



# NEWSLETTER

31 MARCH 2023

## WELCOME

As we reach the end of the Spring term, I wish to share my thanks with you all for your continued support and partnership with the school. The trust you place in us to help your children grow is never taken for granted; we are privileged to teach your amazing children. This term, the staff team have continued to implement a curriculum that is engaging, fun and reflective of the diverse community we serve. Teachers have continued to refine teaching techniques across the subjects and the age-ranges which has led to children being able to demonstrate that they remember more over time.

Following a visit from our Hertfordshire School Improvement Partner, a few weeks ago, we received some hugely positive comments on the quality of education. The teachers have utilised opportunities for talking at different stages of the writing process, which in turn has been evident in the children's language development, grammatical accuracy and creative flare in writing. The INSET day on the 17th April will provide further opportunity for enhancements in the teaching of writing, which you will see the impact of across the summer term and beyond. We continue to learn!

The children of Nursery and Reception took part in the annual Easter Bonnet Parade yesterday. Thank you to all who turned out for the parade and for all the hard work at home to create the wonderful array of bonnets.

You'll have received the wonderful news that Mrs Ball has been announced as the next Headteacher of Laurance Haines School following my departure at the end of the academic year. We are hugely proud of the work that Mrs Ball has led in school over the years and know that, as Headteacher, she will continue to lead with great passion and enthusiasm for our children, staff and community in the coming years. She will be just the 6th Headteacher of the school in its 50 years.

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter Break. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on the 18th April.

Sebastian Gray  
Headteacher

## SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you to the entire community for your support, love and encouragement over the last couple of weeks. This morning, I was able to share the news in assembly and the children cheered with joy. It was an incredible moment.

We will be deeply sad to see Mr Gray go to another school at the end of the year but I pledge to continue the amazing magic he has been able to create here at Laurance Haines.

Our ECO work is incredibly important to us. Our Year 6 children have been working on the Green Schools Project.

This has involved exploring climate change, what the main contributors are and also the huge impact it has had on the planet. They have also investigated in detail, carbon emissions from purchasing, usage of energy, food and travel. They have also been working out what the carbon footprint these things leave and the impact that they have.

Maths skills have been utilised by calculating the schools own carbon footprint and the children have been able to identify areas we can improve further. Once our main areas have been identified, the Year 6 teams will lead us to make changes in order to improve our own carbon footprint.

We have already come such a long way with our sustainability work but we know there is still so much more we can do.

Wishing you a really happy break.

Jo Ball

Assistant Headteacher

## YEAR 4 ROUNDERS TOURNAMENT

On Tuesday 21st March, we welcomed the other schools in our Trust to Laurance Haines for a Year 4 Rounders Tournament. We were so proud of their sportsmanship and enthusiasm towards the game and delighted to report that we WON! Please see Miss Dos Santos' Twitter linked below for the video of their celebratory cheer!

### TWITTER



## RACE EQUITY CONFERENCE

On Wednesday 15th March, Mr Gray led a workshop at the National Race Equity conference to highlight the important work we are doing at Laurance Haines regarding creating a safe space to talk about race.

Since May 2020, the school team have held a monthly forum dedicated to conversations around racism, discrimination and inclusive initiatives to improve the provision in school and across the Trust. The daylong conference was thought provoking and centred around celebrating cultures, recognising marginalised narratives and addressing histories of oppression and resistance.

Education colleagues from across the country attended the workshop led by Mr Gray and Dr Mike Catchpool. Being inclusive is at the heart of what we do as a school and a trust, and the words 'You see me. You hear me. I belong.' continue to guide the school's developments.

**"The time is always right to do what is right."**

Martin Luther King, Jr



## EASTER PARADE



Our Early Years children have been busy making Easter cakes and Easter bonnets. Parents were invited in for a very special Easter Parade on Thursday 30th March. I think you will agree the children all did a brilliant job making their bonnets!





# Congratulations



As Spring Term draws to a close, we would like to share our End of Term Award Winners with you. Well done to all of our winners, we are so proud of you.

Ashton Award - Best performing, all-round, role model student across the Early Years (Nursery and Reception) - Afeef (Plum)

Slade Award - Best performing, all-round, role model student in Year 1, 2 and 3 - Jannah (Oak)

Lassman Award - Year 4, 5 or 6 - Best performing, all-round, role model student in KS2 - Gule-Zahra (Walnut)

RWI Award - a reading award for a child currently in the RWI programme - Muhammad (Hazel)

Platt Reading Award - a reading award for a child not in the RWI programme - Rithwik (Oak)

Maureen Leo Kitchen Team Award- children nominated by the kitchen team - Noel (Holly) & Richard (Plum)

Ridyard Eco Award - an award for environmental awareness and excellence - Keilyn (Birch) and Umaimah (Birch)

Jean Branigan Award - A child who demonstrates they are able to look after their own wellbeing and also notice and help others to look after their mental, social and physical health. - Haleema (Oak)

## ATTENDANCE AWARD

Well done to Team Palm who are the winners for the termly Attendance Award. Palm class have been consistently leading the school for attendance this whole term and have a fantastic 97% attendance! Well done Team Palm and I hope you enjoy your Easter Eggs!





# 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)

## HAPPY CAMPS ARE BACK

This spring, school aged children eligible for benefits related free school meals can enjoy free food, free sports and free craft activities. For more information please visit the website below:

[HAPpy](#)



## DATES FOR THE DIARY



- Break up for Easter - 2PM Finish - Friday 31st March
- INSET Day - Monday 17th April
- Reception Allocation Day - Monday 17th April
- Back to School - Tuesday 18th April
- Eid Picnic - Friday 21st April
- Nursery Duck Hatching - Monday 24th April

## VACANCIES

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

[SEN 1:1 Teaching Assistant](#) - 20 hours per week, Monday-Friday.

[Cleaner](#) - 12.5 hours per week (flexible around school opening times.)

## CONGRATULATIONS MRS BALL

We are delighted to congratulate Mrs Ball who will be our new Headteacher from September.

Mrs Ball will be well known to you as your Assistant Headteacher and has been appointed after a highly competitive selection process following an external advert. Mr Gray and Mrs Ball will work closely together over the coming term to ensure a seamless handover.



## WELCOME

We would like to welcome our new members of staff who have joined us in the Spring term:

- Mrs Ridout (SEN 1:1 Teaching Assistant)
- Ms Lam (Teaching Assistant)
- Mrs Rifai (Midday Supervisory Assistant)
- Mrs Balmane (Midday Supervisory Assistant)
- Mrs Syed (SEN 1:1 Teaching Assistant)
- Mrs Bouamirene (SEN 1:1 Teaching Assistant)
- Mrs Ibrahim (SEN 1:1 Teaching Assistant)
- Ms Mazit (Teaching Assistant)



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