



NEWSLETTER

28 APRIL 2023

WELCOME

What a pleasure it has been to welcome back children and staff for the beginning of the summer term! We opened the term with a staff INSET training day focused on a new spelling programme designed to support children in spelling both cumulatively and systematically with deliberate, focused practice. It builds upon the teaching strategies and spelling activities from our phonics programme, Read Write Inc. Thank you to Ms Wilson and Miss Banks for their preparations and delivery on what was a great day of training. Part of our SEN team joined colleagues at Chery Tree Primary School, for a session on Forest Schools learning and access for SEN learners - a great example of professional collaboration across the Inclusive MAT.

Eid celebrations took place for large parts of the community at the end of last week and into the weekend. Those celebrations continued in school with the hosting of our Eid Picnic. Thank you to Miss Chaudry for planning the event and to all the families who provided food and were able to join us for the occasion. The event kick-started a week of focused learning around Religious Education, with Islam, Christianity, Sikhism and Buddhism being the focus of some learning across the phases. Please speak to your child about what they have taken from these lessons this week. Providing space for and recognition of those community members who do not follow a religion or consider themselves to be humanist has also been a topic of conversation in the classrooms and in our EDI forum. I'm sure you'd all agree that this is an important extension of our work around the statement, "You see me. You hear me. I belong."

Thank you for your continued patience and support of teachers who have chosen to take industrial action in light of the ongoing dispute between education unions and the government on national pay and funding for schools. We again are preparing for partial closure on Tuesday 2nd May, with only Reception, Year 2 and Year 6 children in school.

Wishing you all an enjoyable bank holiday weekend, which shall be the first of three over the course of the month. We look forward to sharing plans with you all about our upcoming Coronation celebrations.

Sebastian Gray
Headteacher

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

What an eventful couple of weeks at Laurance Haines! Firstly, Eid Mubarak to our families celebrating. We hosted a wonderful Eid picnic with some of our parents and it always is a wonderful feeling of togetherness. Not only do these events help our community to celebrate but also it gives all of our children, staff and parents the opportunity to experience the richness and meaning of these key religious dates. There couldn't be a better way to start our RE learning this week! At Laurance Haines, our children learn about what religion means to them and the diversity of the world they live in. Having an understanding of different belief systems is important and it means children can find similarities and differences between main religions and also with their own.

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Across this last week, children in Year 1 have been learning about Judaism and the importance of Shabbat. The children have been exploring when some days feel special and what makes them special. In Year 2, have been learning about Islam and how Muslims go to mosque to create a sense of belonging. The children learnt the rituals of prayer and had a go themselves.

Children in Year 3 have been learning about Sikhism and how important sharing is. Children have learnt that sharing is one of the three founding pillars and thought about how they share things in their everyday lives. In Year 4, the children have been learning about Buddhism and in particular, the Eightfold Path which teaches Buddhists about the eight ways they can live a good life and move to the path of enlightenment. In Year 5, Christianity has been the key learning where children have been thinking about the events of Holy week and what God means to Christians. In Year 6, the children have been learning about Islam and whether Akhirah helps Muslims to lead a good life. They have been making decisions about what teachings are more of a challenge and take greater effort.

Jo Ball
Assistant Headteacher

HARRY POTTER STUDIOS

Year 4 enjoyed an incredible day at the Warner Brothers studios tour. As one pupil described it, his "best day ever!" the children got to experience a costume characterisation workshop, where they were able to see original costumes from the movies and explore how costume designers create these costumes. They explored the studios where they saw props, settings, got to go on the Hogwarts express, did a green screen experience and saw the live animatronic animals as they wandered the forbidden forest! This will all link to their English learning, where they will be writing a persuasive piece encouraging others to visit the studios.



MISS DUNWORTH'S MARATHON

We are extremely proud of our wonderful Year 6 teacher Miss Dunworth, who completed the TCS London Marathon on Sunday 24th April alongside her mother and brother. Miss Dunworth's marathon run is particularly impressive considering she was recovering from a chest infection at the time! Miss Dunworth and her family are raising money for a cause that is close to their hearts - Meningitis Research Foundation. They have raised over £3,000 so far. It is not too late to donate and help them reach their £4,000 target. All donations are so gratefully received. We are all so proud of you Miss Dunworth!

Please click the links below for more information on both Miss Dunworth's cause and her fundraising page:

[MISS DUNWORTH'S FUNDRAISING PAGE](#)

[BBC INTERVIEW WITH MISS DUNWORTH](#)

[MENINGITIS RESEARCH FOUNDATION](#)



SCHOOL OFFICE

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

admin@lhaines.herts.sch.uk

RECEPTION ADMISSION DEADLINE

Please note that the deadline to accept your Reception place at our school is Monday 1st May. To accept please follow the steps on the email/letter you will have received from Herts County Council.

We have been informed that some parents are having difficulty accepting their Reception Place for September 2023.

If you are having difficulties please contact Herts County Council and they will be able to accept your place manually.

DUCKLINGS IN EARLY YEARS

On Monday 24th April, Early Years had a delivery of Duck Eggs. They have been watching them hatch and caring for them before they go back to live on the farm. The children have been so excited!



DATES FOR THE DIARY



- Bank Holiday - NO SCHOOL - Monday 1st May
- Reception Admission Deadline - Monday 1st May
- Partial School Closure (Industrial Action) - Tuesday 2nd May
- Bank Holiday for Kings Coronation - NO SCHOOL - Monday 8th May
- KS2 SATS - Tuesday 9th - Friday 12th May
- KS2 Disco - Friday 12th May 4:30pm - 6.00pm
- Reception trip to Odds Farm Park - Wednesday 24th May
- Coronation Celebration - Friday 26th May
- Break up for Half Term - Friday 26th May
- Back to school - Monday 5th June

CLUBS

BEFORE SCHOOL CLUBS

We are excited to continue to offer our alternative morning multiskills club that is open to all children from Reception to Year 6. You can book single days, weekly or whatever suits your family (subject to availability). Mr C our sports coach will choose the sport according to the wishes of the children attending each day. It costs £3 per day per child. To book and pay please use your Arbor account and click on "clubs".

We also offer clubs with Barry O'Grady (PSM Schools) and the children will be bringing home leaflets with the full details. Again, these clubs can be booked through your Arbor account and click on "clubs".

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

There are still spaces in some of these too. For more information, please see look at the club timetable on our website: [CLUBS](#)

If you have questions about any of the clubs, please contact the school office



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