

Purwell Primary School

8th February 2022

Thought of the week: "Talents are best nurtured in solitude. Character is best formed in the stormy billows of the world." - Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe

Introducing Little Wandle

We have introduced the revised 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds' which is a complete systematic, synthetic phonics programme. Little Wandle Letters and Sounds draws on the latest research into how children learn best; how to ensure learning stays in children's long-term memory and how best to enable children to apply their learning to become highly competent readers.

Phonics begins in Nursery - Daily 'phase 1' activities are introduced to embed the foundations for phonics. This will ensure children are well prepared to begin grapheme-phoneme correspondence and blending at the start of Reception. Daily phonic sessions continue into Year 1 and the Autumn term in Year 2.

Throughout the phonics programme, progress is tracked and monitored closely to identify children who require 'keep up' sessions. These short sessions will be specific to individual needs and will take place throughout the school day. Children in Key Stage 2 will continue to receive 'keep up' interventions until they have a secure knowledge of phonic phases 1-5.

For more information on each phase, how phonics is taught in school and how you can support at home, click the link below.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised



Parent Teacher Consultations

These will take place on:

Wednesday 30th March - Parent Consultations (Early)

Thursday 31st March - Parent Consultations (Late)

Booking forms for consultations will be in the entrance lobby from 3pm on Friday 18th March for all pupils, from Nursery to Year 6. In the past, only parents of Nursery pupils in their first term of Nursery were invited to parent teacher consultations. This has been extended to include all Nursery pupils.

Fond Farewell and Warm Welcomes

Sadly, Mrs Law has announced that she is to leave Purwell School, at half term, to explore a complete career change. We wish her well with that new venture. Fortunately, we will not be losing Mrs Law's services entirely, as she will continue to run our Panthers Cheerleading Club, on a Monday, after school.

After half term, we will be welcoming two new support staff to the team. They are Mr Burke, who will be supporting KS2 classes and Mrs Rook who will supporting in KS1.

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Nursery admissions for September 2022

Nursery Admissions for September 2022 are open. Application forms for our nursery can be found on the school's website, or from the office and you can apply either by the nursery email (nurseryadmissions@purwell.herts.sch.uk) or contacting the school office. The application deadline is 14th March 2022.

Some parents may be eligible for 30 hours a week nursery. Please check this link to see if your child is eligible, 30 hours free childcare - [30 hours free childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Covid Update

As of last Thursday, the government's 'Plan B' came to an end which removed certain protocols from our daily routines. That being said, we still have a few cases of Covid across the school and although these do not constitute 'an outbreak', I have taken the decision to maintain our current arrangements throughout the school.

We will maintain our pre-recorded approach to assemblies and staggered lunchtimes to minimise the number of pupils and staff in any one enclosed space. We will continue to track absences to monitor possible links, although the local authority is beginning to scale back their support of Covid management in school and it will be for us to deal with.

Isolation currently stands at five days, providing a negative lateral flow test is carried out on day five and day six. Should you need advice on isolation, the school office will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Should we have any further outbreaks, children who must isolate will be provided with online learning. I think it is worth saying a huge 'thank you' to our teaching team who have worked tirelessly now for nearly two years to ensure all our pupils have received quality teaching throughout and missed out on very little.

Odd Socks Day - Friday 13th

This week is Children's Mental Health Week (7-13 February 2022).

To raise awareness of this, we are encouraging children to wear odd socks on Friday to celebrate what makes us all unique and spread kindness. This initiative has been used to raise awareness for different types of needs and supported by CBeebies presenter Andy Day and his band 'Andy and the Odd Socks'.

Dates for Spring Term

11 th February	Odd Socks Day
14 th - 18 th February	Half-term
Friday 18 th March	Red Nose Day - Non-uniform day (£1 donation requested).
Wednesday 30 th March	Parent Consultations
Thursday 31 st March	Parent Consultations
Friday 1 st April	Last day of term

Dates for Summer Term 2022

Tuesday 19 th April	School closed for Inset Day
Wednesday 20 th April	Pupils return to school
Monday 2 nd May	May Bank Holiday
Mon 9 th May	Year 6 SATs week commences
30 th May-3 rd June	Half-term
Friday 1 st June	School closed for Inset Day
Friday 24 th June	Sports Day
Friday 22 nd July	Last day of term

Academic Dates for 2022/23

Autumn Term 2022

Thu 1 st September	Children return to school
Fri 23rd September	School closed for Inset Day
Mon 24 th Oct-Fri 28 th Oct	Half term
Mon 31st October	School closed for Inset Day
Fri 2nd December	School closed for Occasional Day
Wed 21 st December	Last day of term

Spring Term 2023

Thu 5 th January	Children return to school
Mon 13 th Feb-Fri 17 th Feb	Half term
Fri 10th March	School closed for Inset Day
Fri 31 st March	Last day of term

Summer Term 2023

Mon 17th April	School closed for Inset Day
Tues 18 th April	Children return to school
Mon 1 st May	Bank holiday
Tue 30 th May - Fri 2 nd Jun	Half term
Fri 30th June	School closed for Inset Day
Fri 21 st July	Last day of term

Parent and carers workshops, advice and support

NEW Signalong Foundation Course. Suitable for parents and professionals. Cost £130 per person, including a certificate provided by Signalong on completion of the course and a Phase 1 Signalong book. Max 12 spaces available. Woolgrove School, 7 sessions 1pm to 2:30pm Thursdays starting 10 Feb to 31 March excl. half term. Contact, vickylitchfield@woolgrove.herts.sch.uk for booking.

REMINDER Transition Survey for parent/carers of SEND children currently in Year 6. Please complete this short survey regarding your experience of secondary school open days. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SecondaryTransition2021>

NEW - Supporting adolescents who have Anxiety and/or Low Mood - Parent Workshop - Tuesday, 8 February 2022 1:15pm to 2:30pm -Booking: [Bookings - NESSie IN ED, CIC](#)

NEW Family Lives Spring term parenting groups - See flyers and referral forms

- [Time to Talk about Pre-Teens and Teens \(6 weeks\)](#)

Wednesdays, 9.30-11.30 from 23rd February to 30th March 2022

- [Time to Talk about Pre-Teens and Teens \(6 weeks\)](#)

Wednesdays, 7.00pm-9.00pm from 23rd February to 30th March 2022

The Time to Talk group is particularly suited for parents and or carers of pre-teen/teenagers who are feeling anxious or isolated in the wake of Covid-19, have concerns about their pre-teens' / teens' mental health and feel they might be at risk or involved in risky behaviour. It

is also suitable for parents/carers where there is a FFA/CIN/CP. Our free online group gives an insight into their challenging behaviour and ideas on how to negotiate and resolve conflict, to offer support around mental health issues and to improve communication. We accept referrals from professionals as well as self-referrals. Referrals can be made by clicking for our online [Referral form](#) or by emailing a completed referral form. Following our data protection protocols, please note emailed referral forms must be password-protected before sending to services@familylives.org.uk with the password sent in a separate email. Call 0204 522 8700 or 8701 for more information.

NEW CAMHS EDUCATION PROGRAMME

FREE Online Education Programme for Parents/Carers of secondary school aged young people who are using a **CAMHS Clinic, Step2 or Counselling Service**. Tuesday's 22 February, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 March from 7pm to 9pm. - state in comments which service your child is using, the course content is NOT helpful for parent/carers of young people with an autistic spectrum condition.

NEW Supporting Links - Talking ASD & ADHD Workshops

Anxiety & Stress 16 March 2022 12:30pm to 2:30pm

Responding to Anger 7 March 2022 7:30pm to 9:30pm or 28 March 12:30pm to 2:20pm

NEW Supporting Children with Additional Needs:

Funded by HCC, provided by NESSie and Angels Support Group. See flyer for further workshops. **Girls & Women** - 23 February 12pm to 1:30pm [Bookings - NESSie IN ED, CIC](#)

Families in Focus

Various training - see website ([Families in Focus - Looking forward together](#)) or email [Autism, ADHD & neurodevelopmental conditions/needs courses Spring 2022 / Parent Networks / Handling anger in child with Autism/ADHD]

Family Lives Training

Getting on with your pre-teen or teenager (targeted at FFA, CIN, COP or Youth Justice Plan) 26 Jan to 9 Mar - see DSPL 1 website for details

Bringing up confident children for parents of children with ADHD/ASD (online group) 27 Jan to 10 Mar - see flyers (daytime/evening avail) - see DSPL 1 website for details

ADD-vance have many funded training workshops for parents and carers of children and young people with ADHD/ASC - [ADD-vance](#)

Supporting Links Spring Training open for booking [Workshops \(supportinglinks.co.uk\)](#) (Includes: Talking Teens, Talking ADHD/ASC). More details: [All Training, Workshops & Events \(nhdspl.org.uk\)](#)

Family Centre SEND Drop-In

First Thursday of each month, **ISL Advice Line, Young People**

Information/Events/Reminders

[Services for Mental health and wellbeing \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)