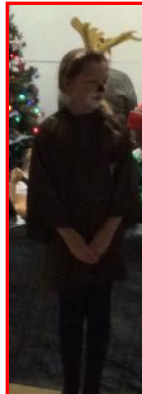


## Sasha Got Stuck Up the Chimney!



*The Year 1 to Year 6 Christmas production 2017, 'Sasha Got Stuck Up the Chimney', tells the story of three orphan children living in London during the Victorian times. They are magically swept up the chimney to a rooftop world where chimney sweeps sprinkle their stardust and take the children to the North Pole. Everything at the North Pole is not going well though. The evil Tooth Fairy and his side kick Tooth Ache, have imprisoned Santa in a bid to stop all children believing and to ruin the fairy world. The orphans must help out the elves and reindeer to save Christmas!*





## Nursery Rhyme Nativity

Nursery and Class 1 brought the magic of Christmas to Laurel Avenue. We were so proud to see a wonderful display of singing and acting from our youngest children.







*Class 1 enjoyed  
writing and  
posting their letters  
to Santa Claus  
this year.  
Let's hope he has  
time to read them  
before Christmas!*







## Anti-Bullying Week for 2017 focused on the theme of *All Different, All Equal*

*The 2017 anti-bullying awareness raising day theme encouraged us to celebrate differences. We did this at Laurel Avenue by wearing odd socks for the day and through creating a wonderful work of art made from every child's (and some parents' and carers') individually decorated jigsaw pieces. Each piece has formed a giant display for all to see how individual we are, yet how we all fit together, and can be seen in the school hall.*



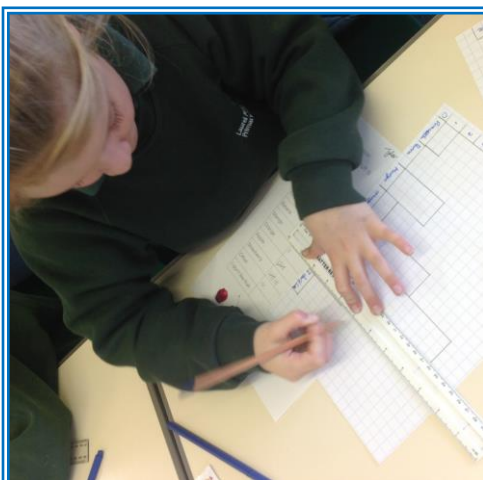
*Thank you to parents  
and carers who came in  
to school to support  
Anti-Bullying Week  
this year.*



*During Anti-Bullying Awareness Raising Day all children worked on collecting data based on favourite fruits showing how we all have different tastes. Each class then interpreted the data from tally charts and displayed it in a variety of ways. Nursery children used blocks to create a 3d graph, whilst Reception children worked collectively to create a pictogram using their ICT skills. Classes 2 and 3 represented the data in block graphs and Class 4 created pie charts using their knowledge of angles to show the proportions of children choosing each of the different fruits.*



#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK  
2017



*A big thank you from Class 1 for sponsoring their event to raise money for new items to support their outdoor play. Class 1 had a lot of fun and we managed to raise £100!*



*Congratulations to Logan who won a special prize for raising the most money - £40!*

thank  
YOU  
so  
much







*Christmas Journey – Classes 2 and 3 enjoyed an afternoon visiting Carville Methodist Church, where a fantastic interactive story of the Christmas Journey was shared. Children got into character to help tell the story of Jesus' birth. All of the children were brilliantly behaved and asked a lot of questions!*





## Church Visits

As part of our RE study into the Christian religion, Class 3 visited two churches of different denominations of the Christian religion. St Giles', a Church of England Church, and St Joseph's, a Roman Catholic Church. Children found it very interesting to learn about the similarities and differences within the Christian religion.



Class 2 also enjoyed a visit to St Giles' Church as part of their learning about Christianity this term.





*A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fayre through both your generous donations and attending the fayre.*

*We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. It was great to see so many of you there.*

*We raised an amazing*

**£722.47!**



*Thank you to FOLAS for helping to organise the fayre and their kind donations. This year we have used FOLAS money to pay for coaches to events and Christmas presents to send to Santa for all our children. We have recently just purchased four laptops and will buy four iPads in January.*

*Thank you to Connar for taking photographs during the fayre.*

# CHRISTMAS FAYRE



*Thank you for all the fabulous donations for the class hampers. The hampers were amazing again this year! Class 3 created the winning hamper with a white theme and have enjoyed a movie with refreshments.*







*We supported Children in Need 2017 this year with a bright display of Pudsey and Blush t-shirts and accessories in school for a donation. We even had a couple of Pudseys for the day too! Thank you for all your kind donations.*

*We raised a brilliant £86.90!*



## BREAKFAST CLUB

 **GREGGS**

*Breakfast Club continues to be a great success. We would not be able to offer this free club without the sponsorship from Greggs and of course without the brilliant support from our dedicated volunteers!*

*A great big thank you to all our brilliant Breakfast Club volunteers. You all do a brilliant job!*

*Helen Blakey, Ellen Cottrell, Nicola Dixon, Sarah Fearon, Claire Linfoot, June Nichol, Joe Pickering, Tracy Pickering, Tracy Salmon, Michelle Smith and Nichola Watkinson.*



***Reminder: Breakfast Club starts at 8.10 am. Please come for this time and not before, thank you.***



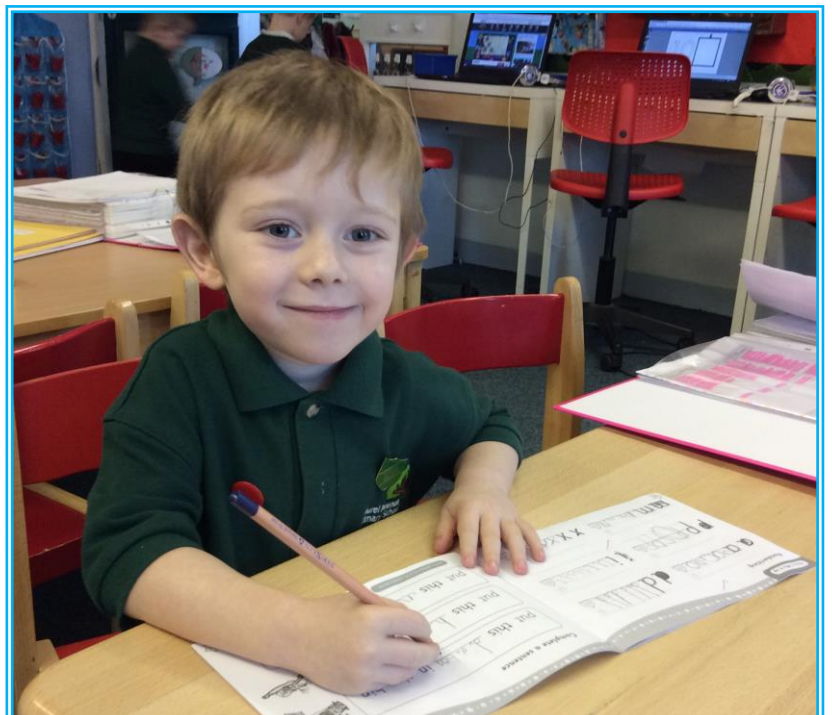
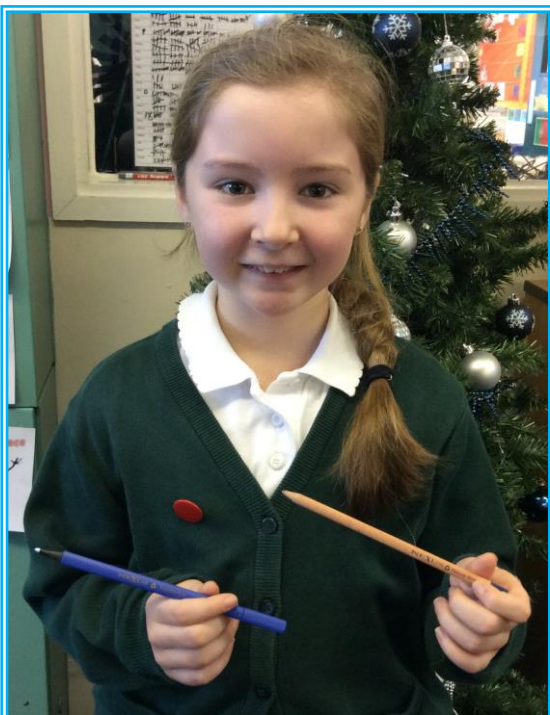
# Handwriting

This term, the children have all been working very hard on their handwriting and we are thrilled with the progress that has already been made. We have bought some new resources to help with this.

Pegs to Paper is a program designed to teach handwriting. It helps children from the Early Years through to Key Stage 1 and 2 to develop their handwriting skills. It is particularly useful for any children who struggle to handwrite, because it focuses on the specific areas causing the problems. However, it supports children to produce accurate lines for letterforms, focusing on size, alignment, spatial rules, and much more.

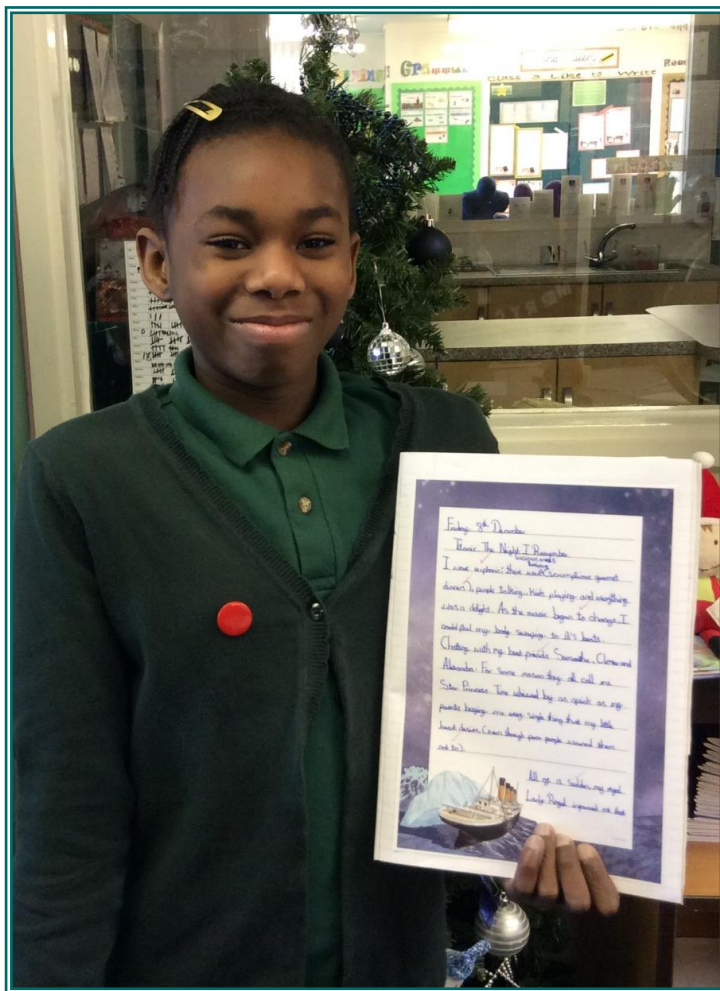
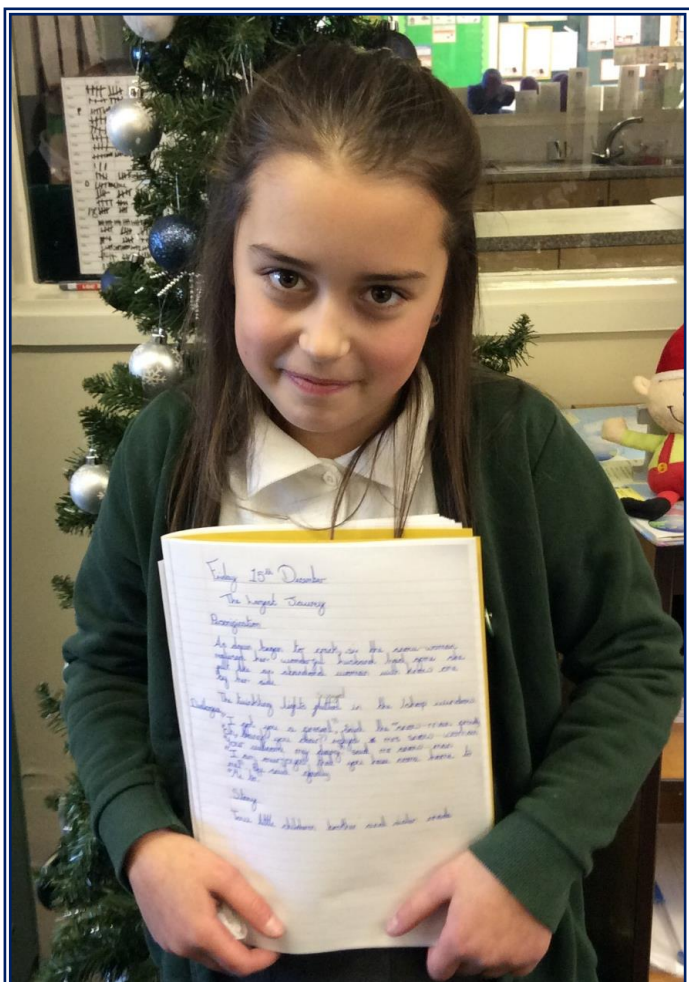
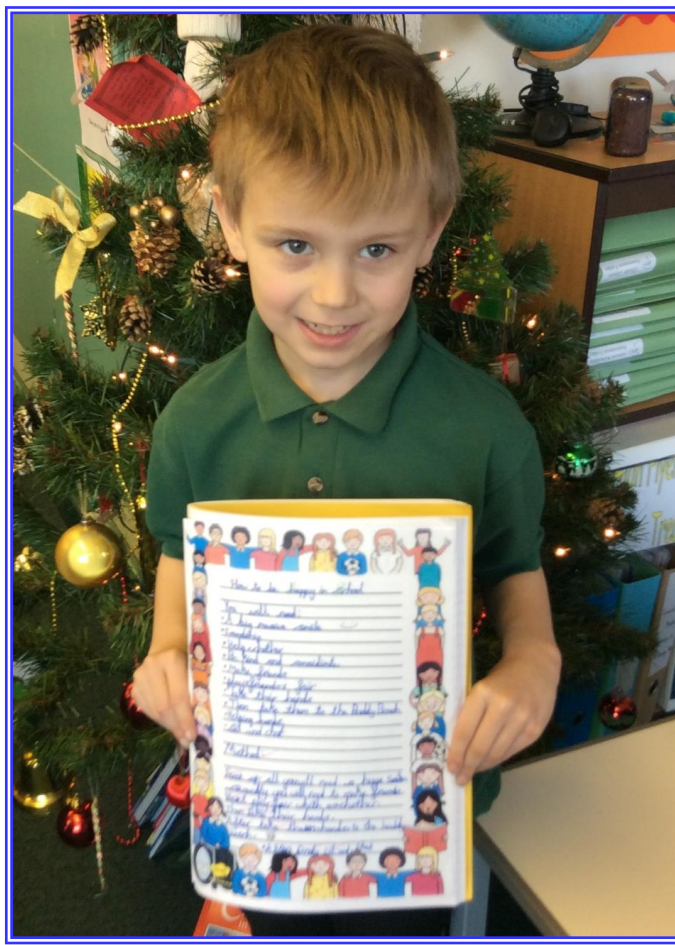
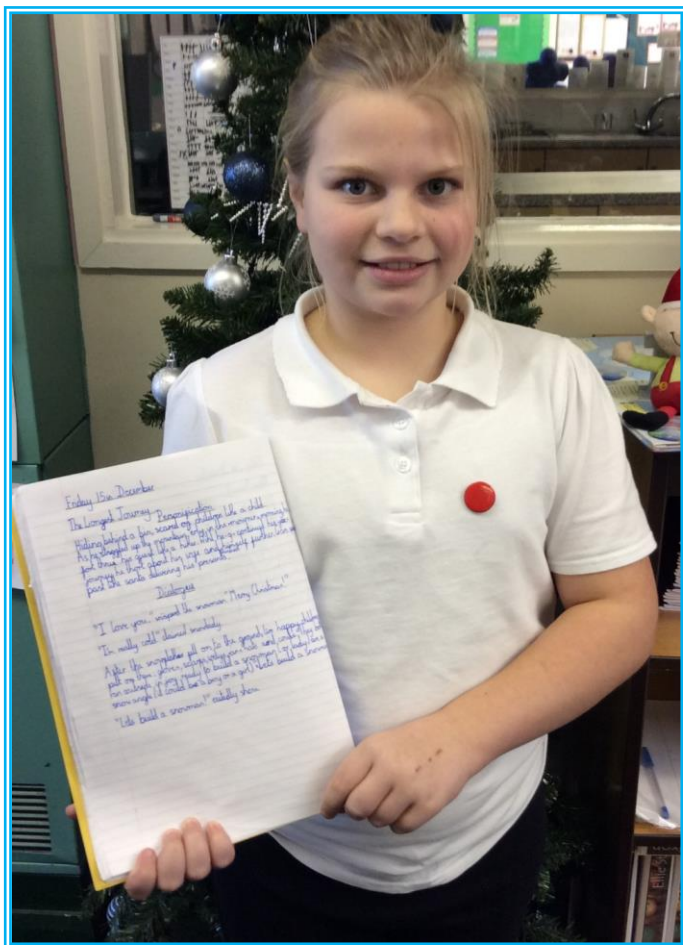
All children have triangular pencils and from Year 3 up, triangular pens. We are sure when you see your child's books in the Spring Term, you will notice a big difference in their presentation.

Please encourage your child to use their best handwriting and presentation whilst completing their homework.





Here is just a very small selection of beautifully presented handwriting happening in school...



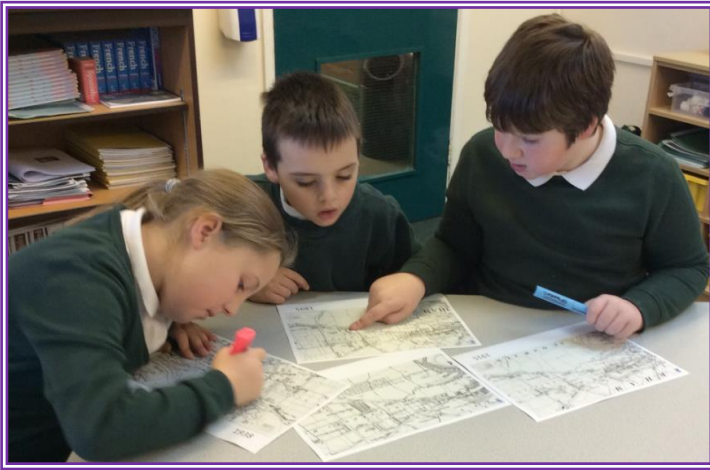


## Class 4 Physics Day

Class 4 have once again had the opportunity to visit the Physics Department of Durham University and take part in a fun packed day of science learning. The children worked hard to create ways to communicate and travel on an imaginary planet. Next term a physics undergraduate will be working each week in Class 4 to support physics teaching and learning and deliver a special project to the children.

### Class 4 History session

Class 4 took part in a local history outreach session earlier this month and used a variety of sources such as census records, military documents, maps and artefacts to discover more about the Gilesgate and Sherburn Road area and how it has changed in the past 300 years.



Over the Christmas holidays, we would really appreciate it if you would make sure your child's name is in all their clothes – uniform, PE kit and coat. This would make it so much easier for us to keep track of who all the uniform belongs to! Thank you!



## *Class 3 Visit to Arbeia*

*Class 3 had a fantastic day visiting Arbeia Roman Fort in South Shields. They carried out their own archaeological dig, uncovering artefacts that were over 2000 years old! They also had a tour of the fort and saw what life was like for Roman Soldiers living in Britain.*



*As part of their local history study this half term, Class 4 took the Terry Deary (author of Horrible Histories) 'Deadly Durham' walk around the city centre, learning some gruesome tales of old. They then retold these tales as tour guides which they filmed and narrated themselves.*





## Lumiere Visit

Years 3, 4 and 5 are taking part in a series of workshops funded by 'Children & the Arts', run by Artichoke and OASES called the START Programme. Across the year they will be developing their art appreciation and writing skills. As part of the programme we were able to take sixteen children to visit Durham's Botanical Garden for the preview night of Lumiere. They all had a magical time exploring the art installations and then used videos and photographs from the evening to give a presentation to the rest of Years 3, 4 and 5. All children have taken part in a workshop describing the installations and will be continuing with the programme next term, when they will visit the Oriental Museum and create some artwork of their own.



The new Online Safety Group will be meeting early next term to discuss how we can continue to keep online safety a high priority as always in school.



Reception: Riley and Finley    Year 1: Scarlett and Erin    Year 2: Jaydan and Liam

Year 3: Cameron and Darcie    Year 4: Teagan and Connor

Year 5: Jessica and Kenzie    Year 6: Azka and Katelyn



## Let's find out a little bit more about the Ned Crew...

My role is to keep everyone informed about what is happening and to organise meetings. I have liked working with the younger children. I have learned new things too, like skipping, but I can't skip really fast yet like Jay! Next year I would like to be Head of Crew! Kierin.

I have really enjoyed playing all of the games – dodgeball was my favourite. I think I have become much better at sport and coaching. I hope to become a Playground Leader at my new school! Oliver D.

I have really enjoyed learning new skills and activities. My job is to look after the equipment. Nathan

I am Research Leader and I have looked at lots of different games that we can play with the younger children. Macey

I like having fun and working with the children. I am in charge of taking photos and showing everyone how much fun we have! Mac.

I am Head of Crew. As well as playing games with the younger children, I have been a mentor to other crew members. Oliver P

I am in charge of helping to organise festivals in and out of school. I was chosen to help lead an Intra Athletics Festival with the School Sports Partnership. All of the Crew helped to organise a sponsored event for Class 1. Lillian.

I am Club Manager and I help run after school clubs. It's hard work, but fun! Kenzie.

This is my second year of being part of the Crew. I really enjoy helping children. Azka.  
I love everything about being a Playground Leader! Jay

Each half term the leaders plan a range of activities and games using equipment especially chosen to engage, include and motivate children to take part in active play. The Crew are very excited to announce that next terms sessions will be based around...circus skills!

## Let's Get Cooking

Congratulations to the latest chefs to complete their Let's Get Cooking course!



Oliver Dixon  
Kierin Thompson  
Kane Costello  
Lillian Ayo-Jayeoba  
Oliver Pickering  
Mac Emery  
Katelyn Scorer  
Alora







## News from the School Council

The School Council have had a busy term working on fulfilling their Mission Statement to develop ways for the children to work together to help our school.

School Councillors have introduced house groups with children from Nursery to Year 6 being organised into one of four new groups. After ballots were used across school, so that the names could be democratically chosen, it was decided to name our house groups after castles:

**Raby**, **Bamburgh**, **Durham** and **Brancepeth**.

Children have already worked together in house groups during Anti-Bullying Awareness Raising Day and the School Council have plans for further house groups activities and challenges linked to reading, times tables and attendance for next term. All children have been given a coloured pin badge to show which group they belong to so they can encourage fellow group members to achieve across the school year.

Green:

Raby

Red:

Bamburgh



Blue:

Durham

Yellow:

Brancepeth





# SNAG

## School Nutrition Action Group

Children enjoyed themed meals this half term for Bonfire Night, Halloween and Children in Need arranged by our SNAG.

We wanted to picnic by a tree during National Tree Week in November, but the weather wasn't kind to us so we had our picnic inside instead!

Congratulations to Mrs Bell & Mrs Cairns for achieving full marks in their recent unannounced kitchen audit!

### Performance Assessment Audit

Wow, fantastic news!

I am delighted to see that you and your team have achieved full marks in your recent, unannounced, Local Authority audit.

I really do appreciate how difficult and important it is, to keep your working kitchen environment at such a high standard on a daily basis, so very well done to you all.

You are a great asset to Taylor Shaw and we value your commitment and continued support.

I have copied this letter to your Head Teacher as I am sure, they too, will appreciate your teams' efforts.

Kindest regards,

*Lynda Walker*

Lynda Walker  
General Manager

## Golden Table

Congratulations to the following children for being invited to have their lunch on The Golden Table this term!



Oliver, Mac, Jasmine, Jay, Betsy, Brooke, Tia, Ben, Tayven, Jessica, Alora and Tyler



**Star Pupils** These children have been selected this half term to be Stars by their teachers for many different reasons, including excellent work and effort during lessons, as well as being kind and considerate to others.

**Nursery:** Blakley-Joe, Ben, Sophie, Lexi-Mae, Shakya-Rose, Joey

**Class 1:** Callum, Riley, Logan, Finley, Alisha, Josie, Chloe



 **Class 2:** Mohanad, Finlay, Kaiden, Liam, Erin, Qanita, Lilly-Su

**Class 3:** Ben, Manuela, Betsy, Devan, Brooke, Jasmine, Tyler

**Class 4:** Jasmine, Ellie, Jessica, Nathan, Mac, Kenzie, Alan

**Ms Davison:** Alora, Ray, Samuel, Tommy Swainston, Tia, Katelyn, Oliver, Liam, Betsy



Whole School Attendance is currently



97.2%



Thank you to parents/carers who make appointments after school and during the holidays so that their child can attend as many days as is absolutely possible.

It really is noticed and appreciated!







# Congratulations!



## *Well done to all the following who achieved 100% attendance for October 2017*

Lilian Ayo-Jayeoba ♦ Casey Bainbridge ♦ Aliyah Barker ♦ Kai Barrass ♦ Xavier Batog ♦ Alan Bentham  
Jay Bentham ♦ Josie ♦ Luke Blakey ♦ Tyler Blakey ♦ Erin Brain ♦ Tia Burrows ♦ Daley Cartwright  
Lilly ♦ Callum Collins ♦ Ray Cooper ♦ Kane Costello ♦ Logan Crampton ♦ Tyler Crampton  
Macey Cummings ♦ Logan Dinsley ♦ Oliver Dixon ♦ Rebecca Dixon ♦ Sophie Dixon ♦ Ethan Farley  
Devan France ♦ Jessica Garside ♦ Chloe Gibbs ♦ Nicole Gibbs ♦ Darcie Gillespie ♦ Rubie Gillespie  
Alora ♦ Peyton Griffiths ♦ Bethany Grundy ♦ Rebecca ♦ Daniel Grundy ♦ Liam ♦ Siti Hageem  
Finley Haywood ♦ Riley Haywood ♦ Ben Hesler ♦ Ella Johnson ♦ Lee Jones ♦ Qanita Kinarian  
Hollie King ♦ Billy Laverick ♦ Catherine Lidstone-Hill ♦ Samuel Linfoot ♦ Ben Maddison  
Casey Maddison ♦ Manuela Mangeth ♦ Finlay McIntyre ♦ Danny Mollon ♦ Ebony Morris  
Lilly-Mai Niles ♦ Scarlett Pallister ♦ Lilly-Su Parker ♦ Tayven Parker ♦ Oliver Pickering ♦ Betsy Pretty  
Lily Quan ♦ Joey Reay ♦ Leo Renwick ♦ Alana Robinson ♦ Jasmine Rutherford ♦ Anas Sadiq  
Alex Scott ♦ Blakley-Joe ♦ Tommy Scott ♦ Mohanad Shaherli ♦ Connor Shepherd  
Nathan Shepherd ♦ Daisy Smith ♦ Zak Storey ♦ Tommy Swainston ♦ Brooke Swift ♦ Kierin Thompson  
Jaydan Tuck ♦ Alisha Walton-Rowlands ♦ Kaiden Watkinson ♦ Kenzie Watkinson ♦ Connor Wild  
Grace Wild ♦ Matty Wild ♦ Teagan-Leigh Wright ♦ Josh Younger ♦ Johnny Zhang

## *Well done to all the following who achieved 100% attendance for November 2017*

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Xavier Batog ♦ Alan Bentham ♦ Josie ♦ Luke Blakey ♦ Tia Burrows ♦ Daley Cartwright  
Callum Collins ♦ Ray Cooper ♦ Kane Costello ♦ Logan Crampton ♦ Tyler Crampton  
Macey Cummings ♦ Logan Dinsley ♦ Oliver Dixon ♦ Rebecca Dixon ♦ Sophie Dixon  
Mac Emery ♦ Ethan Farley ♦ Azka Fayaz ♦ Ben Fearon ♦ Devan France ♦ Jessica Garside  
Chloe Gibbs ♦ Nicole Gibbs ♦ Darcie Gillespie ♦ Rubie Gillespie ♦ Alora  
Peyton Griffiths ♦ Bethany Grundy ♦ Rebecca ♦ Daniel Grundy ♦ Liam  
Riley Haywood ♦ Lee Jones ♦ Samuel Linfoot ♦ Ben Maddison ♦ Manuela Mangeth  
Finlay McIntyre ♦ Danny Mollon ♦ Ebony Morris ♦ Lilly-Mai Niles ♦ Bailey Pallister  
Scarlett Pallister ♦ Oliver Pickering ♦ Betsy Pretty ♦ Lily Quan ♦ Joey Reay  
Jasmine Rutherford ♦ Anas Sadiq ♦ Tommy Scott ♦ Mohanad Shaherli  
Connor Shepherd ♦ Nathan Shepherd ♦ Daisy Smith ♦ Tommy Swainston  
Brooke Swift ♦ Cameron Thompson ♦ Kierin Thompson ♦ Yiran Wang ♦ Kaiden Watkinson  
Kenzie Watkinson ♦ Connor Wild ♦ Grace Wild ♦ Matty Wild ♦ Teagan-Leigh Wright  
Josh Younger ♦ Johnny Zhang



*Well done to all the following who achieved 100% attendance for December 2017*

*Lilian Ayo-Jayeoba ♦ Casey Bainbridge ♦ Jay Bainbridge ♦ Kai Barrass  
Xavier Batog ♦ Josie ♦ Luke Blakey ♦ Tyler Blakey ♦ Erin Brain ♦ Tia Burrows  
Daley Cartwright ♦ Lilly ♦ Callum Collins ♦ Ray Cooper ♦ Logan Crampton  
Tyler Crampton ♦ Macey Cummings ♦ Logan Dinsley ♦ Oliver Dixon ♦ Rebecca Dixon  
Sophie Dixon ♦ Jasmine Emery ♦ Mac Emery ♦ Ethan Farley ♦ Azka Fayaz ♦ Saliha Fayaz  
Devan France ♦ Jessica Garside ♦ Chloe Gibbs ♦ Nicole Gibbs ♦ Rubie Gillespie  
Peyton Griffiths ♦ Bethany Grundy ♦ Rebecca ♦ Daniel Grundy ♦ Liam  
Riley Haywood ♦ Ella Johnson ♦ Lee Jones ♦ Zhixin Li ♦ Catherine Lidstone-Hill  
Samual Linfoot ♦ Manuela Mangeth ♦ Finlay McIntyre ♦ Ebony Morris  
Lilly-Mai Niles ♦ Bailey Pallister ♦ Scarlett Pallister ♦ Thomas Petit ♦ Oliver Pickering  
Betsy Pretty ♦ Lily Quan ♦ Joey Reay ♦ Leo Renwick ♦ Anas Sadiq ♦ Lilyan Sadiq  
Alex Scott ♦ Karam Shaherli ♦ Mohanad Shaherli ♦ Connar Shepherd ♦ Nathan Shepherd  
Ellie Storey ♦ Zak Storey ♦ Tommy Swainston ♦ Brooke Swift ♦ Cameron Thompson  
Kierin Thompson ♦ Jaydan Tuck ♦ Alisha Walton-Rowlands ♦ Yiran Wang  
Kaiden Watkinson ♦ Kenzie Watkinson ♦ Zac Whittle ♦ Grace Wild  
Harrison Wright ♦ Johnny Zhang*

**Each week, children who achieve 100% attendance  
have the opportunity to win a £3 Tesco Gift Voucher**

**Congratulations to:**

Lee Jones                      Jaydan Tuck  
Logan Dinsley                Aliyah Barker  
Billy Laverick                Zhixin Li  
Connar shepherd

**Class 100% Attendance  
voucher winners:**

If an individual class has achieved 100% for  
one week, then an extra draw is carried out  
for the children in that class.

Rebecca Dixon      Ethan Farley





# Laurel Avenue Community Centre



## Mondays:

Laurel United Youth Group 5.00 – 7.00 pm  
Over 11 year olds, sessions are free

## Tuesdays:

Tea Club 3.15 – 4.00 pm (straight from school)

Youth Club, 4.00 pm - 5.30 pm Ages 5 years & above

Please remember to bring £2 into school clearly marked with child's name. Any additional spending money for the tuck shop can also be included.

Tuesday's Youth Club starts at 4 pm if not attending Tea Club and costs 50p.

Please collect children from Youth Club on time, thank you.



## Thursdays:

Toddler session 9.00 – 11.00 am (Ages 0 - 5 years)  
£2 which includes breakfast

## Thursdays:

Lunch Club & Bingo 12 pm - 2.00 pm £4.00 includes two course hot meal and bingo with prizes. Anyone Welcome!

## Saturdays:

Saturday mornings we are open between 9.30 - 11.30 am for  
FREE Breakfast for families and activities with children.  
All free, in partnership with Durham City Food Bank.

Youth services and lunch club will resume week beginning 15th January.

For any further info please contact Claire Linfoot:  
[Claire-laCa@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Claire-laCa@hotmail.co.uk) Tel: 0191 3845427 M: 07825956094



## Working together to keep children and young people safe



If you are concerned that a child  
is being harmed or neglected call



[www.durham-lscb.org.uk](http://www.durham-lscb.org.uk)

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility**



# Dates for Your Diary

Spring Term starts Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January: Class 4 visit to Oriental Museum

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January: My Money Week

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January: Class Photographs

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February: Safer Internet Day

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February: Break up for half term

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February: Second half term starts

Week beginning Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February: Brilliant Book Week

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March: World Book Day. The School Council will send out information about this year's theme before the event

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 3.15 pm: Mothers' Day Tea in School Hall.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March: British Science Week.

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00 – 12.00 am & 1.00 – 3.00 pm: Nursery Open Day

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 3.30 – 6.00 pm: Parents' Evening for Class 1, 2, 3 & 4

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Sport Relief

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March: Non Uniform day for an Easter chocolate donation please for raffle held during the Easter Assembly.

Easter Egg Decorating – Parents/Carers invited into school as follows.

Nursery: All day Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, in classroom

Class 1: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 2: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 3: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 4: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 9.15 am. End of Term – Easter Assembly

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April: Summer Term starts



***Important:***

***Year 6 will be doing their  
KS2 SATS: 14<sup>th</sup> May – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018***

***Year 1 Phonics Tests will take place during the week  
beginning June 11<sup>th</sup> 2018***

***Year 2 SATS will take place during the month of May 2018***



All the staff at Laurel Avenue Community Primary  
would like to wish you all a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

کرسمس مبارک Urdu

Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia Polish

Selamat Hari Krismas Malay

Selamat Natal Indonesian

Shèng dàn kuài lè / 圣诞快乐 Chinese

Feliz Natal Portuguese

عيد ميلاد مجيد Arabic

Ikini ọḍun Keresimesi Yoruba

Noelə we pîroz be Kurdish

Vrolijk Kerstfeest Dutch

