



NEWSLETTER

12TH JUNE 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Families,

We are so grateful for our Portuguese community for hosting us with yet another wonderful Portugal Day celebration. We saw our communities come together, with shared customs and values and it was beautiful to see. I love these events because of this and I always have such pride that I get to lead a school that is so richly diverse and inclusive of one another.

On Tuesday, we have our annual International Day which is where we get to celebrate our amazing communities once again. If you can, please do bring some delicious homemade cuisines and definitely come along to sample some delicious food! We are hoping to host this in the KS2 playground.

Ensuring a sense of belonging for all is our biggest aim at Laurance Haines and across the Inclusive MAT. Belonging brings so much. It fosters safety and improves wellbeing; when humans feel belonging they become more productive which leads to greater success; we breakdown harmful ideas and build connections between communities. Here at Laurance Haines we respect all with dignity and actively work hard to ensure that there is representation across all the protected characteristics.

In other news, this week some of our Year 5 children went to Phasels Wood for a camping experience. They have had to show true resilience given the weather! The children have had a great time despite soggy tents and navigating activities in the rain. A huge shout out Mr Confait, Miss O'Shea and Mr Lallchand who have made this experience a brilliant one even when the elements have been against them! The rest of the Year 5 team have enjoyed activity week back at school and have enjoyed local park trips, Glo Golf, a film and popcorn alongside plenty of creative activities. Thank you to Ms Wilson, Ms Dunworth, Ms Islam and Mr Smith for having excellent flexible thinking to change up activities to meet the needs of the weather.

Wishing you all a safe and happy weekend

Jo Ball



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Proud to Be Me Day 

What a truly wonderful day we had on Monday celebrating Proud to Be Me Day! The energy, the laughter and the warmth felt throughout school made it a day none of us will forget in a hurry.

As part of our ongoing learning about protected characteristics, the children explored what makes them unique and why that is something to be proud of. From the way we look and the languages we speak, to our backgrounds, families, beliefs and abilities - our differences are not just something to be accepted, they are something to be celebrated!

The highlight of the day was a visit from the incredible Electric Umbrella, a wonderful, local organisation who put music, creativity and joy at the heart of everything they do. You may have seen their success on Britain's Got Talent. Electric Umbrella work with people of all abilities to create performances and experiences that remind us all that difference is a strength, not a barrier. Our children and staff absolutely loved every moment, throwing themselves into the activities with enthusiasm and open hearts.

Throughout day, you could see our school motto come to life in the most beautiful way: You see me. You hear me. I belong. Every child in that room was seen, every voice was heard, and every single one of them belonged.

Days like this are a reminder of the values at the heart of our school community, kindness, respect and belonging for all. Our motto is not just words on a wall; it is the promise we make to our school community and Proud to Be Me Day was a powerful reminder of why that promise matters so much.

We are so proud of every single child for the thoughtfulness and joy they brought to the day and a huge thank you to Electric Umbrella for an unforgettable experience. We cannot wait to build on everything our children took away from this very special day.

Please see the newsletter for pictures from this wonderful day.

You see me. You hear me. I belong

Nic Furey

Pastoral Support Team Leader/Mental Health and Attachment Lead



ELECTRIC UMBRELLA



PORTUGAL DAY

Portugal day is Portugal's official day to celebrate the Portuguese language and culture after the passing of our famous poem Luis De Camões. Portugal day has evolved since and have become more about sharing, community, happiness and celebration with all.

At Laurance Haines, we opened up to our community to provide an event far beyond just Portugal day with the hopes to create where everyone felt welcome and joyful. Thank you to all who came along!

A special thank you to Sohail Bashir - Chairman of the local council, Sandra Mano - First ever elected local councillor and Ricardo Costa - President of the Watford Portuguese Assosiation for taking the time to join us at Laurance Haines to celebrate Portugal Day.



SEND NEWS



FREE ONLINE SUMMER 2026 WORKSHOPS FOR HERTS PARENTS/CARERS

June/July Dates

Online Workshops funded by Hertfordshire County Council	Day	Date	Time
Applying for an EHCP	Mon	1.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Preparing for an EHCP Review	Wed	3.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Understanding Anxiety	Fri	5.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Anxiety	Mon	8.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Support Puberty	Wed	10.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Build Self-Esteem	Mon	15.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Understanding Medication Options	Wed	17.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Social Skills	Mon	22.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Eating Difficulties	Wed	24.6.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Emotional Development	Mon	29.6.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tips & Tools to Manage Everyday Changes	Wed	1.7.26	10:00 - 11:30
Tips & Tools to Support Executive Function	Mon	6.7.26	19:00 - 20:30
Tip & Tools for Positive Behaviour	Wed	8.7.26	10:00 - 11:30

"That was so amazing, I have done many training sessions about ASD through my work but that was the most honest & informative session I have ever had"

"I picked up so many ideas to try which I'm sure will be an enormous help, thank you so much"



01727 833963

<http://www.add-vance.org>

herts@add-vance.org

Book your FREE ticket on <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/> or visit our website

These workshops are funded by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund and are open to residents of Hertfordshire only

Recordings are sent to all registered participants to view for 7 days, even if you don't attend live.

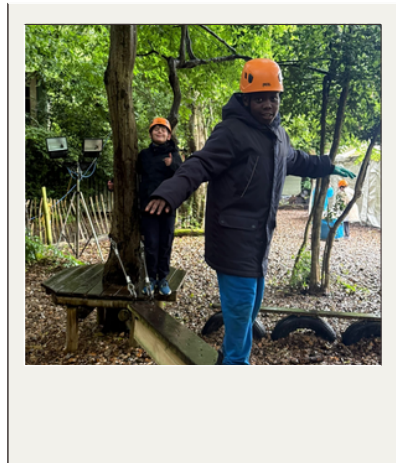


PHASELS WOOD

Despite the rainy weather, the Year 5 children have made the most of their time away at Phasels Wood. They have enjoyed a fantastic range of activities, including rock climbing, the cresta run, and even a disco!

Throughout the trip, the children have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm, resilience, and great teamwork.

We are incredibly proud of Year 5 and all they have achieved during their adventure. Well done!



MILK AUTUMN TERM 2026

IMPORTANT - From September 2026 children receiving Free School Meals will not automatically receive Free School Milk.

If your child currently receives Free School Meals then please see email sent 8th June as the criteria for Free School Meals is changing.

For parents with children currently in Nursery, Reception and Years 1 - 5

The cost of milk for the autumn term is £25.92.

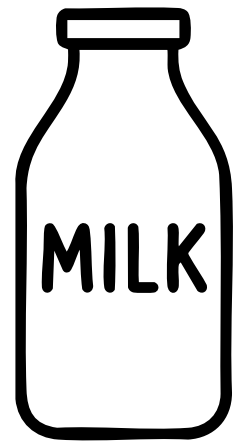
Nursery children moving up to reception class – If your child was born after 18th December 2026 then they are entitled to free school milk. If your child is 5 before 19th December 2026, then you will need to pay if you wish for them to have milk.

Current Reception, and years 1 - 5 children – If you would like your child to have milk then you will need to pay.

To order milk payment must be made through Arbor by Friday 17th July 2026. On Arbor you will now need to:

- 1) Go to "School Shop"
- 2) Select "School Shop Products"
- 3) Select "Milk for Autumn Term 2026"
- 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.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please look on the school website for all term dates of the
academic year 2025/2026

Parents are encouraged to join their children on Wednesday mornings for reading breakfast 8.45am - 9.05am

JUNE 2026

Tuesday 9th June - Portugal Day

Tuesday 9th June - Proud To Be Me Day

Wednesday 10th June - Friday 12th June - Year 5 Phasels Wood Trip

Monday 15th June - Nursery Sports Day 9.30am start AM & 30 hours nursery and 1.30pm start PM nursery

Tuesday 16th June - International Day

Thursday 18th June - Monday 22nd June - Wellbeing Weekend SCHOOL CLOSED

Wednesday 24th June - Sports Day 9.15am start for Years 1 and 2 alongside Woodland and Seedlings

Thursday 25th June - Sports Day for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 - 9.30am start Harwoods Recreation Ground

Friday 26th June - YR 6 Athletics Competiton at Cherry Tree School

Monday 29th June - Friday 3rd July - Year 6 Isle of Wight Trip

JULY 2026

Monday 6th July - Reception Sports Day - Timings to be confirmed

Tuesday 7th July - Open Evening

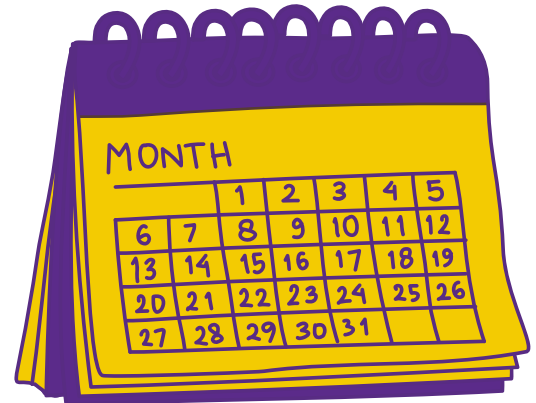
Thursday 9th July - Transition Day

Wednesday 22nd July - Year 6 Leavers Party

Thursday 23rd July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Friday 23rd July - No Nursery

Friday 23rd July - Last Day of Term



If your child is absent from school please contact the school office
on 01923 233146 and leave a message on the absence line or
email admin@lhaines.herts.sch.uk before the school day begins.





READING PAGE



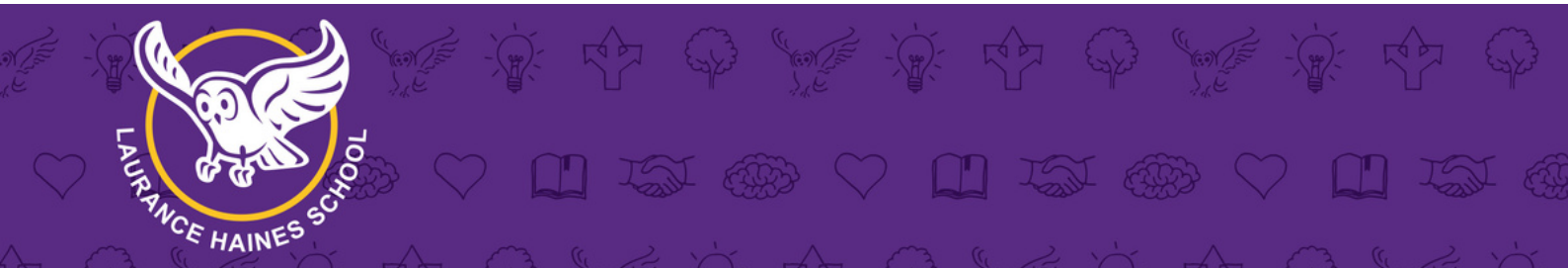
Join the Summer Book Boost!

Keep your 5–11 year old reading, laughing, and learning all summer long — the easy way.

Reading Rocks - Summer Book Boost

Each week, you'll get:

- ✨ A fun author/illustrator video to watch together
 - 📖 A juicy snippet from an exciting children's book to read straight away
 - 🔊 A chance to listen to the audio book version
 - 🎨 Easy follow-on activities to inspire your child
 - 📖 A library-friendly reading pick (no need to buy!)
 - 📱 A child-friendly podcast link
 - ⭐ Plus, an optional link to grab a signed copy at a special price if your child loves it
- It's free, simple, and packed with book buzz.



SAFETY AROUND OUR SCHOOL

Laurance Haines School has received a number of letters from local residents living in 'Rose Gardens' expressing their on going safety concerns for irresponsible and unsafe parking around our school.



A few reminders for our school community;

**STAY
SAFE**

DO NOT PARK ON PAVEMENTS

DO NOT BLOCK DRIVEWAYS

DO NOT PARK ON DOUBLE YELLOW LINES



Please be more considerate when parking for drop off before school and after school and use designated parking spaces over the bridge



The best solution is to
WALK TO SCHOOL

