

PURWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

26th November 2025

Thought for the day; "Education is not the filling of a pail, it is the lighting of a fire."

William Butler Yeats

Assembly Focus: Careers for the Future

Our current assembly topic has been all about **careers** and getting our pupils thinking about what they might like to be when they grow up. We talked about the huge range of jobs in the world and how everyone's skills, passions, and interests can lead them down very different and exciting paths. We also had **Craig Jardine**, an EasyJet pilot based at Luton Airport, visit Purwell to talk about life in the cockpit. Craig, part of EasyJet's Pilot Outreach team, shared fascinating stories, answered some brilliant questions, and helped challenge stereotypes about what a pilot looks like. The children were completely inspired, and judging by how many suddenly wanted to become pilots by the end, he may have changed a few of their minds about what they want to be in the future! ✈️



As we continue exploring careers this term, we would **love to hear from our parents and carers.**

If you have an **interesting job**, or one that could **inspire our children**, and you'd be willing to come in and talk during an assembly or class session, please get in touch with the school office. It makes such a difference for children to hear from real people doing real jobs. Thank you for helping our pupils dream big about their futures. ☀️

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 10th December

Our annual Christmas Lunch will take place on Wednesday 10th December. Children are welcome to come to school wearing their festive Christmas jumpers to help get everyone into the holiday spirit.

On schoolgateway when you order your child's lunch on Wednesday 10th December, please bear in mind, you can only order the Roast option or the vegetarian option. If you click on the jacket potato options unfortunately your child will not get a meal, as the kitchen is only making the roast lunch and vegetarian option on this day.



Christmas Productions - Rehearsals are Underway!

Rehearsals for our much-loved Christmas productions are now in full swing. This year, Early Years and the infant classes will perform separately from the junior classes, giving each group their moment to shine. There will be a small admission charge to help support our ongoing school improvement projects:

- £2.00 for children of primary school age (up to 11 years old)
- £4.00 for everyone else

Tickets will be on sale via schoolcomms or (cash) in the school office from Monday 8th December. Performance dates:

- Nursery to Year 2: Wednesday 17th December at 2:15pm and 6:30pm
- Years 3 to 6: Thursday 18th December at 2:15pm and 6:30pm

We look forward to welcoming families to celebrate the festive season with us.



Coats and Cold Weather Reminder

As the weather continues to be changeable, please make sure your child comes to school with a warm coat with a hood each day. We go outside whenever possible, even in light rain, so it's important they're properly dressed for the conditions.

Please ensure that all coats and other items that your child brings in to school are clearly labelled with their name, so that any lost belongings can be quickly returned. Thank you for your help in keeping everyone warm, dry and organised this season!

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 is open and the **DEADLINE** for applications is the **15th January 2026**.

Nursery admissions is open from 1st February until 20th March 2026, application forms can be obtained from the office or on the website, Nursery admissions is with the school not HCC.

PSA NEWS

The Christmas Shop is Coming!

A magical chance for children to choose a special gift for a grown-up in their family - all by themselves! They'll wrap it up and write a tag at school, ready to surprise someone they love this festive season.

Payment Options:

- On the day: Children can bring cash.
- In advance: Pay online to the usual PSA bank account (Purwell School Association (Business account), Sc 090129, Ac 37165077)

Important! If you're paying online, please let your Class Rep know how many gifts you've paid for - they'll be passing the info to our busy Christmas Shop Elves!

Pay It Forward - we want every child to experience the joy of giving, even if times are tough, so if you're able to help, you can add an extra £2 to your payment to support another child's gift. Thank you for spreading the cheer!

PSA Christmas Raffle - Amazing Prizes to Be Won!

Packed with brilliant prizes for the whole family, including:

- A Samsung Galaxy Tablet



- A Family Pass to Knebworth House, Gardens & Dino Trail
- A Family Photography Session
- ...and many more fantastic treats!

Tickets will be coming home in children's bags over the next couple of weeks. To enter the draw, simply fill in your details on the ticket stub and return it, along with your payment, in the envelope provided.

Prefer to pay by card? No problem! Card payments will be available on selected days at pick-up. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and your class WhatsApp group for details.

Draw will be after the KS2 Christmas performance on Thursday 18th December.

Festive Refreshments at the Christmas Performances – Wed 17th & Thurs 18th

- Afternoon shows: hot chocolate and a tasty mince pie.
- Evening shows: mulled wine, mulled cider, and mince pies.

Christmas Craft Session – Coming Soon (hopefully!)

We're still hoping to run a Christmas Craft Session before the end of term – most likely on a Saturday afternoon. It will be a wonderful chance for families to get creative together and make something festive to take home.

Please keep an eye out for updates – we'll confirm the date and details as soon as possible!

Dates and events for Academic Year 2025/26

Autumn Term 2025

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

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 10 th July	Inset Day
Thursday 23 rd July	End of Term 2pm