



# NEWSLETTER

03 MARCH 2023

## WELCOME

Thank you to all of our parents who were able to attend our Parent Consultations this week. The relationship between home and school is integral to any child's journey and progress across the curriculum. Whilst there will always be room for development in the children, whether this be continued practise with their multiplication facts or being braver to ask questions and share their reflections, we hope that you were able to celebrate your child's progress with the teacher. At the midway point of the year, we are thrilled with the progress the children are making and are committed to providing high quality teaching and learning, intervention and social and emotional support to ensure the children thrive over the remainder of the year.

Last week, we celebrated World Hijab Day. Given recent World events, World Hijab Day has even greater importance. We joined many people across an estimated 130 countries to stand up and clearly say that women have a right to choose what they want to wear-whenever, wherever, and however. A huge thank you to Miss Chaudry and Mrs Shan for creating a wonderfully safe space to explore the Hijab, what sense of identity it can support and helping all of our headscarf wearing children, parents and staff. In our second year of celebrating this important event, the sense of unity may have been even stronger.

We again were impacted by a day of industrial action this week. Thank you to our staff for their openness around their intention to take strike action or not as it again provided us with time to communicate the contingency plans with all. The action is to bring about change for teachers pay and funding for schools up and down the country. There are currently two more days of intended strike action on the 15th and 16th March. Again, we hope to give you as much notice as possible with any necessities to close the school to some or to all. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

We've finished off the week with our annual celebration of children's literature with World Book Day! Throughout the day, the children have been learning all about the poetry and books of Joseph Coelho, the current Children's Laureate for 2022 - 2024. It has been a thrill to be share his works with the children. It goes without saying, but the children and staff looked brilliant dressed as their favourite book characters across the day. We urge you to enjoy any book with your child this weekend, as we do with any other.

Sebastian Gray  
Headteacher

## SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

At its heart, poetry is about having fun with words and that was definitely the remit for this year's World Book Day celebrations.

Taking inspiration from our current children's Laurette, Joseph Coelho, playwright, author and poet, children were introduced to the wonderful world of performance poetry first thing this morning in an interactive workshop assembly for Years 1 to 6. We heard about the wonderful spaces' poetry could be performed in... even space itself, and how through playing with words and the way we might say them, may alter the emotion and meaning of the poem.

It is safe to say, that I think we may have even taken part in a Primary school's biggest ever tongue twister performance – it certainly warmed up our faces and vocal cords for the day ahead. How many times could you say 'buy blue blueberry biscuits before bedtime', quickly and accurately before making a slip?!

It was in this assembly we were gifted our book for the day, as children and teachers ripped in to 'Poems Aloud' by Joseph Coelho himself, our extraordinary person for the week. We took these back to class, leaving the hall to rapping genius MC Grammar's World Book Day songs.

In the classroom, we looked at clues on the front and back cover of the book that might indicate what the poetry may be about and played lots of drama and warm up games, before reading some of Joseph's works to analyse them for performance clues. By the end of the day, teams shared their performances to an audience using movement, expression, volume and voice and shared their love of poetry to the very wide audience.

The Foundations Stage, also inspired by Joseph as an author, celebrated his wonderful book, Luna loves library day across the week. Children made their own books, decorated bookmarks, completed a maze to help Luna find her way to the library and designed their own front and back covers and other potential books for Luna to read. It's been a pleasure to see the tweets appear across the week and today of the enjoyment the children have gained from the book.

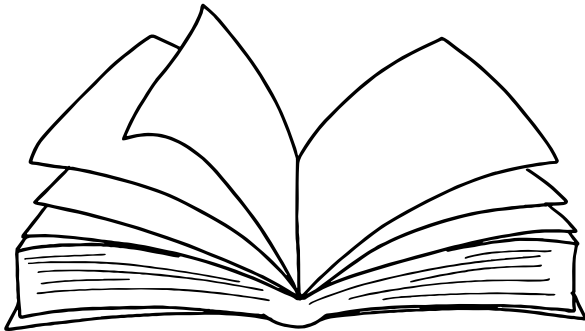
All children went home, clutching their £1Book token's in hand, costumes slightly strewn then they once were at the start of the day but happy, content and well-read. A book day very well spent at Laurance Haines!

Gemma Banks  
Reading Lead



# WORLD BOOK DAY

Please see some photos taken today for World Book Day!

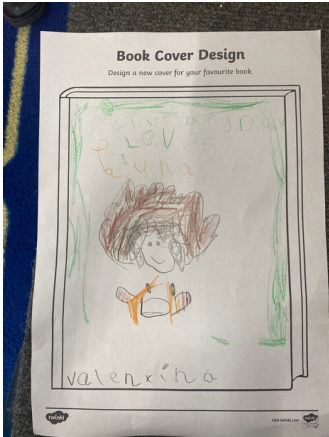




## EARLY YEARS

This fortnight Early Years have been looking at people who help them in the community. This week is people who help them in school and they have been role-playing being a teacher, writing their own funny rules for school and learning about the important people in Laurance Haines. In Nursery, the children have been learning a memory game, making pairs and remembering where they were.

Early Years have also started their 'reading breakfasts' which will happen every Wednesday - AM for Reception and PM for Nursery.



## LOWER KEY STAGE 2

Lower Key Stage Two has been steeped in creativity this week, as children in Year Three interpreted what they heard in Tchaikovsky's music through art, movement and dance and in year 4 have started their own research in order to prepare a non-chronological report on the Titanic.

Physical Education was also the name of the game, as Teams Oak and Yew began their learning journey with WFC, teaching the children about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and Team Pine travelled to Watford Gymnastic club to experience how much progress could be made in one short hour.

Throw in some needle work, painting, still life, fiction and non fiction planning, and all in all we'll be sending home some budding creative sparks to you this weekend. We can't wait to keep the momentum going as we enter the world of design and technology next week.

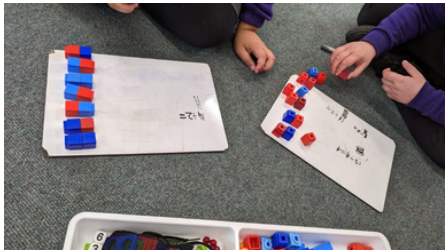


## KEY STAGE ONE

Year 1 have loved using their new art skills of sketching and blending - making art inspired by flora and fauna. In music, Year 1 have learned about the beat and tempo, then listened to a piece of music composed by Benjamin Britten about the sea.

Year 2 have been using manipulatives in Maths to help learn about multiplication and division. They then went on to use pictorial representations and drew arrays to help us find their answers!

Year 2 have loved their music learning this week. Their focus has been on the beat and keeping a rhythm going to a chant. They listened to 'Orawa' by Wojciech Kilar and watched it being performed by the Australian Chamber Orchestra. They spotted violins, cellos and even a double bass!



## UPPER KEY STAGE 2

Year 5 have kick started this half term with art and learning about Zaha Hadid. This week in music, they have been learning nasheeds which can be found on Twitter by clicking this link: [@MrsMakinsonLHS](https://twitter.com/MrsMakinsonLHS)

Year 6 have really been enjoying their weekly Positive Minds sessions delivered by Watford FC. They have most recently delved into how gaming and social media can affect mental health - both positively and negatively. Year 6 have found the sessions to be balanced and informative; they have been able to really reflect on their own practices and what role these different platforms have in their lives. Thank you to James and Jo who have given us a lot to think about, both now and Y6 transition to secondary school.



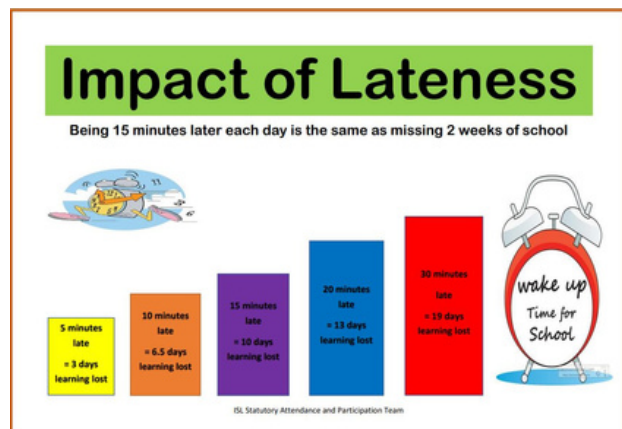
# SCHOOL OFFICE

For any enquiries, please telephone 01923 233146 or email the school office:

[admin@lhaines.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lhaines.herts.sch.uk)

## IMPACT OF LATENESS

Is your child on time for school every day? Every minute counts and soon adds up!



## WORLD HIJAB DAY

On Wednesday 22nd February, we celebrated World Hijab Day. Children learnt about the importance of wearing a hijab for Muslim women. We also challenged the thinking of children to question whether it is just Muslim women who wear a head covering and explored women of different religions who cover their hair. It was an incredible day of unity between children, staff and our community.



## DATES FOR THE DIARY



- PTA Book Sale 2:30pm-3:30pm - Friday 3rd March
- World Book Day - Friday 3rd March
- Nursery/Reception Disco - Friday 3rd March
- Nursery Offer Letters - Monday 13th March
- International Day - Friday 17th March
- Nursery Acceptance Deadline - Friday 24th March

## VACANCIES

We currently have the following vacancy in our school. Please click the link below to view the vacancy and share with anyone you know who may be interested.

MIDDAY SUPERVISORY ASSISTANT - Closing Date Sunday 12th March.

## MILK

Details for Milk for the Summer Term have been e-mailed on March 1st. Please see this email for full details.



## WELL DONE CHEY



At the recently concluded Hertfordshire County Badminton Championships, one of our Year 5 children won the gold medal and the Championship trophy in the under 10 Boys Singles event. Well done Chey, we are all very proud of you.



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