INSET day
Thursday 25 th March	Last day of term

Summer Term 2027

Monday 12 th April	School closed for INSET day
Tuesday 13 th April	Children return to school
Monday 3 rd May	Bank holiday
31 st May - 4 th June	Half-term
Thursday 8 th July	Meet the teacher day (Secondary transition day)
Friday 9 th July	School closed for INSET day
Thursday 22 nd July	Last day of term