



NEWSLETTER

18 NOVEMBER 2022

WELCOME

This week, the children and teachers have had a keen focus on Art, a diverse range of artists and a variety of techniques developed across the school. A review of the subject, conducted by our Art team and our Hertfordshire School Improvement Partner, Joanna Di Bella, confirmed that the design of the art curriculum and the way it is being implemented is providing children with opportunities to develop their artistic skill through collaboration and agency. We encourage you to check in with Twitter to see the range of Art the children have created, speak to you your child about their experiences in school and check in with [curriculum](#) pages of our website to see the detail around what is taught across the school. We know you'll be really impressed!

Our ongoing commitment to nurture, supporting the children both emotionally and socially, continues to evolve and drive the school forward. A case study on the work at Laurance Haines, written by Mrs Furey, has been shared with schools up and down the country this week. The guidance shared with other schools includes the day-to-day strategies that our Laurance Haines team employ to support all children to be nurtured and ready to learn. These include our daily greeting, children checking in with an adult about their emotions and being supported to self-regulate and our ongoing assessment of each child's personal, social and emotional development. Thank you to Mrs Furey and our staff for driving these ongoing advancements which are now an essential part of the school culture.

In the coming weeks, we have a number of special events for the children to enjoy. We invite the children to wear football kits, national dress and their own clothes on Monday 21st November, as part of our school's launch of the FIFA World Cup. The England v Iran match will be shown in school at 1pm. On Friday 9th December, we invite you all to join for our Christmas Fair, being hosted by our PTA, who will be aiming to raise essential funds for the school. This year, they have already supported further investment for our school library, with additional books for all to enjoy. Thank you to all who have been involved and will be over the coming year.

Congratulations to Mr Sharkey on his 5 years of service to the school, supporting us daily to cross the road safely.

Sebastian Gray
Headteacher

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

This Spotlight on Learning comes from the office team. Many of you already know us, but in case you don't, we'd love to introduce ourselves to you and tell you a bit about the different roles we undertake.

We are a small team comprised of 4 main office staff and our School Business Officer Miss Cannon.

Front of house we have Mrs Gunning who works mornings and sits on the front desk. She is our attendance officer and has worked at Laurance Haines for over 10 years and knows almost everyone by sight! She provides warm greetings and a familiar face for our families.

We also have Mrs Tucker who works at Laurance Haines on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Mrs Tucker is our admin for school trips, pupil premium, milk, violins and many more things besides! Mrs Tucker has worked at Laurance Haines for an incredible 18 years. She also works at the Trust finance office on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Two newer faces to our team are Mrs Simmons and Mrs Eames. Mrs Eames is often the first face new families joining our school will meet. She helps new families to feel welcome from the very first interaction. She deals with school admissions and other pupil focused admin as well as managing the admin email account. She joined us at the end of last year having previously working in the classroom as a 1:1 teaching assistant.

Mrs Simmons is our Staff and HR focused admin assistant and has been with us for just over a year. If you ever need any help with any of the school apps like Arbor or MarvellousME, she is the one to ask! Although she is staff focused, Mrs Simmons is always happy to help our families in any way that she can. She also runs the school social media pages and creates these newsletters!

We also have the lovely Mrs DeMaria who helps us on a Thursday and Friday afternoon on the front desk and is a welcoming face for our families.

-The Office Team

ATTENDANCE

Many congratulations to over 150 of our pupils for achieving over 97% attendance for the first half of the Autumn term. Keep this up!

Do you know what your child's attendance is? You can check by logging into the Arbor app and scrolling down to 'statistics'. Under this heading you can see your child's attendance for the whole year and the last 4 weeks displayed as percentages.

If your child's attendance is below 90%, they are a 'persistent absentee' and their attendance will be monitored by the local authority. You may receive a letter or phone call from school over the coming weeks to discuss how we can support you to help increase your child's attendance.

Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve at higher levels. We want this for all of our pupils.

REMEMBRANCE DAY



We are delighted to announce that as a school we raised an amazing £488.20 for the Royal British Legion through the sale of poppies. Well done Laurance Haines!

The whole school held a 2 minute silence on Remembrance Day and the children took part in learning opportunities throughout the day to support their understanding of remembrance day.



PTA CHRISTMAS EVENT

Our wonderful PTA are hosting a Christmas Mini Event after school on Friday 9th December.

On this day, children will be invited to wear their own clothes from home in exchange for chocolate. More information will be coming shortly.



Y1 PHONICS WORKSHOP

On Tuesday 22nd November, Year 1 will be holding a phonics workshop for parents and carers in the lower hall from 3pm-3:20pm. This workshop will help parents to help their children learn their sounds and with blending to read.



PACKED LUNCHES

You may notice that your child is now coming home with any leftover lunch in their lunch box. This is to improve home-school communication and so parents are aware of how much their children are eating.



FIFA WORLD CUP

Following on from Mr Gray's letter this week - children will be invited to wear football kits, own clothes or national dress on Monday 21st November to celebrate the coming together of nations for this sporting spectacle.

There will also be an opportunity, for those who wish to, to watch the first game - England V Iran on the big screens at 1pm.

Please see the email from Mr Gray for further details.

VACANCIES

We currently have the following vacancies. If you or anyone you know is interested, please click the link to apply via My New Term:

- [Office Manager Vacancy](#)
- [SEN 1:1 Teaching Assistant Vacancy](#)
- [Teaching Assistant Vacancy](#)



SCHOOL OFFICE

For any enquiries, please telephone 01923 233146 or email the school office:
admin@lhaines.herts.sch.uk

BIKEABILITY

Year 5 Bikeability Course

We are pleased to offer Year 5 children the opportunity to take part in a Bikeability training course to improve their cycle control. It will take place at school during the week commencing Monday 16th January and is excellent value at £12.50 for the course. Children must have their own bicycle and helmet. For further information please letter recently emailed. Please pay on Arbor to book a place for your child (found under "trips").

Beginners Biking Course for Reception, Years 1 & 2

We are excited to introduce a Beginners Biking course for children in Reception, Years 1 & 2 on Friday 27th January in school. It is great value at £7.50 per child and lasts for an hour (time to be confirmed). Children must have their own bicycle and helmet. A parent or carer must be in attendance during the session. For further information please letter recently emailed. Please pay on Arbor to book a place for your child (found under "trips").

Further Bikeability Course (for Year 6 children who passed the course last year)

We are delighted to offer those children in Year 6 who passed the Bikeability course last year, the chance to take the next level course. It will take place here at school week commencing Monday 23rd January and is excellent value at £12.50 for the course. Children must have their own bicycle and helmet. Please pay on Arbor to book a place for your child (found under "trips"). For further information please letter recently emailed.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Diary Dates

- Wear football kits/national dress - Monday 21st November
- Deco Day - Friday 2nd December
- Reception trip to Watford Palace Theatre - Monday 5th December
- Flu Immunisations (Mop up Session) - Tuesday 6th December
- Y4 Trip to the Verulamium Museum - Thursday 8th December
- PTA Christmas Mini Event - Friday 9th December
- Non School Uniform Day - Friday 9th December
- Y3 Trip to Natural History Museum - Tuesday 13th December
- Nursery Carol Concert - Thursday 15th December
- Christmas Carol Concert - Tuesday 20th December
- Nursery visit from Mr Marvel - Wednesday 21st December
- Term Ends - 2PM Finish - Wednesday 21st December
- Back to school - Thursday 5th January 2023

RECEPTION ADMISSION 2023 NOW OPEN

APPLY FOR A RECEPTION 2023 PLACE TODAY

SCHOOL TOURS AVAILABLE NOW

Applications close 15th January

Accredited The National Nurturing School Award



'For a better future'

Applications can be made here: [APPLICATION](#)

School tours can be booked here: [TOURS](#)



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