



NEWSLETTER

1 DECEMBER 2023

WELCOME

Dear Laurance Haines Family,

We have had such a busy couple of weeks with our school improvement work. We have had a visit from our School Effectiveness Advisor (SEA), Joanna Di-Bella. We spent the morning looking at our provision for children with SEND. As always, these visits are such a brilliant opportunity to show what incredible work we do at Laurance Haines for our children and also how we can enhance the provision further. Our children with SEND are 'happy and thriving' and we are so grateful for our talented and committed staff.

In addition to this, we welcomed two visitors from Nurture UK where Mrs Furey was able to show just what wonderful work we do to nurture our children and their families. Nurture is at the core of our curriculum and our school culture, with the six principles running through everything we do. We are so proud to show our successes and that by focussing on children's social and emotional safety, we really can achieve academic excellence.

As we head into December, the school calendar becomes very busy. Please check the dates on the newsletter for times and days of the nativity, carol concerts, Christmas dinner day and more.

Wishing you all a safe and happy weekend

Jo Ball
Headteacher



SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

Visit from nurtureuk!

We were privileged this week to have a visit from Arti Sharma, the CEO of nurtureuk and Chris Dean, their trustee, who wanted to see how a National Nurturing School supports children's social and emotional development. Here at Laurance Haines, we have been a National Nurturing school since 2017, re-accrediting again in 2021. They were amazed to see so many parents at reading breakfast across the school, then our calm start, which is a tranquil beginning to the day and supports the children, ready for a focused day of learning. They observed the supportive environment and teaching in the Nurture Group of a wonderful play about the Great Fire of London and commented on the children's friendliness and love of learning. As we toured the school, it was evident that Laurance Haines has embedded nurturing routines that support the children's behaviour for learning, they commented on the calmness around school, the children's manners, The feel in the Woodland and friendliness at lunchtime. A group of Year 5 and 6 pupils explained eloquently to Arti and Chris about calm start, their network hand, adults that help them in school, our 5 ways to wellbeing and massage. All agreeing that these are things that help them to feel safe in school and to help them learn. It was a delight to see Beech class demonstrate their massage routine with instructions given in English and Urdu. The children explained massage helps them after a hectic playtime outside and helps them feel relaxed, calm and ready to learn in the afternoon. Mrs Furey was delighted to share how we can further support children from their Boxall profile which is our systematic approach to understanding and addressing the social and emotional aspects children's development. This enables us to tailor our support in class and to individual needs more effectively.

All of our nurturing practices are underpinned by the 6 Principles of Nurture (please see below). The incorporation of the 6 principles of nurture within the school's ethos and practice is our commitment to providing a nurturing, inclusive and supportive environment for all children. Laurance Haines will be re-accrediting as a National Nurturing School again in 2024, highlighting the significance we place on renewing and maintaining our commitment to our nurturing principles and practices within the school.

Your involvement and feedback are invaluable in ensuring that we continue to provide the best environment for your child's educational journey. Therefore, Mrs Furey will be holding a parent focus group to review and support our nurturing approach in January 2024. If you would like to take part in the focus group then please email nicolafurey@lhaines.herts.sch.uk by 20th December 2023 for more information. We would like to end this report with a quote from a parent who spoke with Arti and Chris, 'Laurance Haines is the family I choose'

Nicola Furey
Pastoral Lead

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT



Our annual Christmas Carol Concert for children in Year 1 and Years 3-6 will be held on Tuesday, December 19th, at St Michael & All Angels Church. Parents will have received a letter today with more information about timings. We can't wait to see you all there, as the children have been practicing their songs and they sound amazing!

THANK YOU PTA

We would like to send a huge thank you to our wonderful PTA who in November hosted two 'Glow Discos' for our Key Stage 2 Children. Lots of fun was had by all who attended and money raised by the PTA funds lots of things throughout the school year - including books for the library, birthday books, Year 6 leavers hoodies as well as vital school improvements such as the umbrella's for the playground and the water fountain in Key Stage 1.

SEND PARENT COFFEE MORNING

Our rearranged date for the SEND parent coffee morning is Thursday 7th December at 8:45-9:45am. This will now be taking place in the 'Woodland'. Please do sign in at the School Office where you will be shown down to the Woodland.



This coffee morning is an excellent opportunity for parents and guardians of children with SEND to come together, share their experiences and support each other.

YEAR 3 TICKETS TO SEE WATFORD WOMEN

All of our Year 3 students received free tickets to go and see Watford Vs Sheffield United at Vicarage Road. It was lovely to see so many of our families supporting the 'Golden Girls'. Even though they didn't win, the support in the stands from staff and pupils at Laurance Haines was brilliant!



ATTENDANCE BULLETIN

Overall School Attendance- 95.32%. We are so pleased that we are up over 1% compared to the same time last year. A little short of our target but we are getting there!

Congratulations to Team Birch who are currently top of the Autumn Term leaderboard with 97%- Amazing!

Is your child's attendance less than 90%? - If so, they have missed at least 6 days valuable learning so far this year. Keep them coming into school with coughs and colds. We will administer medicine where necessary and will always call you if we feel your child has deteriorated during the school day.

Wendy Gunning
Attendance Manager

RECEPTION APPLICATION WORKSHOPS

The deadline for applying for a Reception place for September 2024 is on January 15th 2024.

We will be running two workshops to assist parents in the application process for Reception. We will be able to help with the application form itself and explain the process and next steps.

The dates we are running workshops on are:

- Tuesday 5th December at 3:30pm
- Tuesday 19th December at 3:30pm

There is a sign up sheet outside of Nursery - please do let us know which workshop you plan to attend.

Applications can be made via Herts County Council at:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

SCHOOL TOURS

If you or someone you know are interested in taking a School Tour, please note that these can be booked on our website by clicking the link below.

[School Tours at Laurance Haines School](#)

UNIFORM DONATIONS WELCOME

If you have any unwanted school uniform you wish to donate to the school, please bring this to the school office.

SCHOOL OFFICE

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

admin@lhaines.herts.sch.uk

MILK FOR SPRING TERM

If you would like your child to have milk during the Spring Term, then the following arrangements apply:

- Milk is free for all children in Nursery, and those in Reception who were born after 1st April 2019.
- Milk is also free for children in KS2 who receive free school meals.

Please note that the introduction of universal infant free school meals to all KS1 children does not include free milk.

For all other children you will need to pay if you wish for them to have milk.

The cost of milk for the spring term is: £20.35.

Payment must be made online via Arbor by Monday 18th December 2023.

BUT IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE that on Arbor you will now need to follow these steps:

- 1) Go to "School Shop"
- 2) Select "School Shop Products"
- 3) Select "Milk for Spring 2024"
- 4) Click on the quantity and select "1"
- 5) Select "Buy Product"
- 6) Select "Pay Now" and then make payment.



Please contact the school office if you have any problems.

END OF TERM - SCHOOL FINISH 2PM

A reminder that school finishes EARLY (at 2pm) on Wednesday 20th December. Please note, there is no after school club on this day. We are back in school on Thursday 4th January 2024.

DON'T FORGET

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Reception Admission Workshop 1 - Tuesday 5th December 3:30PM
- SEND parent coffee morning - Thursday 7th December 8:45-9:45
- Christmas Dinner Day - Wednesday 13th December
- Reception Nativity - Thursday 14th December AM
- Reception Nativity - Thursday 15th December PM
- Castle Actors Workshop for Y1 - Monday 18th December
- Christmas Carol Concert - Tuesday 19th December
- Y2 Pantomime Trip - Tuesday 19th December
- Reception Admission Workshop 2 - Tuesday 19th December 3:30PM
- End of Term - Wednesday 20th December at 2PM
- Back to School - Thursday 4th January 2024
- Reception Application Deadline - Monday 15th January 2024

LAURANCE HAINES FOOTBALL TEAM

This week, Laurance Haines Football Team went to Beechfield School for their first ever football friendly. Although they didn't get the win they were hoping for, they showed great passion, sportsmanship and teamwork.

We are all so proud to have had them representing our school and values - well done team!



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