

Thought for the week: *'If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much'. - Marian Edelman.*

Sports Day - Thursday 27th June

This year, Sports Day will be on Thursday 27th June. The organisation of the day will be similar to 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 and Cherry 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!

Inter-House competitions

This term's inter-house competitions have already started and the children have been very excited to start earning points for their teams, with our winning team destined to be crowned at our Sports Day on Thursday 27th June.

Last year's winners were our yellow team (Wilshere) and they are very keen to regain the trophy, however, Benchley (Blue), Fairfield (Green) and Sanfoine (Red) are all keen to get their colours on the shield this year.

In addition to the points won on Sports Day, points are being earned in cricket, chess and table tennis competitions that are already underway with basketball and cup-stacking competitions starting next week.

Open Day/Evening - Wednesday 10th July

The Open Day and Open Evening for parents will be on Wednesday 10th 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.

You Said, We Did

Following the recent parent survey, school leaders have been meeting to agree how best we can respond to the suggestions parents, pupils and staff have made for school improvement. This, *'you said, we did'* section will be a regular feature of the newsletters for the rest of the term. *You said, we did*, will also be the title of a display board going up in the entrance lobby of the school. It will detail what the school is putting in place to improve what we currently provide for pupils and parents. The school governors are also playing a big part in this process as they respond to parental feedback at meetings, when they will review milestones set in the School Improvement Plan.

You said: 24% of the parents who responded didn't think there was enough extra-curricular provision for our younger pupils.

We did: From September, staff will be running a variety of extracurricular clubs for pupils for all ages, both during lunchtimes and after school. These will cover a range of sports, hobbies, art and craft. Some of the suggestions that staff have already proposed are creative art, cookery, science, board games and library club.

You said: Communication regarding sports fixtures is sometimes short notice, or incorrect.

We did: From today, all future sporting fixtures will be featured at the end of each newsletter.

You said: 15% of the parents who responded didn't know what the work of the school leaders, including the governors was.

We did: From today, the school newsletter will have a new feature detailing the work of school leaders including governors.

You said: An online questionnaire would be easier.

We did: The parent questionnaire will continue to be the main source for formal feedback from parents and, for future surveys, parents will be able to choose to complete it either in paper form, or online.

Expect more *You said, we did*s to come in future newsletters.

Addressing bullying update

On analysing the parent questionnaires, we found two comments that referred to the issue of bullying in school. A few weeks ago, we shared with parents the school's definition of bullying. We know that bullying is taking place when all these criteria are met.

Being mean

On purpose

Over and over

The children remember this as **BOO** for short.

One of the parents who believed that their child had been the victim of bullying outside school came forward and we deemed the case as meeting the criteria, i.e., it was not a one-off incidence of children being unkind to one another. I am pleased to say we were able to address the problem immediately and involved the pupils and their parents in resolving the issue.

We take cases such as this very seriously at Purwell and monitor the children closely for any signs of unkindness and/or antisocial behaviour toward each other. But that is not to say that things can be missed that go on under-the-radar or if they happen online, or on social media. So, we urge parents to approach the school if they have any concerns at all that their children might be being bullied at school, or outside school, via social media, or computer gaming.

The work of the school governors

This is a new addition to newsletters and will be a regular feature in the future. It comes in response to parental feedback in wanting to know more about the work of school leaders and the Governing Body. School governors are currently monitoring progress of the **School Improvement Plan (SIP)**. They have been focusing on whether the milestones set out for improvements are being reached and then holding the school to account where they are not. Part of the governors' role is to pose challenging questions to the school, represented in meetings by Mr Cano and Mrs Lancaster and also, to recognise and celebrate successes, as appropriate. This approach can be summarised as the **critical friend** role and is considered to be best practice.

This year, the key areas identified for greater progress in the SIP have been: safeguarding; assessment; pupil premium; behaviour; reading and phonics; EYFS; subject leadership and curriculum.

In addition, key policies and procedures were reviewed and ratified by Governing Body. This is to ensure that the school operates in a clear and systematic way. At the last meeting, the following policies were reviewed and ratified: the attendance policy; presentation and marking; refugees and asylum seekers; Dogs on the school site.

Future newsletters will include the ongoing work of school leaders, including the Governing Body. A link to these and other useful policies can be found on our website: [Purwell Primary School » Policies](#)

Becoming a school governor

Being a school governor is an incredibly rewarding role to take on and it means that you can have a direct input in creating the future success of the school. We currently have two vacancies on the Governing Body. Any parents who are considering becoming a school governor can find out more about the role by approaching Mrs Sharp in the school office. Alternatively, we have a page on our school website that can be accessed by the link below. [Purwell Primary School » Role & Responsibilities](#)

School hall hire

The school hall is available for private hire for birthdays and events outside the school day. Please contact the school office for further details.

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. The next academic year's dates are attached to this newsletter, so any parents making holiday plans can check that they fit around the school dates first before booking anything.

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. Parent Highlights: <https://tinyurl.com/DSPLnews> - easy link for sharing with parents; SEND Directory - Local Offer ; DSPL 1 Parent Representative Advert.

PSA news & events

May was a busy month... a big thank you to everyone who donated sweet jars, popped by to see us at the Walsworth Festival and/or bought some plants at the plant sale! We also reviewed a wish list from the staff and will be purchasing some fantastic resources for the school with the money you all helped to raise.

Summer Fair, Saturday 6th July 11am-2pm - We will be holding a classic summer fair this year- plenty of games/stalls, bouncy castle, BBQ and bar! We will need lots of volunteers and hopefully your class rep has already been in touch with some ways you can help. We can't do it without you!

Purwell Party Pack - Don't forget if you have a party coming up soon we have our awesome party pack available to hire. It contains plates, bowls, cups, cutlery, jugs, serving plates and bunting! £5 per hire + £1 damage deposit. Email the PSA to book!

PSA communications - to keep up to date with all things PSA please join the Facebook Group and make sure you are on your class WhatsApp group. If you're new to the school and not sure who your Class Rep is please email Purwell.school.association@gmail.com and we'll help!

Next PSA meeting - tbc

School uniform recycle, bring and swap

A date for you summer calendars. On Sunday 18th August, all the school uniform that the school holds will be put out on display for parents to take what they need for their ever-growing children. We also welcome from parents, donations of any used uniform that is clean and in good condition. Ideally please bring those with you on the day. Here's a useful link to the page on the school website regarding school uniform [Purwell Primary School » Uniform](#)

SCHOOL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Dates for Summer term 2024

Thursday 27 th June	Sports Day, EY/infants am, juniors pm.
Friday 28 th June	School closed for Inset Day
Saturday 6 th July	PSA Summer Fair, 11-2pm
Wednesday 10 th July	Open day (2:15pm) and evening (6pm)
Thursday 11 th July	Meet the teacher morning for pupils
Monday 15 th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly (2:15) NEW
Friday 19 th July	1:30pm End of term assembly. (2pm finish)
Sunday 18 th August	Uniform clothing drive. 10am until 12:30pm. NEW

Sporting Fixtures

Sports Fixtures (2 nd half of Summer Term 2024)		
Date	Sport	Details
Wednesday 12 th June	Cricket	v. Ickleford (away) 3:15-4:45pm
Wednesday 19 th June	Cricket	v. Whitehill (home) 3:15-4:45pm
Wednesday 26 th June	Athletics	District Athletics Competition 8:30am- 1:00pm
Thursday 27 th June	Athletics	School Sports Day (EYFS/KS1 morning, KS2 afternoon)
Wednesday 10 th July	Cycling	3.15pm – 5.30pm - Purwell Pedallers Greenway Adventure

Final dates of Lunchtime and after school clubs

Wizard Workshop (EYFS) - last date, Friday 21st June
Cycling - last date, Tuesday 2nd July
Netball - last date, Wednesday 3rd July
Chess - No chess on Monday 1st July, so last date is Monday 8th July

The last date for lunchtime clubs will be Friday 5th July.

The last Wednesday morning yoga session will be on Wednesday 17th July.

Academic Year 2024/25

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2 nd September	School closed for INSET day
Tuesday 3 rd September	Children return to school
28 th Oct- 1 st November	Half-term
Monday 4 th November	School Closed for INSET day
Friday 6 th December	School closed for occasional day
Friday 20 th December	Last day of term

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6 th January	School closed for INSET day
Tuesday 7 th January	Children return to school
17 th - 21 st February	Half-term
Friday 4 th April	Last day of term

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22 nd April	School closed for INSET day
Wednesday 23 th April	Children return to school
Monday 5 th May	Bank holiday
26 th - 30 th May	Half-term
Friday 27 th June	School closed for INSET day
Wednesday 9 th July	Open day and evening.
Thursday 10 th July	Meet the teacher day (Secondary transition day)
Wednesday 23 rd July	Last day of term