

Newsletter

February 2019

GOODBYE

Mrs McLellan

We are all really sad to have to say goodbye to Mrs McLellan who is leaving school on Friday. We have loved working with her for the past eight and a half years and will really miss her when she leaves.

Mrs McLellan has lots of exciting ventures ahead! Following her heart transplant in 2013, she has achieved many gold, silver and bronze medals at the British Transplant Games. Due to her fantastic success, she has been selected to take part in the World Transplant Games in the summer which is a huge achievement!!

Mrs McLellan will be working very closely with The Freeman Hospital, managing their sports teams at the British Transplant Games.



She will also be promoting organ donation at The Freeman. You've been an incredible inspiration, Mrs McLellan, for us all and we are really going to miss you!

we will miss you lots & lots

Laurel Avenue Play Ship

A great big thank
you to Haswell
Moor Wind Farm
Community
Benefits Fund
who gave us
£4,000 towards
our fabulous new
Play Ship.



FOLAS contributed the remaining £200 we
needed towards the costs. We're looking forward
to having both exciting adventures and relaxed
times aboard our new ship!

Safer Internet Day 2019

Safer Internet Day 2019 was celebrated on Tuesday 5th February with the theme: Together for a better internet.

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 was delivered by school's Online Safety Group. The group, made up of children in Reception to Year 6, delivered a very important message, asking children to think about: 'Our Internet, Our Choice - Understanding Consent in a Digital World'.



Class 3 children wrote an instruction text for safe use of the internet, which gave thought to giving and receiving permission and consent for sharing data, information and pictures.

Class 4 discussed the issue of consenting to our data being shared online both by 'friends' and through the use of apps.

Children in Classes 2, 3 and 4 also created posters along the theme: Our Internet – Our Choice, showing their understanding about the importance of consent!

Nursery and Class 1 children created posters about choices we make online to keep us safe.

Class 2 children created guides about how to be safe online. They also acted out activities that can be done with technology, taking the opportunity to discuss safety at all times.



Responsibilities Online Consent Rights
Coercion Yes
Compliance Approval
Choice Boundaries Agreement
Agree NO
Authorisation
Control Understanding Check
Respect Ask
Ownership Pressure
Permission

Class 3 Art Project



Class 3 took part in an exciting art project recently. This unique project, combining art and science, worked alongside their science topic of plants and pollination. They worked with artist and educator, Alex Hirtzel. Children closely observed plants, and learnt about the unique symbiotic relationship between bees and flowers. Their work was displayed in Durham Cathedral Cloisters on Saturday 26th January.





The art
work
created by
Class 3
displayed in
Durham
Cathedral.

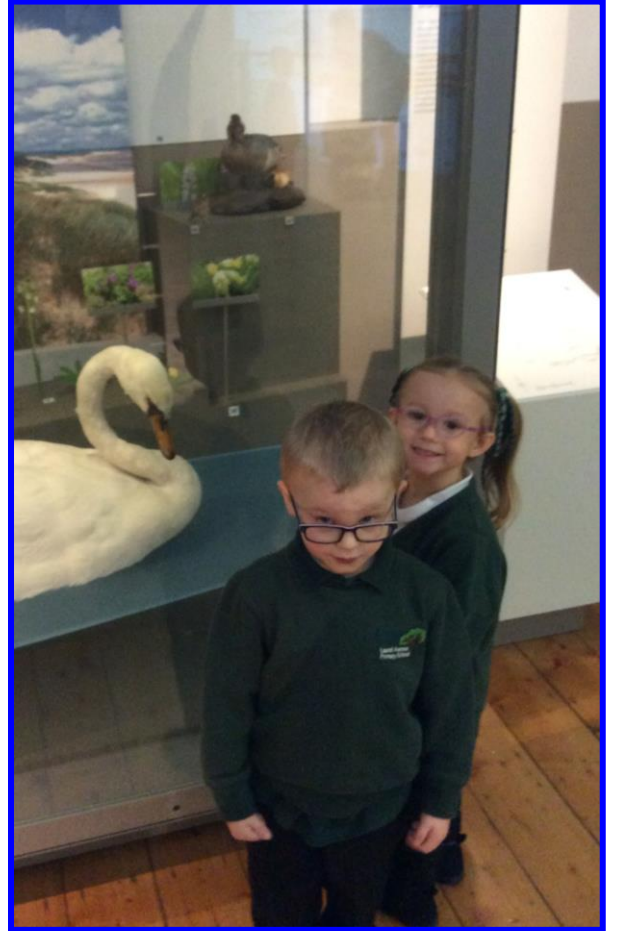
Alex emailed school afterwards to say thank you:
*Thank you so much for taking part in the workshops,
we loved meeting you and the artwork the pupils
produced is incredible, especially considering how
much younger they are than the other groups! It was
such a blessing to come to Laurel Avenue - the
children were so polite and welcoming.*

Talented bunch!!

Well done Class 3!

Early Years Visit

Class 1 and a few of our Nursery children had a fantastic visit to the Hancock Museum.



The children looked at a variety of different animals, and thought about which would make good pets and why some would not.



Back at
school they
wrote a book
called
"Dear
Museum"
based on
"Dear Zoo".



School Nursery

We are excited to announce that we will be opening up our Nursery provision to two year olds from Monday 25th February 2019, after the half term holidays. These sessions will be five mornings, 9:00 – 12:00.

All 4 spaces have already been taken but if you would like to be added to the waiting list, please contact us - 0191 3868416, email at laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net or come in and see us!

The two year olds will work in a ratio of 1 adult to 4 children at all times so we are really able to concentrate on their needs as two year olds. We will echo the principles of our three and four year old provision, but taking into account fully the needs of children at the age of two. These children will be guaranteed a place in our Nursery when they turn three where their transition will be seamless having made excellent relationships with staff and their friends. We have a wonderfully caring team of teachers and teaching assistants who are experienced and trained to nurture, care for and inspire every child in their care, therefore providing the best start and education for your little ones.

We have cosy and warm areas as well as areas packed with educational resources and equipment. Our Nursery is spacious with a large private garden and access to the school yard, field and library. At the beginning of March we are having a brand new, outside play equipment structure with huge mark making boards built, and the construction of a tarmac track will follow. This will provide children with exciting opportunities to explore, have fun and learn in a safe and secure environment. We offer the opportunity for your children to be inspired and, as a result, learn and develop on a daily basis.

Is your child eligible?

Your two year old can get free play and learn sessions if you live in England and get one of the following benefits:



Income Support



Jobseeker's Allowance



Support for a 'Looked After' child



Child Tax credits - income below £16,190



Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit



Support under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999



Employment and Support Allowance – income related



Disability Living Allowance (child)



Working Tax Credits and earn no more than £16,190



Current Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan (child)



Left care through Special Guardianship, or an adoption, or Residence Order

How do you apply?

If you have received a golden ticket, bring it into our school office and we will check your code and tell you when your child can start.

If you don't have a golden ticket, visit the Parent Portal

<https://education.durham.gov.uk/parentportal/> where you can check whether you are eligible. If you are eligible you will then receive a letter with your eligibility code. Bring this into the school office, call or email us and your child can get started with their Nursery sessions! Two year olds can take their Nursery place from the start of the term after their second birthday. Application forms are available from school.

We currently have some spaces available for three and four year olds at the start of the week (full days Monday and Tuesday and Wednesday mornings 9.00 – 12.00) and five afternoons, 12.15 – 3.15 pm. Every three and four year old is eligible for fifteen hours of free Nursery provision. We take children in straight after their third birthday. Application forms are available from the school office.

If you are interested in any places for two, three or four year olds, please call in at the office, call school on 0191 3868416 or e mail

laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net to arrange a visit or to check your eligibility code for your two year old. We'd love to hear from you.

Nursery



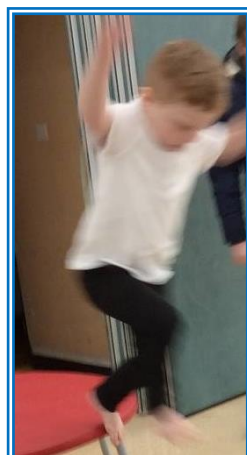
Fun in the snow!

Getting ready for
Chinese New Year



Retelling the Chinese New
Year story 'The Great Race'
in our Gazebo

Fundamental
Movement Skills
with our
Sports Coach



Gymnastics

Class 2 and Class 3 each took part in a Gymnastics Festival at Durham City Gymnastics Club.



They experimented with lots of different gymnastics equipment, including the bars and trampolines. Children really worked hard on improving their skills and enjoyed a tumbling display by Shanice Davidson, World Championship silver medallist.

Let's Get Cooking

Let's get
cooking

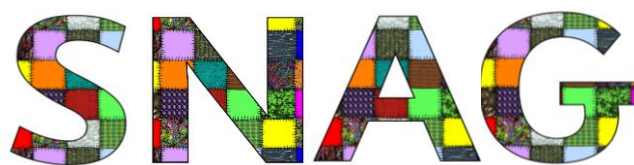
Congratulations to the latest chefs to complete their Let's Get Cooking Course! Nicole, Ben, Frankie, Billy, Anas, Jay, Lilly-Mai and Connor.



The latest group of chefs have started their course of Let's Get Cooking lessons...



School Nutrition Action Group



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

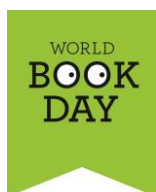
5th February - Chinese New Year

14th February - Valentine's Day, Love Your Lunch

7th March - World Book Day

15th March - Red Nose Day

3rd April - Easter Lunch



Please look on the school website and Facebook for all menus. Meals can be ordered at the school office. Call in or give us a ring! All children in Class 1 and 2 receive a free meal. Nursery and Class 3 and 4 children pay £2.05 per meal unless entitled to a free school meal.



Our SNAG enjoyed sampling some of the delicious dishes from our current menu.

Our SNAG:

Ella

Simon

Ebony

Layla-Rae

Grace

Anas

Ellie



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

Congratulations to the following children.



Ethan, Sabir, Ray, Luke, Sharie and Leah



Lilian, Aliyah, Lee, Jessica, Tayven and Nathan



Ella, Matty, Bailey, Zak, Chloe and Simon

BREAKFAST CLUB

GREGGS

Breakfast Club continues to be a great success with 40 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, Jessica Cottrell,

Claire Linfoot, June Nichol, Joe Pickering,

Tracy Pickering, Tracy Salmon, Nichola Watkinson.

Reminder: Breakfast Club

starts at 8.10 am.




A big thank you to everyone who has downloaded the Marvellous Me app. We have 87% of children in school who have at least one parent/carers 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.



Marvellous Mes are sent to celebrate your child's achievements with you and to send activities and information out. Nursery parents have started to receive information about a task to carry out in the Nursery Garden before and after their sessions – so keep an eye out for these!


If you need a copy of your code again, please call in at the office or e mail school on laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net and we can send you your code again. Thank you!

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: Madyson, Shakya, Ellianna, Fearne,
 Jaxon I

Class 1: Ella, Tyler, Ethan, Ben, Miyah

Class 2: Alexander, Sharie, Sabir, Alisha,
 Matty 

Class 3: Sharks Swimming Group: Milly,
Daisy, Darcie, Aliyah, Grace, Jay, Alex and
Kaiden; Tayven, Alex, Kaiden, Layla-Rae 

Class 4: Connar, Tia, Anas, Lilly-Mai, Lilian

Ms Davison: Simon, Kai, Kierin, 
Avika, Elisha

Whole School Attendance is currently at



96.9%



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.



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

Nursery: Catherine, Hylton, Jaxon I, Jaxon R, Joseph, Madyson, Olivia, Savannah, Tom

Class 1: Sophie, Ethan, Charlie, Rubie, Shahid, Connor

Class 2: Sabir, Josie, Luke, Leah, Levi, Callum, Logan, Avika, Chloe, Kayden, Finley, Samuel, Ebony, Bailey, Scarlett, Leo, Lilyan, Karam, Alisha, Matty, Matthew, Simon

Class 3: Aliyah, Milly, Logan, Mia, Darcie, Lee, Casey, Finlay, Lilly-Su, Tayven, Alex, Tommy, Mohanad, Kaiden, Zac and Grace

Class 4: Lilian, Casey, Alan, Tia, Tyler, Ben, Jessica, Nicole, Ben, Frankie, Betsy, Jasmine, Anas, Connor, Nathan, Brooke and Kenzie

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

Congratulations to:

**Lilly-Mai Niles, Kaiden Watkinson,
Tommy Scott, Alex Scott**

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 2: Karam

Class 3: Saliha

Class 4: Brooke



Laurel Avenue Community Centre



Mondays

Laurel United Senior 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)

Laurel United Junior Youth Group 4.00 – 5.30 pm

5 - 11 year olds

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 4.00 pm if not attending Tea Club and costs 50p.

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



Tuesdays

LA ALL Stars Rehearsal 6.00 – 7.00 pm

Thursdays

Toddler session 9.00 – 11.00 am (Ages 0 - 5 years)

£2 which includes breakfast



Thursdays

Lunch Club 12.00 noon - 2.00 pm

£3.00 includes two course hot meal and activities

Thursdays

Grub Club 3:45 – 5.15 pm

Families welcome. Activities based around growing & cooking food

Fridays

Caff Gaff 10.00 am – 12.00 noon

FREE tea/coffee, hot snacks and cakes. Everyone welcome


Saturdays

We are a distribution point for Durham Food Bank.

Opening times are between 9.30 – 11.30 am.

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

Laurel Avenue Community Centre



AGM

Notice is hereby given that the
2019 Annual General Meeting of
Laurel Avenue Community Association
will be held on:

Thursday 21st March 2019 4.30 pm
At: Laurel Avenue Community Centre

Come along and find out what we do and
how you can be involved.

Everyone is welcome to attend including
residents and non-residents of the
Sherburn Road Estate.

All attendees will be eligible to register for
either full or associate membership.

Attendance must be confirmed by emailing or
telephoning Claire Linfoot,

Claire-laCa@hotmail.co.uk by 7th March 2019

Refreshments, snacks and door prizes too!

Dates for Your Diary



Friday 15th February: Break up for half term

Monday 25th February: Second half term starts

Wednesday 6th March am: Infant Agility for Class 1 at New College Durham

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day. The School Council will send out information about this year's theme before the event

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day themed lunch

Monday 11th March – Friday 15th March: British Science Week

Friday 15th March: Red Nose Day and Red Nose Day themed lunch

Wednesday 20th March: Dance Festival at Gala Theatre Class 2 & 4

Thursday 21st March, 4.30 pm: Community Centre AGM – all welcome

Monday 25th & Tuesday 26th March 3.30 – 6.00 pm: Parents' Evening for Classes 1, 2, 3 & 4

Wednesday 27th March, 9.00 – 12.00 am & 1.00 – 3.00 pm:

Nursery Open Day

Friday 29th March, full day: Year 4 and 5 at Oriental Museum

Friday 29th March, 3.15 pm: Mothers' Day Tea in School Hall

Tuesday 2nd April am: Class 3 Multi-Skills Festival at Maiden Castle

Wednesday 3rd April: 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 3rd April, in classroom

Class 1: Wednesday 3rd April, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 2: Tuesday 2nd April, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 3: Tuesday 2nd April, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 4: Monday 1st April, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Friday 5th April, 9.15 am: Easter Assembly

Friday 5th April, 9.15 am: Easter themed lunch

Friday 5th April: End of Term

Tuesday 23rd April: Summer Term starts

Year 6 Key Stage 2 SATS: 13th May – 16th May 2019

Year 2 Key Stage 1 Assessment Period:

Month of May 2019

IMPORTANT

Year 1 Phonics Tests will take place during the week beginning
June 10th 2019