



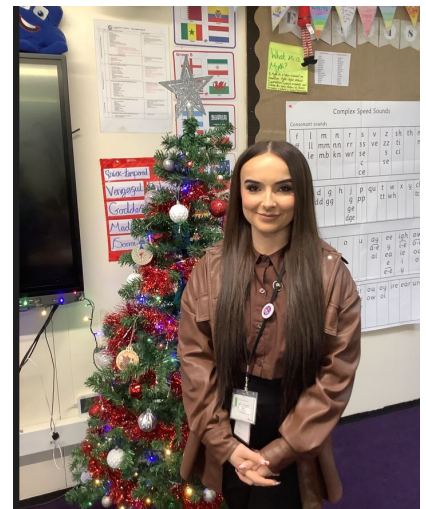
The wise choice for all your news!

Deco Day a hit!

Children have fun across the school making Christmas decorations.

Christmas arrived at Laurance Haines on Friday, 2nd December. All around the school, we celebrated Deco day. Every class made decorations specially to hang on the tree outside the school and to celebrate our 50th anniversary too. Earlier this week, we asked Miss Dos Santos a few questions about the beautiful and creative display in her classroom.

She said, "I love Christmas and this year's theme is colourful. The best thing about Christmas is spending time with my family, so my favourite place to be is either England or Portugal." Also, she told us her best present was a small box filled with things she loves!



Tap Dancing Champ



Read about it on p 2

Cost of Living Crisis



Find out how toast and calm starts can help on page 3.

Interview with Mr Gray



Fun facts on page 4



World beating dancer!

6 year old Gabby, Year 2, is now in the Guinness Book of World Records; this shows how anyone can do anything if they really want to.

She competed in a competition in Watford at the Tapathon; despite so many people watching her, she remained brave and was, of course, rewarded for her courage. "I felt a bit shy but I learnt it well thanks to my teacher," she said proudly.

This amazing 6 year old beat the world record and learnt a 7 minute dance in only 90 minutes! This is an extraordinary achievement and we are so proud and lucky to have someone like that in Laurance Haines School.

Black Victorians hidden for years

The people of year 6 were shocked to hear that black Victorians were treated so unfairly that they weren't even seen for 120 years.

During the Victorian period, people had only just discovered photos and everyone was queuing up to have their pictures taken. Sadly, the black people weren't allowed to show people their pictures and their photos were hidden for approximately 120 years!

After learning this, Year 6 decided to make a mini play with different groups from 4-6 people, to show how unfair it was.



Some people used instruments and made a chant about black people and some people did an act of a photographer refusing to take a picture of a black person.

Photographs were uncovered recently which have been hidden in archives for over 120 years, which raises questions as to why. It is important that such actions are not repeated and that everyone, irrespective of their protected characteristics, are given a voice and are seen.



The Cost of Living Crisis: What our school is doing to help

Nearly half (47%) of children from low income families that were surveyed said they worried about their family's finances. Children's stress levels are rising.



I am pleased to report that our school is doing what it can to make things better for everyone here.

Anyone for toast?

Laurance Haines School is helping by giving toast to children every morning to help them get through the day because sometimes they don't eat breakfast. We get toast with either butter or jam because no-one can learn on an empty stomach. "Toast is very good in the morning. I enjoy it and it really helps me concentrate, says Nana, aged 10.

Calm Start

Every morning and after lunch, in our school, they give us a calm start to focus on ourselves and calm down from things that might have happened at home or at school. Jenuli in year 6 said "A calm start is a time to calm yourself to get ready for learning and for the day ahead and is very important." If wanted, you can have a massage which really helps you to calm you down.

What we think

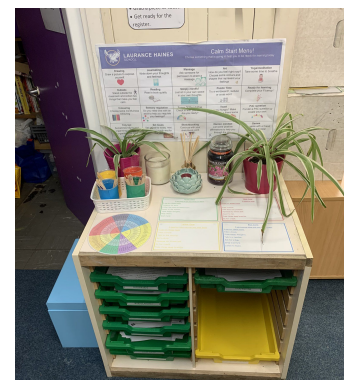
"Laurance Haines has a safe environment and fun learning in all kinds of different ways and has supportive teachers." said Samuel in year 6.

"I feel very happy and excited about the opportunities Laurance Haines gives to us." says Habibulah in year 6.

"The teachers are good and they help me whenever I need it," says Meisa, age 10 in year 6.



Enjoying making and eating toast in the morning.



Exclusive: Interview

with Mr Gray

A few days ago, our reporters went over to Mr Gray's Office to ask him a few questions. This is what they found out.

Why do you feel so passionate about being an eco school?

"It's about our present and future. I want everyone to understand that they can make a difference if they act now."

What is your next step to making our school more eco-friendly?

"Through the learning process. We also have eco-warriors, sustainability leaders and sustainability governors. We send messages to teachers about being more eco-friendly in classrooms."



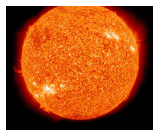
How are you being more eco-friendly at home?

"Personally, I would want an electric car. If I can afford it."

And finally... What's your favourite food?

"STEAK AND CHIPS!!!!!!!"

Welcome to our Eco World!



Our school has chosen three Eco Ambassadors from year 6 to make a difference for our school and to ensure that they can make a difference.

In January Safaya, Alex and Zaki will go to Cherry Tree and Beechfield to have their first ever Sustainability Meeting to see how they can reduce our carbon emission and protect our planet from climate change.

How will the Eco Ambassadors help?

Our Eco Ambassadors are trying to reduce the use of energy, electricity, heating and food waste to make our planet clean and healthier.

How to prevent this from happening?



Our Eco Ambassadors and Eco Team are trying their best to make our school a zero carbon school. Our school and many others are taking part in this project called Green Schools Project. Both Year 6 classes are having a weekly lesson to learn all about climate change. We all are trying to make our school greener and healthier.

Lets save our Planet !