



NEWSLETTER

6 OCTOBER 2023

WELCOME

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our children are in full swing practising their songs and performances for the Harvest Celebrations at the church. We hope to see as many of you there as possible to see your children perform. This will take place at St Michaels and All Angels Church at 9:30am on Friday 20th October. The celebrations we have at the church are always such a special time of connection and, as always, we are really looking forward to this year's events.

As you know, reading is such an important life skill and a skill which opens up learning to all subjects and walks of life. We are proud of the reading work we do here at Laurance Haines. We have a robust and well implemented phonics programme for children to understand the skills of reading. We use high quality, age-appropriate texts during reading lessons to inspire and challenge the children. We read with the children independently to ensure they are accessing appropriately challenging reading books too. In addition to this, we are looking for a group of volunteers who can work across all the year groups once or twice a week to read with our children. This is a great opportunity for anyone who has a passion for working with children as we will be offering some training to get our volunteers started and will also support our children with developing their reading skills. If you are interested, please contact the office team and they will forward your interest to the leadership team.

As the colder days set in, please ensure that your child has a coat at school. We like the children to get out for outdoor learning and play even in the colder and wetter months so it is vital that they have the appropriate clothing. Please do come and speak to Mrs Furey should you need any support with this.

Wishing you a safe and happy weekend.

Jo Ball
Headteacher

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

Hello one and all! Hope we have all had a great week – I know I have as it has been art week!

Starting with Reception, during their Child Initiated Learning time, the children have been focusing on their colour mixing and cutting skills! Fantastic work everyone!

Down in Year 1 they have been focused on Spirals! They have looked at some famous artists who used spirals in their art such as Kandinsky, Van Gogh and Hundertwasser. They also looked into finding spirals in nature in the form of a snail shells and in plants. The children also had the opportunity to experiment with different media and create spirals in pen, crayon, chalk and pencils. Keep up the good work Year 1!

In Year 2 they have been 'Exploring and Drawing'! The children have been responding to different artwork, exploring found objects in their environments and discussing how they have made them feel. They considered how the artist might have been inspired and thought about what inspired them. Some deep thinking there, Year 2!

Year 3 have had the pleasure of looking at some actual animal skulls, courtesy of Tring Museum! They have then gone on to look at the work of Damien Hurst and combined the two together creating some beautiful looking collaged skulls and spin art butterflies! They have used the colours from Hurst's work to create the paper for their collages. Really inventive work Year 3!

Moving up to Year 4, they have been combining their art and writing skills this week! Utilising a range of mark making skills, they have been creating strips of art work that when combined together tell a story! Fascinating stuff! Over in Year 5, we have been creating designs for a costume inspired by our cultural heritage and the Tudors – linking to our history topic this half term. They children created some incredible designs incorporating both the ruffs and sleeves you would have found Queen Elizabeth I wearing, and the colours of home flags and traditional dress of their home countries. They then went onto making their outfits on mini-mannequins from scraps of fabric; great for the planet as it was all scrap and great for their creative thinking! Fabulous work, Year 5!

Lastly, in Year 6, they have been thinking about 2D forms to 3D forms, upscaling drawing and creating silhouettes of a person which they can go on to decorate in their own way. Year 6 have also been thinking about their heritages and dressed their upscaled models in fine, coloured clothes and again elements that mean the most to them and their family backgrounds.

All in all, a fantastic week for our children. We are also so fortunate to have Miss Allen and Ms Player run an art club – currently for KS1 – who have been utilising their maths skills to create a variety of pictures of animals using the shapes, as well as looking at colour and line. Such a creative bunch! Keep up the incredible work everyone and do come to see me with your artwork – I have house-points burning a hole in my pocket! Have a great weekend!

Mrs Goss, Art and UKS2 Lead

MEMORIAL TREE

You will already know some of the wonderful work our Pastoral Team do to support our families. But we would like to take the time to tell you about our Laurance Haines Memorial Tree. If your child has experienced loss of a family member, friend or pet, please do let us know so that we can help support them. Our memorial tree provides a space to remember those we have lost.



TRING MUSEUM ARTEFACTS

Year 3 were treated to an up close and personal look at animal skulls last week. The skulls were kindly lent to us from the Natural History Museum at Tring. They were able to compare badger, cat and camel skulls in an unforgettable lesson!



If you are looking for a fantastic, educational trip during the upcoming half term - Tring Museum is free to visit and you can find out more about what is happening during half term by visiting their website at:

[NHM - Tring](#)

CELEBRATING PUPIL ACHIEVEMENT



We are delighted to celebrate one of our pupils, Chey, who has just become the County Under 11's champion in Badminton winning Gold in both the Singles and Doubles Event!

Well done Chey! What an incredible achievement. We are all so proud of you.

Congratulations

HELLO YELLOW DAY - MEETING FOR PARENTS

We will be celebrating Hello Yellow Day on Tuesday 10th October. We are inviting in parents and carers to school at 9am where our Education Mental Health Support Team will be here to talk about supporting children's anxieties. There is no need to book - just come along!

Please note that we are not asking children to wear yellow on this day.



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

STEP2SKILLS

Laurance Haines has featured in the latest Step2Skills Newsletter - not once but twice! We are mentioned for the cookbook that the adult learners created to celebrate their cultures and heritage. We are also mentioned as Laurance Haines won the award for Community Partner of the Year 2023.

To see the newsletter click here : [Newsletter](#)

To see the Step2Skills website for more information on courses that they run click here: [Step2Skills](#)

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

This year, individual school photos will be taken on Wednesday 8th November. Save the date for the diary!



FRONT GATE

Please do not prop open the front gate during school hours. This is done by Mr Phillipson at school pick up time only and the gate should not be being propped open by parents. This is a safeguarding issue as all visitors must press the buzzer and speak to office staff before entering the school premises.

PHASE BROCHURES

Please do check out the phase brochures which detail information about the Key Stage your child is in including the contact details for teachers and day of PE lesson.

[Early Years](#) (Nursery and Reception)

[Key Stage 1](#) (Year 1 and Year 2)

[Lower Key Stage 2](#) - (Year 3 and Year 4)

[Upper Key Stage 2](#) - (Year 5 and Year 6)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Hello Yellow Day Parents Talk - Tuesday 10th October 9am
- 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
- Individual School Photos - Wednesday 8th November
- End of Term - Wednesday 20th December at 2PM

JOB VACANCIES

We have a current vacancy for a midday supervisory assistant to join our friendly team. The role is for 7.5 hours per week during lunch time, term time only. If you are interested, please apply by clicking the link below:

[MSA Vacancy](#).

We would also like to share that another school in our trust, Cherry Tree have a current vacancy for a Teaching Assistant. This is a temporary position until July 2024 for 30 hours per week. If you are interested please click the link below:

[Teaching Assistant - Cherry Tree](#)

All of our vacancies are listed on My New Term. If the current vacancies are not suitable for you, please do consider joining our talent pool to hear when our vacancies are listed.



Tel
01923 233146

Email
admin@lhaines.herts.sch.uk

Web
www.lhaines.herts.sch.uk

Twitter
LHS_Watford

Facebook
Laurance Haines School

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