



NEWSLETTER

22 SEPTEMBER 2023

WELCOME

Attendance is everything! It will be no surprise to anyone that good attendance equates to better progress and ultimately increased life chances and choices for young people. We are so impressed with the attendance behaviours of our children across the school this year and want to thank our families for the support in instilling these values in the children. Please do continue to send your children into school despite the inevitable winter bugs and we promise to look after them and their wellbeing.

Next week, we will be hosting our annual open evening where you will be able to visit your child's current teacher and find out a little more about what the coming year will look and feel like. Relationships with your child's teacher are so important and we hope to see as many of you there as possible. Please do get the word out to friends and family members who have young children and who are looking at prospective new schools. Open evening is a great opportunity to find out about the wonderful work we do here at Laurance Haines and meet the staff. We hope to see you on Thursday 28th September 5pm-6:30pm.

Wishing you all a wonderful and safe weekend.

Jo Ball
Headteacher

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

We are excited to let you know that we are beginning our journey to re-accredit as a National Nurturing School and Trust, alongside Beechfield and Cherry Tree. There will be more news of how we will do this across the year!

At Laurance Haines, we recognise that nurturing our children's emotional well-being is crucial and continue to prioritise their social and emotional development as they settle into the new school year. During Nuture Week the children were involved in a range of activities to build a strong team spirit, enhance their self-confidence, resilience, and to learn about empathy. Our priority is always to keep the children physically and emotionally safe, so they have revisited protective behaviours, including their network hand and the 'uh-oh' feeling. We encourage the children to talk about their feelings everyday. Calm start is an approach used in the mornings, where the children have an opportunity for a slice of toast, to talk to their friends and teachers and do complete calming activities so they are ready for a busy day ahead of learning. In addition to our Zones of Regulation, we have introduced emotion and feelings displays and the children will continue the work throughout the year to name, understand and manage their feelings and emotions.

One of the main strengths of our House system is giving all children of all ages the opportunity to work together, creating a truly cohesive environment and ensuring that age is not a barrier to friendship and collaboration. Our House system fosters a real sense of belonging and Mr Confait known as Mr C to the children has taken on the responsibility this year of leading the House organisation. He kicked off the new year with an inspirational House assembly to introduce the new Year 6 house captains for Ebury, Colne, Gade and Chess. The children learned where the House names originated from - maybe ask your child and find out about the house they child are in? Mr C will also be holding inter-house competitions throughout the year, not only sporting ones but in all areas of the curriculum. It's going to be an exciting year ahead!

Mrs Furey & Mr Confait



EARLY YEARS MURAL

Last week, we had our new sports mural unveiled in Early Years. There was a lot of excitement across the school as we welcomed two footballers from Watford FC - Wesley Hoedt and Mileta



Rajovic who helped unveil the beautiful mural. A huge thanks to the PTA for their help sponsoring the cost and to the very talented student from West Herts College who designed and painted it.

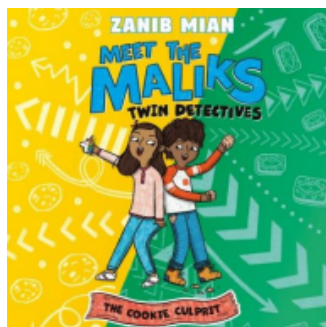


HELLO YELLOW DAY 10TH OCTOBER

Hello Yellow day is Tuesday 10th October. The Education Mental Health team will be in school 9:00am-10:00am to present to our parents about learning about children's anxiety and strategies to manage anxiety.

AUTHOR VISIT FOR YEARS 3-6

On Monday 25th September, we are delighted to be welcoming author Zanib Mian to school. If you would like to pre-order a copy of Zanib's book, ready to be signed and dedicated at Laurance Haines on the day, please click the link on the letter which was emailed out to parents on the 15th September by 5pm on Sunday 24th September.



CELEBRATING PUPIL ATTENDANCE



What an amazing start to the school year! We are thrilled to tell you that our whole school attendance has been above 95% over the last 2 weeks. This is still a little short of our target, but a good start!

A few tips to maximise your child's attendance:

Children can be sent into school with coughs and colds providing they don't have a fever.

Medical appointments should be made outside of school hours whenever possible. If necessary to make them in school time, we would urge you to make them in the afternoon (after 2.00p.m.)

We have 13 weeks holiday a year. Please make sure that all travel is done during these weeks and that your child returns on time for the return to school every time.

Do you know what your child's attendance is?

Just log onto Arbor and it will be right there for you to see on the front page!

Simon Englander – Assistant Headteacher

Wendy Gunning – Attendance Manager

BIKE AND SCOOTER PARK

We would like to remind parents that the designated area at the front of the school is for bikes and scooters only and that prams and buggies should not be left on the school premises.

SCHOOL OPENING TIMES

Please note that the gate opening time for the main school is 8:40am. The gates do open at 8:30am for Nursery children only. Please do not enter at 8:30am unless your child is attending Nursery.

BIKEABILITY FOR CHILDREN IN YEARS 5 AND 6

Please be aware that payment for Bikeability needs to be made on Arbor (under 'Trips') by Sunday 8th October. For more information, see last fortnight's Newsletter [HERE](#)

SCHOOL OFFICE

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

OPEN EVENING NEXT WEEK

JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN EVENING

Accredited The National Nurturing Schools Award



THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2023

5:00pm-6:30pm

"For a better future"



We are delighted to welcome parents to our Open Evening which will be held next Thursday, 28th September.

Teacher presentations will be held at 5:00pm and repeated at 6:00pm in the following classrooms. Please attend the below classroom even if your child is in the other class:

Reception - Plum Class
Year 1 - Elder Class
Year 2 - Holly Class
Year 3 - Oak Class
Year 4 - Pine Class
Year 5 - Beech Class
Year 6 - Willow Class

We will also have a presentation from our Headteacher, Mrs Jo Ball which will be held at 5:30pm in the Upper Hall.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Open Evening - Thursday 28th September
- Hello Yellow Day - Tuesday 10th October
- Harvest Festival - Friday 20th October
- Break up for Half Term - Friday 20th October
- INSET day (No school) - Monday 30th October
- Back to School - Tuesday 31st October
- Secondary School Application Deadline - Tuesday 31st October
- Spanish Day - Thursday 2nd November
- End of Term - Wednesday 20th December at 2PM

NEW TO NURSERY

Our very youngest children have been busy settling in to life at Laurance Haines School. Check out those smiles!



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