

Purwell Primary School – after school play centre development

North Herts District Council Council are submitting a funding application to the Big Lottery Fund to develop an after school play centre at Purwell Primary School.

On the 7th February 2007, Council officers consulted with pupils on the school playground to see what they thought of the proposal. 28 girls, and 16 boys were interviewed aged between 5 and 11 years old. A summary of the headline results is as follows:

- ✓ Everyone thought that the idea of an after school play centre was a good idea.
- ✓ The most popular activities that you would like to do are Arts and crafts, Hanging out with Friends (77%), Cookery (75%), Playing Sports (75%), and Computers (84%).
- ✓ Most children said they would like it to be open everyday after school.
- ✓ Children in years 3-6 thought it would be a good idea to have separate days for younger and older children.
- ✓ Most of you said you would like it to be open straight after school until about 6pm.

Council officers also spoke to the school council to get their perspective. The school council rep's said that although there was a lot to do after school already, it would be good to have somewhere to go and play for free and do things like play skittles, rounders, hang out with mates and art. They also said a good play centre would have space for dancing, carpet, cool music, colourful walls and a tuck shop.

The Council will hear from Big Lottery in early July 2007 whether the funding application has been successful. If funding is awarded, an action plan for the development of the play centre will be developed which will involve further consultation with local residents, children and young people.

For more information, please contact Helen Turner, Children and Young Persons Development Manager.