

Newsletter

February 2018

Laurel Avenue Outdoor Community Hub

We were very lucky to have had our
Awards for All grant application accepted so
we could have our amazing outdoor gazebo built in
the school yard – worth nearly £10,000!



LOTTERY FUNDED



The gazebo can seat 30 children and
has two whiteboards and one
blackboard so that it can be used for
outdoor learning as well as another

★ area for children to use during
**AWARDS
FOR ALL** lunchtimes and
playtimes.



Safer Internet Day 2018

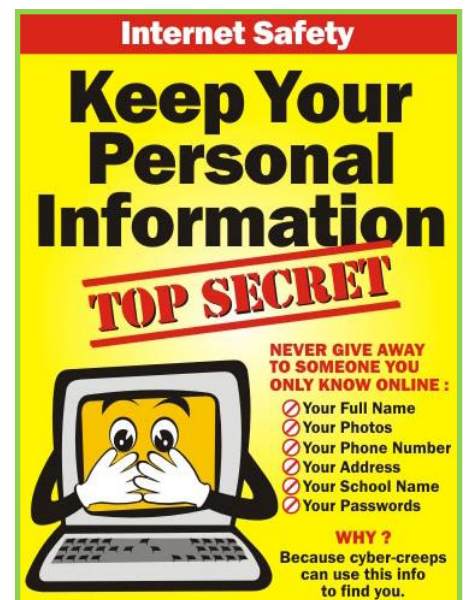
Once again we celebrated Safer Internet Day throughout school on February 6th. Online Safety is something we continually work on at Laurel Avenue; we don't just focus on its importance once a year. However, Safer Internet Day is a good opportunity to discuss how it is essential that we are safe and kind whilst using technology. Our Safer Internet Day assembly will be delivered by school's Online Safety Group this week. The group, made up of children in Reception to Year 6, will deliver a very important message, asking children to think about:

'Create, Connect and Share respect: A better internet starts with you.'

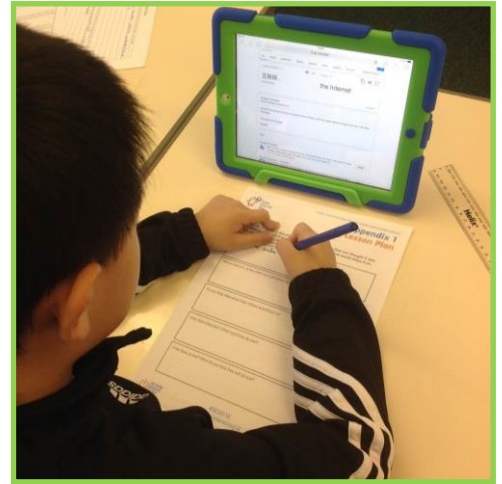
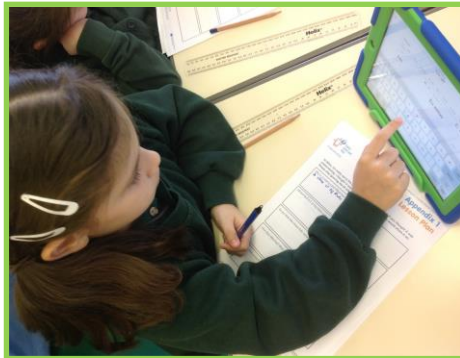


Class 2 learned about how to be safe online and why it is important that we are safe. They made posters to tell others how to be safe and planned some writing. Later this week they will be writing instructions for younger children about how they can keep safe online. Class 2 thought it was important that they shared what they had learned with their younger brothers and sisters and any other younger children they know.

Class 1 talked about positive language to use when we speak to each other, including communicating when online, during their 'Compliment Circle' time. They also created Online Safety posters and helped Smartie the Penguin make kind choices whilst using the internet.



Class 3 focused on how they could make someone feel by words and actions online. They carried out lots of fun activities which allowed them to think about how their online actions could cause upset or happiness. They created posters and wrote poems about online safety to try and help them share the important message with others.



*Class 4 discussed the online influences and pressures faced by young people today. They looked at the positive and negative influences from social media and how we all can deal with these. #IamhappyasIam
Class 4 also discussed ways to make sure all connections online with friends are positive and created posters encouraging others to connect and share with respect online.*



ZIP IT

Keep your personal stuff private and think about what you say and do online.



BLOCK IT

Block people who send nasty messages and don't open unknown links and attachments.



FLAG IT

Flag up with someone you trust if anything upsets you or if someone asks to meet you offline.

T	IS IT TRUE?	Do you have evidence to support what you're saying?
H	IS IT HELPFUL?	Does your post or comment help to drive the discussion?
I	IS IT INFORMATIVE? IS IT INSPIRING?	Will your post add useful information? Will it inspire readers to think differently?
N	IS IT NECESSARY?	Does it NEED to be said? Think really hard about the word "need."
K	IS IT KIND?	Are you making this post or comment in a kind, respectful, courteous way?

Safeguarding Questionnaire for Parents/Carers



Thank you very much for your responses to our Safeguarding Questionnaire that we sent out this term. We are very pleased to know that 100% of parents/carers strongly agree/ agree with 12 out of 14 statements. We very much operate an open door policy so please come to see us if you need support regarding any issue so that we can work together to resolve it.

	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither agree or disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
<i>My child is happy in school.</i>	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%
<i>My child feels safe in school.</i>	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%
<i>At school, my child is taught how to stay safe.</i>	73%	27%	0%	0%	0%
<i>My child has friends in school.</i>	72%	28%	0%	0%	0%
<i>If my child is upset about another child's behaviour, staff in school will help.</i>	72%	20%	5%	3%	0%
<i>My child is made aware of the potential dangers of being online when using computers.</i>	73%	27%	0%	0%	0%
<i>I understand that the school has a duty of care to report all concerns to the appropriate services.</i>	68%	32%	0%	0%	0%
<i>I understand the safeguarding importance of providing up to date and relevant information to the school about my child.</i>	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%
<i>When my child is ill or injured, the school looks after them.</i>	75%	22%	0%	3%	0%
<i>Children in school are taught and expected to behave well in school.</i>	90%	10%	0%	0%	0%
<i>I feel confident about approaching a member of staff if I need to talk about any issue.</i>	75%	25%	0%	0%	0%
<i>When my child is taken on a school visit, they feel safe and well looked after.</i>	78%	32%	0%	0%	0%
<i>I understand that it is important for my child to attend school as many days as is possible and what to do if my child cannot attend school.</i>	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%
<i>I understand that safeguarding children is the school's highest priority.</i>	90%	10%	0%	0%	0%

3% = 1 response

Children's Questionnaire

We also gave all children in school a similar questionnaire and are pleased to see that the vast majority feel happy and safe and know who they can speak to about any issue.

			
<i>I am happy in school.</i>	95%	3%	1%
<i>I feel safe in school.</i>	96%	4%	0%
<i>I am taught how to stay safe.</i>	99%	1%	0%
<i>I have friends in school.</i>	96%	4%	0%
<i>Children in school are kind and helpful to each other.</i>	93%	7%	0%
<i>I understand what bullying means.</i>	99%	1%	0%
<i>If I am being bullied I know what to do to get help.</i>	99%	1%	0%
<i>Staff in school will help me if I am being bullied or I have fallen out with my friend.</i>	96%	3%	1%
<i>I know about the potential dangers of being online when using computers.</i>	100%	0%	0%
<i>We are taught how to behave well and most of the children in school do.</i>	97%	3%	0%
<i>Children are expected to behave well in the classroom so that we can learn.</i>	100%	0%	0%
<i>When I am ill or injured, I am looked after in school.</i>	96%	4%	0%
<i>I can talk to a member of staff if I need to talk about any issue.</i>	99%	0%	1%
<i>When I am taken on a school visit, I feel safe and well looked after.</i>	99%	1%	0%
<i>It is important that I come to school every day.</i>	100%	0%	0%
<i>Keeping me safe is important to all the staff in school.</i>	100%	0%	0%

All children in school have taken part in lessons this half term about spending and saving money. The important financial literacy sessions have looked at needs and wants and borrowing and saving. Through these sessions, key maths skills have also been developed alongside an understanding of how to manage our money. All children should have brought home information on how we teach financial capability education across the year and a leaflet on this term's topic of spending and saving. If you did not receive a copy then the information can be found on the school website along with information on the Credit Union savings scheme we offer in school.

<http://www.laurelavenue.durham.sch.uk/PSHE>



Credit Union Savings Account

If you would like your child to open a savings account, then please follow these simple steps:

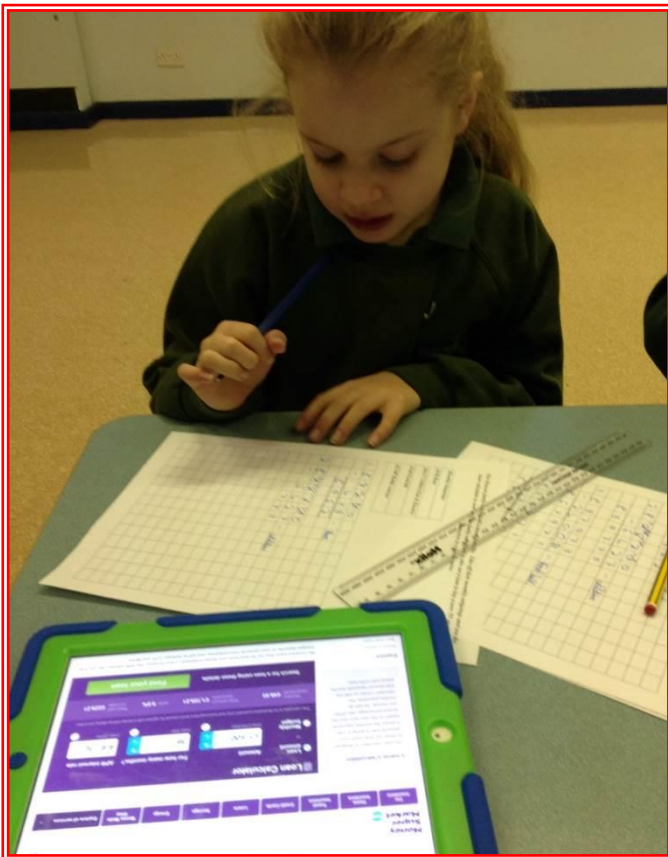
1. Complete the form you received during My Money Week (or download it from the website/ask for a new form from the office). You start with completing your child's details and then your own, as a trustee of their account. There will need to be an identity check carried out, but this can be done simply online, as long as you tick the yes box. You do not need to bring any identification into school. It is only your identity that will be checked online, nothing else. Then sign the form and send it into school with your child. Please don't send any savings into school yet.
2. We will then ask you to send money into school with your child and their account will be opened. They will receive a bank book showing their total which they will bring home with them. This bank book will need to be brought in to school with their savings weekly. It doesn't matter how much or how little is saved.

Children are able to take money out of their account whenever they like.

The banking is carried out on a set day each week – Tuesday– however, end of the week Nursery children may bring their savings into school and their money will be kept securely in the safe until the following Tuesday.

Adults can have a Saver Account too. If an adult would like to open an account, please collect a form from the office to complete before opening your account.

Class 3 learned all about loans, debt and savings during My Money Week. They helped the Deacon family to work out which family activities would be most cost effective, and whether the family could afford to take out a loan in order to replace their broken TV. During Maths lessons, they carried out lots of reasoning and problem solving activities involving money. All of their knowledge from the week was used whilst writing a non-chronological report about loans, debts and savings.



Class 4 looked at how interest rates are calculated for both savings and loans and the real cost of borrowing money. During their maths sessions they focused on the addition and subtraction of money involving decimals and on finding possibilities of spending certain amounts.



Athletics

Class 3 took part in a Gymnastics Festival at Durham City Gymnastics Club.

They enjoyed a whole range of gymnastic activities including trampolining, working on a balance beam, a horse and an assault course.

As always, their fantastic behaviour was commented on as children in Class 3 were excellent representatives of the school.



Children in Year 1 and 2 also enjoyed attending a Gymnastics Festival at Durham City Gymnastics Club. They had the opportunity to try a range of different activities and everyone had a fantastic and thoroughly enjoyable time!



The Playground Leaders have had a busy time lately! They have received leadership training from a Sports Coach and have been involved in the planning of new activities for lunchtimes.



Meet the new recruits who are looking forward to making Laurel Avenue Community Primary even more active!



A big thank you to everyone who has downloaded the Marvellous Me app. We still have 89% of children in school who have at least one parent/carer with a Marvellous Me account. Thank you for all the High 5's! Don't forget, any member of the family can share your child's Marvellous Me achievements and find out about what's happening in class using the unique code you were given. If you need a copy of your code again, please call in at the office or ask your child's teacher. Thank you!



Class 4 visit to The Oriental Museum

Class 4 visited the Oriental Museum and took part in an Early Islamic Civilisation workshop. During their visit, they looked at artefacts in the museum from the Islamic Empire and had the opportunity to work as historians describing them and using them to gain an insight into life over 1100 years ago. Class 4 then worked in small groups to create a ceramic tile display inspired by the patterns and shapes they had observed in the Islamic art, pottery and jewellery. The afternoon session involved a dramatisation of 'Sherazade' from 'Arabian Nights' and then a chance to learn more about the 'Baghdad House of Wisdom' and how scientists and mathematicians invented many instruments and systems we use today.



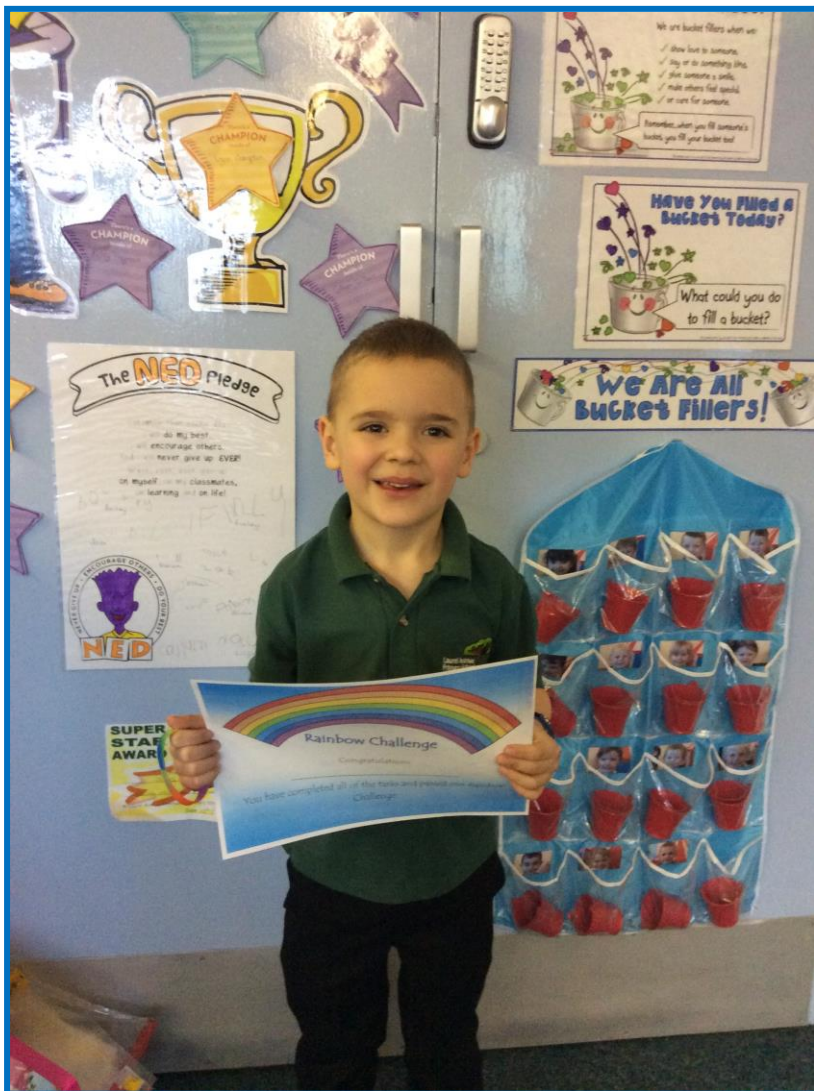
RAINBOW CHALLENGE

Class 1 have started their exciting and fun Rainbow Challenge.



The children are encouraged to complete a task in each of the 7 different areas in their classroom. For each task they complete they receive a coloured lolly stick and once they have completed all 7 tasks they receive a certificate and prize in Star Assembly. They start new challenges every 2 weeks. The rainbow challenge encourages children to be more independent and to develop skills in all areas of the curriculum.

Ask your child all about it.



School Nutrition Action Group



Councillor Corrigan, one of our School Governors, attended our last meeting and was impressed with the contributions made by all SNAG members.



Our SNAG

The SNAG had another meeting this term with our cook Mrs Bell and Mrs Robinson from Taylor Shaw. The group made plans for

Chinese New Year on 9th February, World Book Day on 1st March and Easter lunch on 29th March. The SNAG discussed possible meal changes that members of their classes had suggested. They then enjoyed biscuits that Mrs Bell had made for the meeting.

School Fruit Shop

Children in Nursery, Classes 1 and 2 receive a piece of fresh fruit each day for free as part of the Government's fruit scheme.



Children in Classes 3 and 4 can buy a piece of fresh fruit each day for only 50p per week.

The Golden Table: Every fortnight, six children are selected by lunchtime staff for excellent lunchtime behaviour and fabulous manners. Congratulations to the following children.



Lilian, Jasmine, Ellie, Jay, Johnny and Connar



Zhixin, Daley, Josie, Kaiden, Leah and Chloe

Lunchtimes at Laurel Avenue

Lunchtimes are always busy at Laurel Avenue!



Circus Tricks



Treasure Hunts



Rock Painting



It rained on the day we had planned to have a picnic beside the trees so we made our own tree and ate our picnics around that instead!





As you know, we are currently working towards The Rainbow Flag Award to ensure quality LGBT+ teaching and learning in school.

We are very pleased to have achieved the first part of our Rainbow Flag Award at an outstanding level - The Skilled Teacher section of the award. Thank you to parents/carers who attended our coffee morning. We are looking forward to moving onto the further five parts of the award.

We hope that the new 'No Parking' arrangements are making it safer for children and adults to come into school. We have worked closely with Laurel Avenue Community Centre to add conifer pots along the edge of the road where many cars were parking, making it difficult to see anyone trying to cross the road. We've also had all the road markings repainted and new markings added to make it very clear that there should be no parking other than in the car park. Two new signs also act as a reminder for everyone driving into the site.

Thank you for making sure that you park safely in the correct parking spaces. We hope that all parents/carers of children in school will work with us to ensure that the site is kept as safe as possible at all times.

BREAKFAST CLUB

 GREGGS

Breakfast Club continues to be a great success with 40 - 50 children attending most mornings!

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 very warm and great big thank you to all our brilliant Breakfast Club volunteers...

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



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

*Please keep a note of when your child will need their
PE kit in school*

Class 1: Monday and Tuesday

Class 2: Tuesday and Wednesday

Class 3: Wednesday (PE kit) and Thursday (swimming kit)

Class 4: Tuesday and Friday

We recommend children bring their PE kits into school every Monday & leave them on their pegs for the week, bringing them home every Friday.

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: Harrison Wright, Karolina Kardzis,
Tyler Blakey



Class 1: Bailey Pallister, Karam Shaherli,
Lilyan Sadiq



Class 2: Leah Brown, Jaydan Tuck, Siti Hageem

Class 3: Daniel Grundy, Johnny Zhang,
Tyler Crampton

Class 4: Kane Costello, Mac Emery, Alora

Ms Davison: Alan Bentham, Grace Wild,
Finlay McIntyre



Whole School Attendance is currently at



97.1%



Let's continue to try and keep our attendance the best it can be. Bring your child into school before and after any appointments that can't be made after school or during the holidays to get their mark and so they don't miss a whole day of learning!

Thank you.



Congratulations!



Well done to all the following who achieved 100% attendance for January 2018

*Lilian Ayo-Jayeoba ♦ Casey Bainbridge ♦ Aliyah Barker
Kai Barrass ♦ Xavier Batog ♦ Alan Bentham ♦ Jay Bentham ♦ Josie
Luke Blakey ♦ Erin Brain ♦ Leah Brown ♦ Tia Burrows
Callum Collins ♦ Kane Costello ♦ Tyler Crampton
Sophie Dixon ♦ Tristan ♦ Jasmine Emery ♦ 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 ♦ Daniel Grundy ♦ Liam ♦ Rebecca
Siti Haqem ♦ Finley Haywood ♦ Riley Haywood ♦ Ella Johnson
Lee Jones ♦ Zhixin Li ♦ Catherine Lidstone-Hill
Samual Linfoot ♦ Leon MacDonald ♦ Ben Maddison
Casey Maddison ♦ Manuela Mangeth ♦ Finlay McIntyre
Lilly-Mai Niles ♦ Scarlett Pallister ♦ Lilly-Su Parker
Shakya Parker ♦ Tayven Parker ♦ Oliver Pickering ♦ Betsy Pretty
Joey Reay ♦ Leo Renwick ♦ Alana Robinson ♦ Jasmine Rutherford
Katelyn Scorer ♦ Alex Scott ♦ Blakley-Joe
Tommy Scott ♦ Karam Shaherli ♦ Mohanad Shaherli
Connar Shepherd ♦ Nathan Shepherd ♦ Ellie Storey
Tommy Swainston ♦ Brooke Swift ♦ Cameron Thompson
Kierin Thompson ♦ Jaydan Tuck ♦ Kaiden Watkinson
Kenzie Watkinson ♦ Zac Whittle ♦ Connor Wild
Grace Wild ♦ Matty Wild ♦ Johnny Zhang*



We hope that you are remembering to support the 'Once a Week, Take a Peek' campaign so we can work together to beat head lice. Please be vigilant and check your child's hair regularly, ideally once every week. The best known symptom is itching, but not all children will itch at first so don't rely on this.

Once a
week
take a
peek



*Support the
crusade
against
head lice!*

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

Finley Haywood, Bethany Grundy
Daley Cartwright

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.



Class 4: Macey Cummings



Laurel Avenue Community Centre



Monday: Laurel United Youth Group

5 – 7 pm

(For children aged 11 – 18 years)

Tuesday: Junior Youth Club (Children aged 5 – 11 years)

Tea Club – 3 pm until 4 pm

Youth Session 4 pm – 5.30 pm

Thursday: Toddler Session 9 am until 11 am

(Children aged 0 – 5 years)

Thursday: Lunch Club 12 pm until 2 pm

Cost: £3.00

Included is a two course hot meal and activities.

Taxi service now available. Please contact Claire to book transport.

Friday: 'Information Station'

Home Group, Credit Union, Job Centre, One Point

Children's Services will all be here between

10 am – 12 pm for any queries, help or advice.

No appointment needed, just drop in during this time.

Tel: 0191-3845427 Mobile: 07825956094

Email: Claire-laCa@hotmail.co.uk

Laurel Avenue Community Centre Youth Projects

All the Youth projects are supported by Children in Need and include art and craft activities, multi sports, team building games and cooking.

Children from Laurel United Youth Group visited London for a weekend residential trip last year and children from both youth groups have enjoyed trips to Flamingo Land, Light Water Valley, Karting, Sambuca Restaurant, The Gala Theatre Christmas Pantomime and most recently The Metro Centre.



Supported by
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If you are aged 5 and above why not come along every Tuesday 4.00 – 5.30 pm or stay to tea club first, straight after school? If you are aged 11 and above, you are welcome to attend the Laurel United Club every Monday 5.00 – 7.00



LA All Stars



Guitar Lessons with Tom Jorden from King's Church



Lego Tower Competition



Outdoor fun



The Spooky Sleepover








London Residential



Summer BBQ

School Holidays 2017/2018

<i>Holiday</i>	<i>Closing Date</i>	<i>Date Re-open for Teaching Purposes</i>
<i>Spring Half-Term 2018</i> <i>(1 week)</i> 	<i>Friday 9th February 2018</i>	<i>Monday 19th February 2018</i>
<i>Easter 2018</i> <i>(2 weeks 1 day)</i> 	<i>Thursday 29th March 2018</i>	<i>Monday 16th April 2018</i>
<i>May Day 2018</i> <i>(1 day)</i> 	<i>Friday 4th May 2018</i>	<i>Tuesday 8th May 2018</i>
<i>Summer Half-Term 2018</i> <i>(1 week)</i> 	<i>Friday 25th May 2018</i>	<i>Monday 4th June 2018</i>
<i>Summer 2018</i> 	<i>Friday 20th July 2018</i>	<i>To be determined</i>

*These dates only relate to Laurel Avenue Community Primary School.
Each school in the area may have slightly different closing and re-opening dates.*

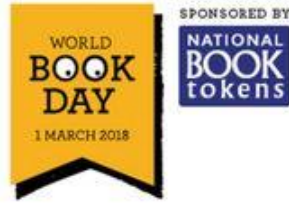
Important:

Year 6 will be doing their

KS2 SATS: 14th May – 17th May 2018

Year 1 Phonics Tests will take place during the week beginning June 11th 2018

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



#WORLDBOOKDAY 2018

THURSDAY 1 MARCH

Celebrate stories. Love reading.



The School Council have been busy organising this year's World Book Day on Thursday 1st March! They have decided to hold a Harry Potter theme day where everyone will take part in maths, writing and reading activities linked to Harry Potter.

Children are invited to dress up as a Character from the Harry Potter books or to dress in the colour of their Laurel Avenue House Group:

Raby – Green Slytherin

Bamburgh – Red Gryffindor

Durham – Blue Ravenclaw

Brancepeth – Yellow Hufflepuff

Nursery will celebrate World Book Day on Wednesday 28th February as all Nursery children attend this day.

Dates for Your Diary

Friday 9th February: Break up for half term

Monday 19th February: Second half term starts

Tuesday 20th February: Living Eggs delivered to school

Week beginning Monday 26th February: Brilliant Book Week

Thursday 1st March: World Book Day. Dress as a Harry Potter character or in the colour of their House Group

Wednesday 7th March: Class 1 Infant Agility Festival at New College

Thursday 8th March: Class 4 Police Shopwise Awareness Session in school

Friday 9th March, 3.15 pm: Mothers' Day Tea in School Hall

Monday 12th March – Friday 16th March: British Science Week

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

Friday 16th March, am: Class 4 visit Carville Methodist Church – Easter Activities

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

Thursday 22nd March: Class 3 Multi Sports Festival at New College

Friday 23rd March: Sport Relief

Wednesday 28th 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 28th March, in classroom

Class 1: Wednesday 28th March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 2: Wednesday 28th March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 3: Tuesday 27th March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 4: Monday 26th March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm



Thursday 29th March, 9.15 am: End of Term – Easter Assembly

Monday 16th April: Summer Term starts