

# Newsletter

March 2019

## Nursery Garden Installation



*A massive thank you to Awards for All, funded by National Lottery, for the installation of our fabulous new Nursery Garden large play structure and huge mark making boards.*



★  
**AWARDS  
FOR ALL**

*We also used the grant to construct huge mark making boards outside of our Reception Classroom to enhance their outdoor learning.*



8-17 March  
British  
Science  
Week  
2019



*Nursery children made slime aliens, writing poems about their new gloopy friends. They also made and launched rockets.*



*Class 1 made space scenes by dropping paint, salt and glitter onto wet photo paper. They also made constellations from playdough and imagined a trip into space.*

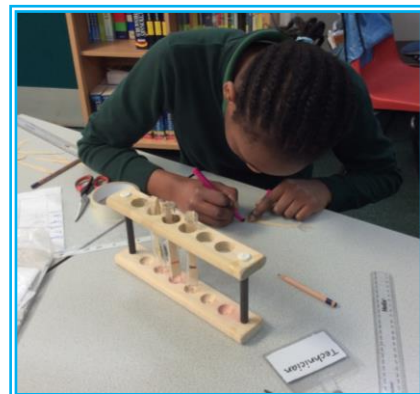
*Class 2 created their own paper aeroplanes, helicopters and gliders and then investigated to find out which would travel the furthest when thrown. They also went on a journey and created journey sticks to show what they had seen.*



*Class 3 explored the journeys taken around plants, from seed to seedling, life cycle of a plant, pollination and the life cycle of a bee. They completed investigations into what plants need to grow well, kennings about plants and bees and sketches of bees, showing pollen collection.*



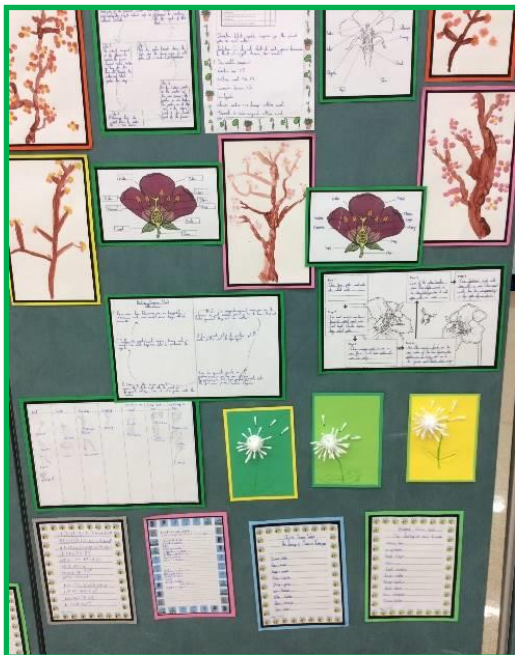
*Class 4 explored the theme of journeys through learning about the phenomena behind the Northern Lights and the journey of particles from solar flares from the sun to the Earth's atmosphere. We used a variety of art techniques to create Northern Lights artwork and explored chromatography. We were all surprised to learn that black was made up from so many different colours.*



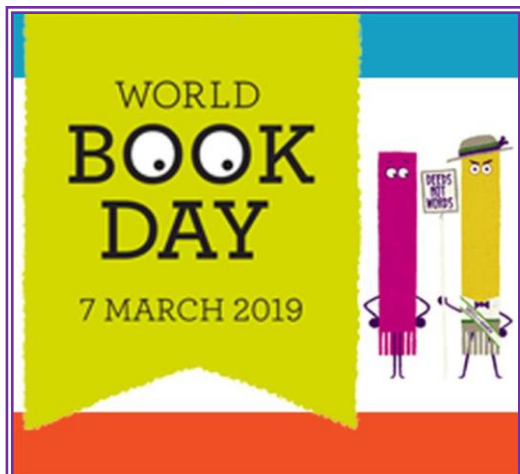




*Our Science Exhibition was extremely well attended. Thank you so much if you attended and joined in with the investigations that we had set up in the hall. It was an excellent turn out!*







# World Book Day 2019

*Well done to all children for participating brilliantly in our 'World Book Day Readathon'.*

*We raised a fantastic £94.50 to use to buy new books for our library. Thank you for your support!*



*The costumes again were amazing.*



# North East Sikh Service



*As part of their RE topic, Sikhism, Class 3 spent a morning with Cloud Singh from the North East Sikh Service. He answered lots of questions and showed us the 5K's, which are really important to the religion.*

*Mrs Satterthwaite will be starting her maternity leave after the Easter holidays. We are very pleased to share that Miss Tosney will be teaching in Class 3 every Wednesday for the Summer and Autumn Terms which will ensure continuity for all children.*

*Mrs Hodgson will continue to teach the other four days.*

Leaving to have a

BABY



*Congratulations to  
Mrs Satterthwaite.*

*We can't wait to meet the new  
member of her family.*



# Dippy Banners

Class 4 have had the opportunity to work with Louise Underwood, a textile artist, to design and create a two meter banner to be displayed in The Great North (Hancock) Museum in Newcastle. Our school was one of only ten schools in the North East to be chosen to create a special banner showing 'caring for the environment' which will accompany the amazing Diplodocus skeleton exhibition arriving at the museum in May. All children were able to contribute to the design and painting of the banner which will be free to see between May and October this year.





# Let's get cooking

Congratulations to our latest Let's Get Cooking chefs to complete their cooking course.



Grace, Tayven, Kai, Casey, Leon, Daniel, Tia and Darcie

## Red Nose Day

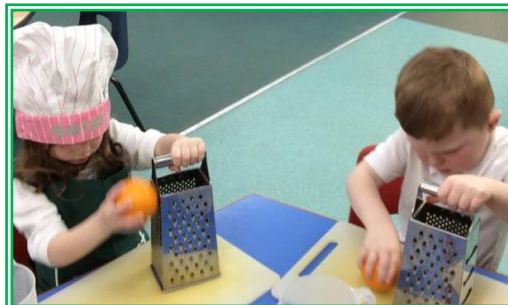
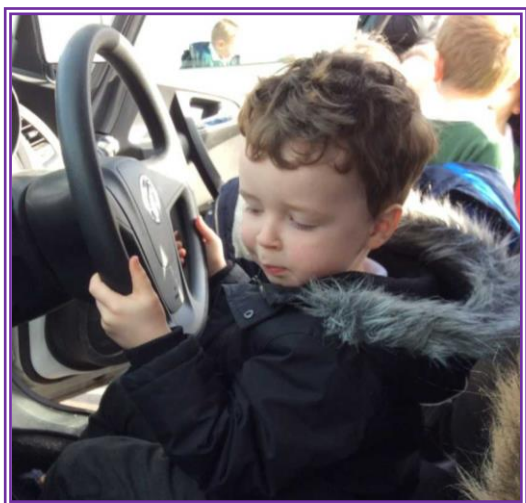
Children in school made these amazing looking biscuits to sale on Red Nose Day! Sales of the biscuits along with donations for wearing red came to a fantastic **£178.35!** Thank you once again for your support!





# Nursery

*Nursery children have been learning about different occupations. They had a wonderful visit from Police Officers who even let us sit in the car and turn the sirens on!*



*Mrs Davison came into Nursery to bake Gingerbread Men during World Book Day week and talked about the skills you need to be a baker! (As well as eating delicious biscuits!)*

Nursery have just had a brand new LCD whiteboard installed this week. Not even the sun shining onto the screen can stop them from accessing technology now!







Nursery have been impressing everyone with their fantastic work during their Fundamental Movement Skills coaching every Friday. The special coach hired to work with our children was amazed at how every Nursery child, including our two year olds, had a fantastic attitude and have grown tremendously in confidence whilst using the large equipment.

Nursery

## ***Nursery places***

*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.*

*Is your child approaching the age of two or three? Come and have a look at our fantastic nursery and meet our experienced and dedicated staff. Nursery application forms are available from school. Our places for two year olds are currently full so why not come and put your child's name down on our waiting list? We will have one two year old place in May.*

*Call in at the office, call school on 0191 3868416 or e mail [laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net](mailto:laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net) to arrange a visit.*

*We'd love to hear from you.*



Miss Mills took Year 4 and 5 children to The Oriental Museum this term as part of our involvement in the Start Project for The Lumiere which will be back in Durham later this year.



**Oriental  
Museum**

Children took part in an object hunt throughout the museum, exploring artefacts from China, Japan, Ancient Egypt and the Middle East. They investigated these artefacts first hand before taking part in a play about a Moon Princess.



They then created their own artefacts and lit them up as if they were exhibits in The Lumiere exhibition. Children will be visiting Hamsterley Forest to continue with the project next term. Exciting!



*Classes 3 and 4 enjoyed spending time with County Durham's Age UK volunteers last week, taking part in their second 'Intergenerational Workshop'. They were able to compare school and home life now and then as well as explore*



*artefacts such as toys and clothing, talking to people who have memories of the items from their childhood. It was a great morning where both children and volunteers enjoyed discussions and learnt a great deal from each other.*



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



*Leah, Logan, Finley, Scarlett, Matty and Ella*

*Lilian, Milly, Macey, Tayven, Anas and Frankie*





# *Class 4 Gymnastics Competition*

*Class 4 have been working hard with Mr Robinson and his students from Durham Sixth Form Centre, delivering outstanding Gymnastics coaching. To celebrate their fantastic work, we held a Gymnastics competition to showcase the routines that had been choreographed by the children themselves.*



*There were six teams – Flexi, Jolly Gymnasts, Bendy Dream Team Gymnasts, Elegant Elephants, Fantastic Gymnasts and Gymnastic Jumpers. Every team showed a tremendous amount of*

*focus and team work and wowed us with their balancing skills and strength.*



*It was extremely close with every team impressing all the judges. Congratulations to the winning team – Elegant Elephants! Alan, Anas, Connar and Frankie.*





# Infant Agility Festival



The children in Class 1 really enjoyed their trip to New College for the Infant Agility Festival. They participated in lots of different activities and practised the skills they have been learning in PE such as balancing, throwing, catching, running, skipping and jumping.



Class 3 attended a Multi Skills Festival at New College, Durham. They took part in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, then went on to compete in a circuits challenge. Tiring stuff, but lots of fun!







*Would you like to join Friends of Laurel Avenue Society and work as part of a brilliant team to support school? Please see Ms Davison, Claire Linfoot or Ellen Cottrell. Thanks!*

*A huge thank you to all of our fabulous Friends of Laurel Avenue Society for everything they do to raise money for school. They have recently provided money to go towards the play ship, money for Nursery resources, Christmas presents & £5 per child to go towards educational visits.*

*Thank you to everyone who supported our Mothers' Day Tea. We hope you enjoyed the delicious treats prepared by our talented Friends of Laurel Avenue.*



**Mother's Day**



*We raised an amazing £211.50!*





# 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, Jessica Cottrell, Claire Linfoot,*

*June Nichol, Joe Pickering,*

*Tracy Pickering, Tracy Salmon, Nichola Watkinson.*

*You are all Laurel Avenue Super Stars!*

**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:** Tom, Savannah, Hollie, Luke and Presten

**Class 1:** Ella, Sophie, Blakley-Joe, Connor

 **Class 2:** Karam, Bailey, Erin and Finley

**Class 3:** Milly, Darcie, Lilly-Su and Finlay

**Class 4:** Nicole, Kenzie, Jessica and Tia

**Ms Davison:** Hollie, Luke, Sharie and Madyson



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!

### Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell. There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries that say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

Use this link to find out more information.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>







*Well done to all the following who achieved 100% attendance for February 2019*

**Nursery:** James, Emma, Catherine, Hylton, Madyson, Jaxon I, Tom, Savannah and Jaxon R

**Class 1:** Tyler, Sophie, Tristan, Ethan, Charlie, Rubie, Ella and Miyah

**Class 2:** Sabir, Luke, Erin, Leah, Levi, Callum, Ray, Logan, Avika, Chloe, Kayden, Finley, Riley, Samuel, Ebony, Bailey, Scarlett, Lilyan, Karam, Kane, Matty, Matthew and Simon

**Class 3:** Aliyah, Milly, Logan, Saliha, Mia, Daniel, Lee, Leon, Casey, Finlay, Layla-Rae, Alex, Tommy, Mohanad, Kaiden, Zac and Grace

**Class 4:** Kai, Alan, Tia, Tyler, Macey, Jessica, Nicole, Ben M, Lilly-Mai, Frankie, Betsy, Jasmine, Anas, Connor, Nathan, Ellie, Kierin and Kenzie

*Well done to all the following who achieved 100% attendance for March 2019*

**Nursery:** James, Alicia, Elisha, Emma, Nathan, Presten, Catherine, Ellianna, Joseph, Madyson, Jaxon I, Tom, Olivia, Savannah, Shakya and Jaxon R

**Class 1:** Tyler, Sophie, Ethan, Rubie, Bethany and Miyah

**Class 2:** Josie, Luke, Leah, Levi, Callum, Logan, Chloe, Kayden, Finley, Riley, Samuel, Ebony, Bailey, Scarlett, Leo, Lilyan, Karam, Tommy, Alisha, Matthew and Simon

**Class 3:** Aliyah, Milly, Logan, Jasmine, Darcie, Daniel, Lee, Casey, Finlay, Lilly-Su, Tayven, Alex, Tommy, Mohanad and Kaiden

**Class 4:** Alan, Tia, Tyler, Macey, Ben F, Jessica, Nicole, Ben M, Lilly-Mai, Frankie, Alana, Jasmine, Anas, Connor, Nathan, and Kenzie



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



Avika Dabkara  
Connor Shepherd  
Simon Wood  
Ebony Morris



Class 1 100% Attendance: Shahid

**School Uniform** *We have items of uniform and PE kits in school for you to buy if needed. Please see Mrs Ferguson or Mrs Angus in the school office if you would like to make any purchases.*

*Reminder about our School uniform...*

*Plain black or plain grey skirt, pinafore or trousers*

*Bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan*

*White or bottle green polo shirt*

*Bottle green/white summer dress*

*Dark coloured shoes only. Please do not wear brightly coloured/white trainers or laces. This is not acceptable uniform. Thank you.*

*Hair bows. We really do like the smart hairstyles with bows that many children are wearing. We would like to ask that these are limited to small and medium sized bows in school colours only. Thank you.*

*Please don't forget during the summer term to:*



*\*apply sun cream on your child before school*

*\*fill your child's water bottle with still water only. If they have lost their school bottle, they are on sale for £2*





# 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)

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.

We will be closed from Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April until Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

Foodbank will remain open during this time.

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



# Dates for Your Diary



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 9.15am: Easter Assembly

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April: End of term

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April: Summer Term starts

Year 2 SATS will take place during the month of May

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, am: Year 1 and 2 Outdoor Adventurous Activities Festival at Durham Johnston

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May: Bank Holiday, School closed

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May, am: Class 3 Mini Tennis at Framwellgate School

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May, am: Class 2 Zumba Kids in school

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May: KS2 SATS

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May: Year 4 and 5 visit to Hamsterley Forest (Start Project - Lumiere)

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May: Year 1 & 2 Multi-Sports Festival, Maiden Castle

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May: Classes 1 - 4 Destination Judo session across morning

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, am: Class 3 Zumba Kids in school

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May: Break up for Half Term

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June: Half Term starts

Year 1 Phonics Tests will take place during week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> June

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June: Bright Sparks visit to Durham Castle

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June: Book People Bus in School all day

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June: Bright Sparks /Latin group trip to Centre for Life

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June: Classes 3 and 4 Mini-Olympics at Maiden Castle

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June: Classes 1 and 2 Mini-Olympics at Maiden Castle

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1.30 pm: School Summer Fayre

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July: Teddy Bear's Picnic for school lunch

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July: Class 4 Cricket Festival at Brandon Cricket Club

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30 am: Reception Graduation

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July: Annual Reports Home to Parents

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30 am: Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July, 9.15 am: Star Assembly

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July: Break up for Summer

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September: Autumn Term starts