NEWSLETTER

22ND MAY 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Families,

We have some bittersweet news to share with our school community. After many years of dedicated service, our much-loved Site Manager, Mr Phillipson, will be leaving Laurance Haines.

Brian has been an extraordinary member of our school family, supporting us through some of the most challenging times in our school's recent history. During the Covid lockdowns, Brian was in school every single day, ensuring our building remained safe and open for our vulnerable children and the families of key workers. His commitment during that period went far beyond what was asked of him and will never be forgotten.

Mr Phillipson will mostly be remembered for is the small, everyday moments that mean so much: a high five at the crossing, a cheerful hello in the corridor, a kind word that makes a child's day. It is those moments that stay with children and become lasting memories.

Mr Phillipson will be enormously missed by staff and children alike, and we wish him every happiness his next new chapter. On behalf of our whole school community, thank you, Mr Phillipson, for your passion, your dedication and your great big heart.

We will be interviewing very soon for a new caretaker role and we will let our community know who that person is as soon as we know.

I hope you all have a very happy, safe and sunny half-term break.

Mrs Ball

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This week, the corridors of Laurance Haines have been alive with music! As part of our commitment to delivering a rich and meaningful curriculum, we have been celebrating Music Week across the school, supported by our music scheme, Sing Up.

It has been a joy to walk through the school and see every year group immersed in something unique and inspiring. In Year 1, children have been exploring rhythm and melody through the playful Cat and Mouse, while Year 2 have been channelling their inner Charlie Chaplin — composing music to bring silent films to life. Year 3 have discovered just how much can be expressed with only three notes, crafting their own compositions with real focus and creativity. Year 4 have filled their classrooms with warmth, learning the soulful This Little Light of Mine, and Year 5 have taken an incredible musical journey to Bali, learning and then composing their own Gamelan-inspired pieces using graphic scores. Meanwhile, Year 6 have begun the exciting first steps of their end-of-school production — a moment that is already full of anticipation and excitement.

What has been truly wonderful is hearing the children talk about their learning with such confidence, using musical vocabulary with ease and enthusiasm. The performances have shown real musicality, and it is a genuine pleasure to see such an important subject taught with such skill and passion right across the school.

Music is not a luxury — it is a language that every child deserves to speak. It builds confidence, creativity, and connection, and reminds us all that some things can only be expressed in sound. Long may it ring out through the halls of Laurance Haines.

SEND NEWS



Supporting Your Child Through Year Group Transitions

After half term, we will begin supporting our children with one of the most important moments in the school calendar — their transition into their new year group.

In many schools, children don't find out who their new teacher will be until the final weeks of term. At Laurance Haines, we know that children — particularly those with special educational needs — benefit from having a little more time and space to adjust to the changes that a new school year brings.

A new classroom, a new teacher, sometimes a new playground with different rules and routines: these are all things that take time to get used to, and we believe that preparation makes all the difference.

Over the coming half term, children will have the opportunity to visit their new classrooms, spend time with their new teachers, and begin building those all-important relationships before September arrives.

If you have any concerns about your child's transition, please don't hesitate to reach out to their current class teacher, or feel free to contact me directly at senco@lhaines.herts.sch.uk — I'm always happy to chat through any worries you have.

Children's Leadership

At Laurance Haines we firmly believe that leadership begins long before adulthood. By giving children real

WELL DONE YEAR 6

A huge well done to all of our Year 6 children for completing their SATs this week! We are incredibly proud of the determination, resilience and positive attitude they have shown throughout assessment week.

Each morning, the children have been coming into school for breakfast to help them settle in, feel calm and start the day ready to do their very best. Their hard work, focus and effort have been fantastic to see, and they should all feel extremely proud of themselves.

To celebrate the end of SATs week and reward the children for all of their hard work, Year 6 were treated to a surprise visit from the ice cream van! It was a lovely way to mark the occasion together and celebrate all they have achieved.

Well done, Year 6 — you have all been amazing!





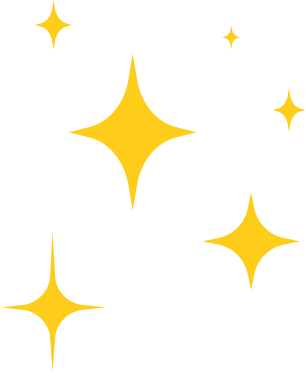












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WELL DONE NURSERY

A huge well done to all of our wonderful nursery children for how brilliantly they behave at lunchtime. We are so proud of the way they sit so nicely and try their lunches so well.
The children are always polite, cheerful.
Keep up the fantastic work, Nursery — you make us very proud every day!





We would like to wish a warm welcome to our two new members of staff

- Mr Smith - Higher Level Teaching Assistant
- Mrs Zaman - Midday Supervisory Assistant

BABY BIRDS

Early Years garden has had new arrivals of some baby birds. The children are very excited to watch them pop out and say hello. We can hear their chirping too. Take a look as you walk past.

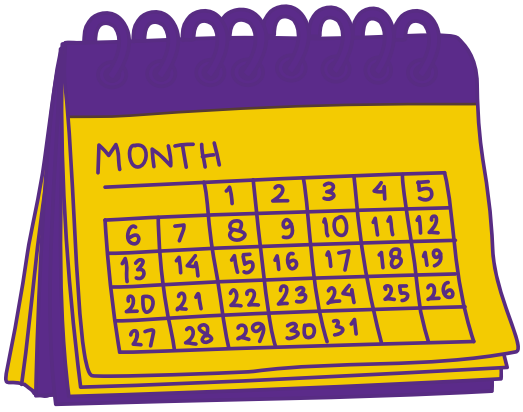


DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

MAY 2026



Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May - Half Term Break
Thursday 28th May - Eid al Adha

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 - Leavers Party
Thursday 23rd July - 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.

LAURANCE HAINES SCHOOL

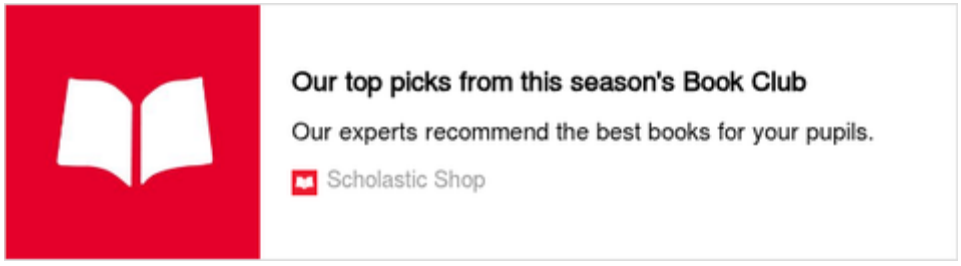


READING PAGE





Please find the link to an online magazine called the Reading Edit from Scholastic. There are past and present editions and all free for the National Year of Reading!







LAURANCE HAINES SCHOOL



PLACES KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) MAY HALF TERM 2026

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



ANGUS STEAKHOUSE
Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA
Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN
2 Kids eat free 27th March - 19th April 2026

BELLA ITALIA
Children eat free Sunday - Thursday

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE
2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with 1 paying adult

BILLS
Kids eat free Mon 25th – Fri 29th May 2026

BREWDOG
Kids eat free 23rd - 31st May 2026

CAFE ROUGE
Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

CHIQUITO
Kids eat free during all school holidays

COCONUT TREE
Kids eat free during half terms

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES
Kids eat for £1 with an adult meal purchase

FARMHOUSE INNS
Kids eat FREE from 25th – 29th May 2026

FLAMING GRILL PUBS
Kids eat FREE from 25th – 29th May 2026

FRANKIE & BENNYS
Kids eat FREE during school holidays

FRANCO MANCIA
Kids eat FREE school holidays Mon-Thurs

FUTURE INNS
Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS
Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

HUNGRY HORSE
Kids eat for £1 from 25th to 29th May 2026.

IKEA
Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS
Kids under 12 eat FREE via the App

MARCO PIERRE WHITE
Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MORRISONS
Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM
Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PIZZA HUT
Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm

PREMIER INN
2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO
Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PREZZO
Kids up to age 12 eat for £1 during half terms

PUREZZA
Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS
Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS
Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE
2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TESCO
Kids eat free May half term with any adult spend

TGI FRIDAYS
Kids Eat Free Mon 11th - Sun 31st May (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK
Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE
2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

TURTLE BAY
Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend via app

VILLAGE HOTELS
Kids eat free weekdays via the village app

WHITBREAD INNS
2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI
Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

ZIZZI
Kids eat free via app during school holidays

LAURANCE HAINES SCHOOL

PORTUGAL DAY FOOD FESTIVAL



Laurance Haines School

TUESDAY 9TH JUNE

3:30 PM – 5:30PM

ALL PROCEEDSWILLSUPPORTIMPORTANT EXPERIENCESFOR OURCHILDREN INCLUDING LEAVERS HOODIES AND LEAVERS BOOKS.

MoW
MUSEUM OF WATFORD

Mini Museum Movers

Dance • Play • Explor



A fun, creative dance session for little ones and their grown-ups

- Confident walkers – up to 5 years (younger siblings welcome)
- Games, music, dance, props and creative play
- Explore objects from history

FREE
Just drop-in!
Spaces are limited, allocated from 15 minutes before session start

First Thursday of every month (from 7 May)

3 sessions to choose from:

Watford Palace Theatre
20 Clarendon Road,
Watford WD17 1JZ
10:00 am - 11:00 am
11:15 am - 12:15 pm

West Watford Community Centre
15 Harwoods Road,
Watford WD18 7RB
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Sign up to **MoW Monthly** for updates

BE EE CREATIVE

Made possible with Heritage Fund

WATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
BE BOLD

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;

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



LAURANCE HAINES SCHOOL