



Christmas Window Displays

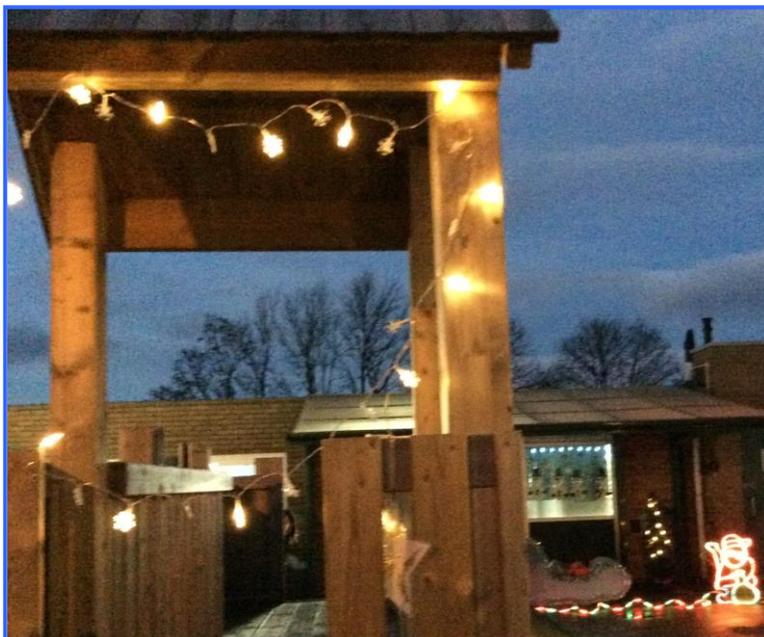


We hope that you all enjoyed our Christmas window decorations. As parents and carers have sadly not been allowed to come into school to share the magic of Christmas with us this year, we wanted to bring some Christmas joy to you all.





Nursery created their own Winter Wonderland and even Santa climbed into their garden to play!



Christmas Lunch



Children in school enjoyed their Christmas lunch, wearing bright and festive jumpers. We really missed sharing Christmas lunch with you all this year, and look forward to being together at this festive time again next year.



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a year 2020 has turned out to be!

Thank you for your continued support to ensure that we can implement increased safety measure to minimise risk for your children and families. This is a community effort which we must still continue to work hard to achieve together as we move into 2021. Hopefully there is a glimmer of light for future months but until then, we will keep all of our systems rigorously in place.

Thank you also to our staff team who have worked so incredibly hard this year, facing many new challenges with such dedication and their usual positive attitudes, always wanting the very best for our children and families. Thank you for the positive feedback; it really does make a world of difference to the staff, especially during this difficult period.

Our amazing children have been absolute superstars and settled into brand new routines so well. After the first two weeks in September and up until the last two weeks of term, we had an excellent period of stability. This has allowed all classes to work hard and make good progress against any learning lost over the summer. They have been an absolute credit to you all and impressed us with their resilience.

We have all been disappointed to not be able to have the parties and Christmas activities that we had planned over the last two weeks. We also have not had enough staff in school to be able to sort through all Christmas items and cards, once they were quarantined, to make available to children who are currently isolating. As a result, we will be holding New Year parties during the first week back. Nursery will have their New Year party on Wednesday 6th January and Classes 1 – 4 will have theirs on Friday 8th January. So don't put the party clothes away just yet! All children who have been isolating will receive all of their items then.

On behalf of all of the staff at Laurel Avenue, I would like to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas holidays and New Year.

*Best wishes
Gaynor Davison
Headteacher*

*Thankyou
and
Merry
Christmas*

Reporting symptoms after the school closes for Christmas Holidays

As you may well be aware, the Department of Education (DfE) has written to all schools asking them to remain contactable for a six-day window after the end of term so that we can assist with contact tracing where necessary. We may need to contact you up until Christmas Eve if your child is affected and we will do this by text message.

Laurel Avenue Community Primary School will close on December 18th. If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus you must book a test.

*If your child develops symptoms **up to and including December 20th** which result in a positive test up to **24th December**, you must inform the school by emailing laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net.*

Please include the name of your child and the date that their symptoms started, as well as your own contact details.

From Monday 21st December

If your child develops coronavirus symptoms from Monday 21st December onwards, they must be tested and, if positive, follow the advice of Test and Trace.

You do not need to inform the school of any symptoms which occur after this date.

Thank you.



Congratulations
Mrs Hodgson



Exciting news! Mrs Hodgson will be taking maternity leave next term as she will be having her second baby. We can't wait to meet the new baby Hodgson!



WELCOME



Miss Duffy will be teaching Year 3 from January to cover Mrs Hodgson's maternity cover. She has already been teaching in their class and getting to know the children and she can't wait to be able to start teaching



four days a week.



Mrs Satterthwaite will still be teaching Year 3 every Wednesday.

GOOD NEWS

We are delighted to announce that our school and Community Centre have been awarded funding from @believehousing to enable us to run our project – Whatever the Weather, We'll Be Together.

As a result of this funding, we will be building a large canopy to run along the outside of Classes 1 and 2, fencing and gates to create a designated outside area on the yard and two large storage sheds for all of our outside resources. This will create fabulous outdoor provision for children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 and also for Community Groups to use, which means... whatever the weather, our children and families will be able to get together (distanced at first) and enjoy a wealth of outdoor activities. Such exciting news!

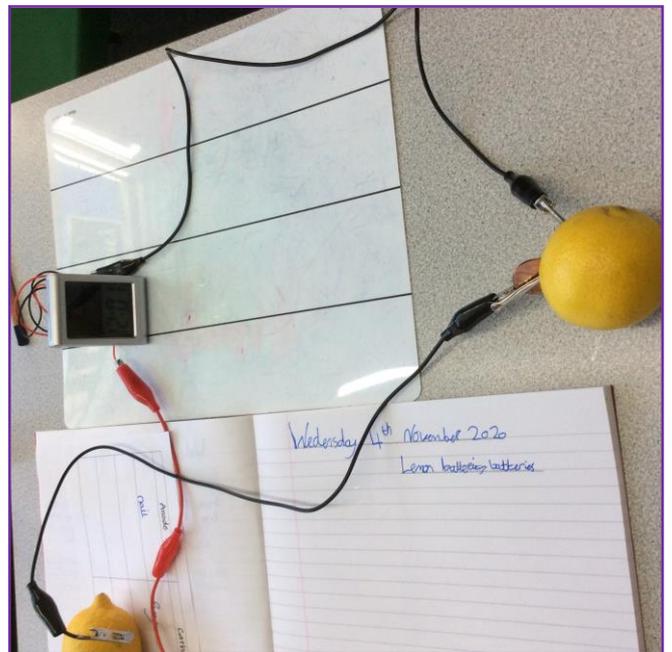
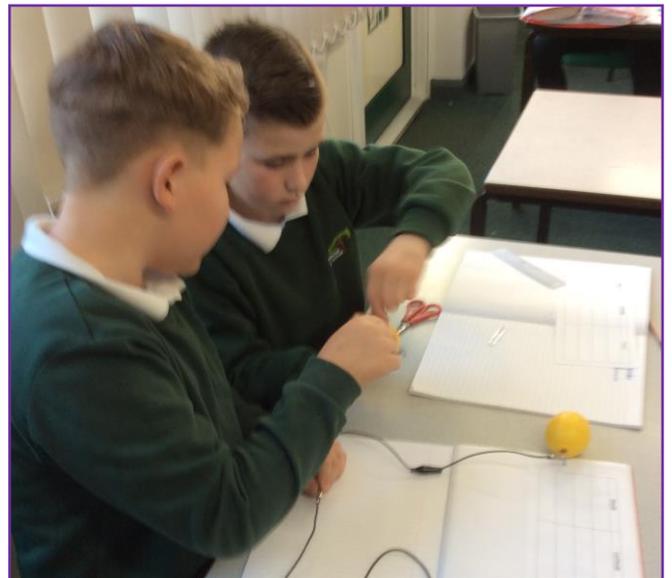
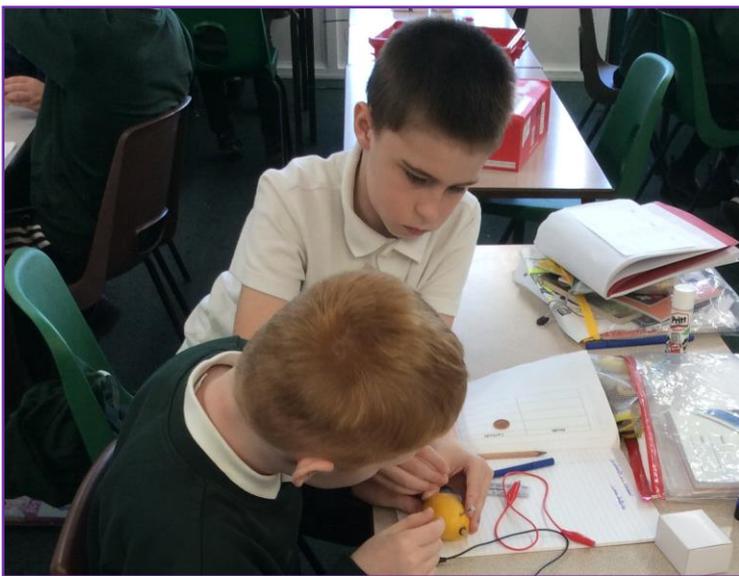
More information about the project will be available soon, so watch this space! We'll keep you updated with photographs as the project develops.

funded by

believe
housing

The Faraday Institution 'Fully Charged Battery Boxes'

Class 4 have been extremely lucky to receive activity boxes linked to their electricity topic this term. They were able to apply their knowledge and understanding of electrical circuits to create human circuits, lemon batteries and a very special Christmas surprise for their parents/carers.



THANK YOU

We were very lucky to be able to give every child in school and nursery an advent calendar this year. They were generously donated by the Belmont and Gilesgate Wellbeing Project (BGWP), supported by two local Sainsbury's (Sunderland Road and Cheveley Park).



Thank you so much!

Why not join King's Church online on Saturday 19th December for their Christingle event with carol singing, a Nativity story and lighting Christingles together in our homes.

Lots of you have already received your pack to your door ready for the event so don't forget to join in on Saturday. You can still take part, even if you have not received a pack.



<https://fb.me/e/3bkJeE8Tf>

Just click 'Go to link' at 4pm!
Children must attend with an adult.



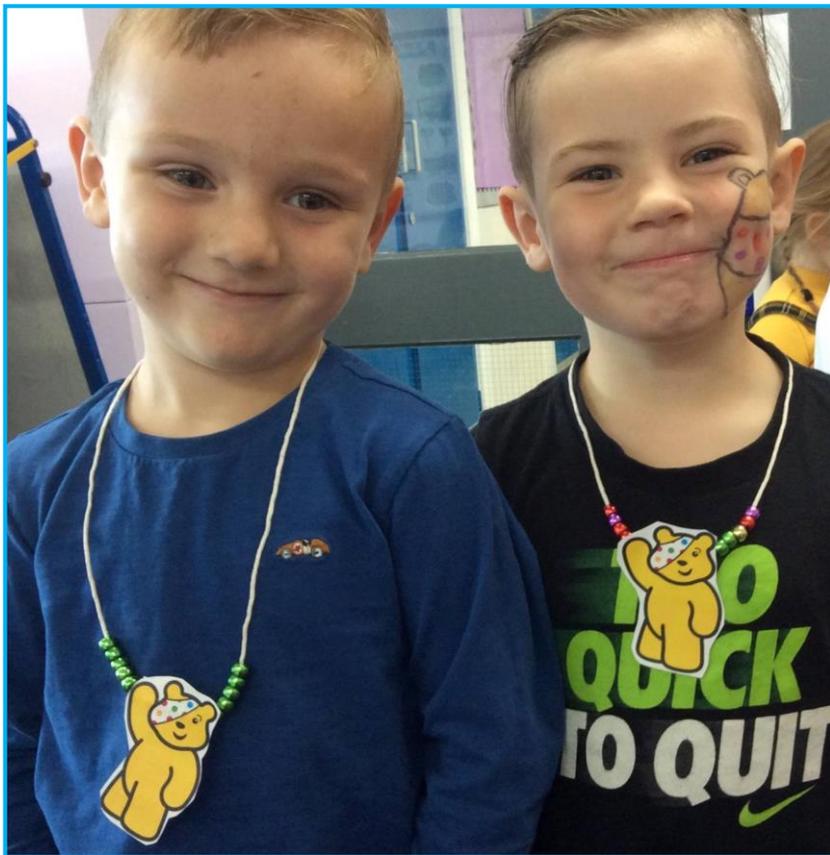
KCD.CHURCHSUITE.CO.UK

Sherburn Road Christingle (19-Dec-2020)



*Children dressed up in Children in Need clothing and had a fun time working on Pudsey Bear activities!
Don't they look brilliant?!*





Throughout the week, Classes completed the daily well-being journal and the five-minute fitness work out with Joe Wicks.



*We raised
a brilliant
£173.51!*



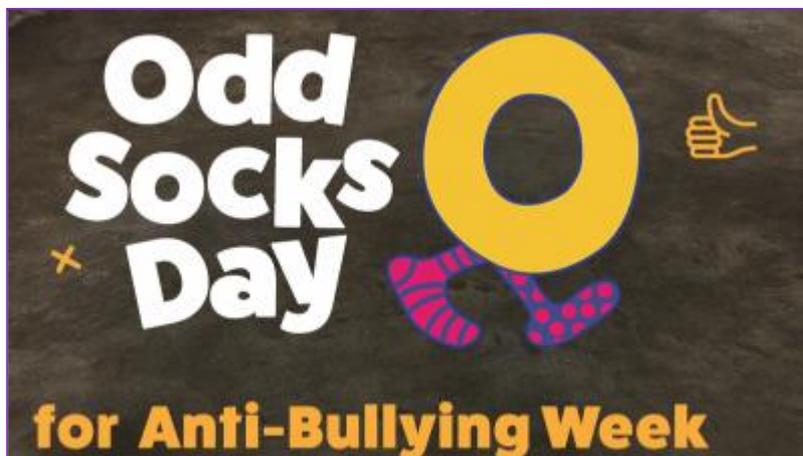
Anti-Bullying Week 2020



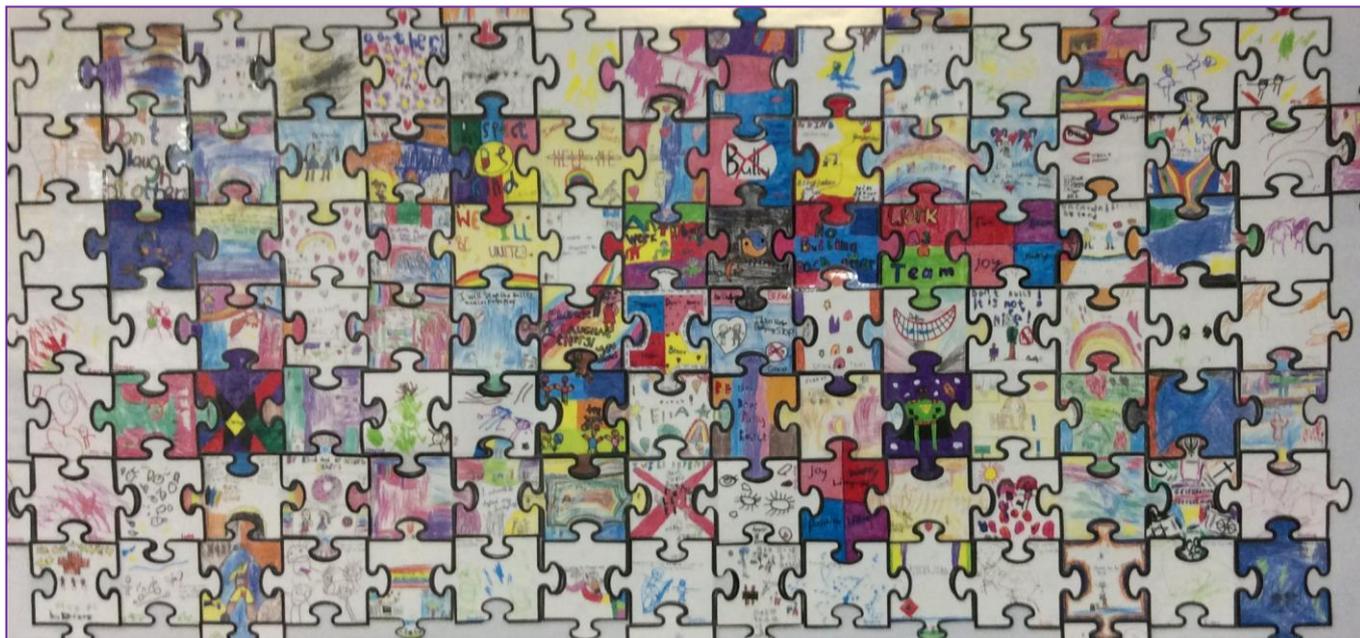
We celebrated Anti-Bullying Week in 2020 by joining in with National Odd Socks Day on the 16th November.

We also held an anti-bullying awareness day.

This year's theme was 'United Against Bullying' and each class held their own assemblies, discussed signs and forms of bullying and showed how working together can achieve great results by completing maths challenges and writing poems.



Each child also created a unique jigsaw puzzle piece to show how standing united together, we can tackle bullying. We pieced them together to create this wonderful display in school.



We were not able to have parents in school working alongside us on Anti-Bullying Day, but many families worked together at home on the 'Design an Anti-Bullying Superhero Challenge.'

Well done to all children and parents/carers who took part; it was certainly very difficult to choose the winners as there were lots of very thoughtful entries.



The winning super heroes were:

Nursery - Aiden

with his design and model of his web catching hero.

Class 1 - Mylo

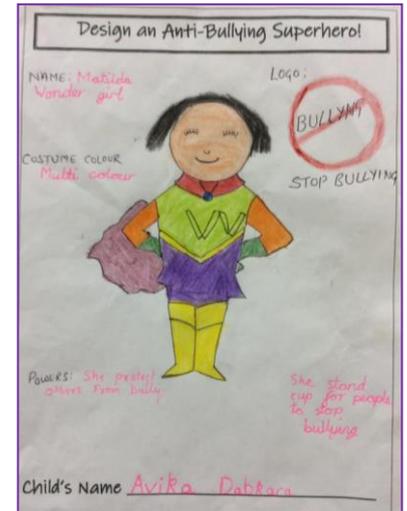
and his 'Chase the Dog' Protector.

Class 2: Elisha

and her 'Super Girl' who stands up for everyone.



*Year 3: Riley
and his ideas for 'Kind Man' spreading kindness and love
for all no matter who they are.*



*Year 4: Avika
and her 'Wondergirl' protecting and standing up for others.*

*Class 4: A Year 6 pupil and their detailed design of
Princess Luna who encourages others to stand up and tell.*

*Each winner received a lovely metallic paint set and
drawing paper.*



To show the power of what you can achieve when you stand united and work together, Class 4 produced a poem by combining their ideas and lines together.

United Against Bullying

Anti-bullying week is here again,
A time to think about children women and men.
Bullying can happen anywhere to anyone,
Here are some words to think about what is done.
Bullying is a thing that should be gone,
Should not happen to anyone.
Bullying is hurting in many a different way,
Physically, mentally, emotionally, day after day.
It shouldn't happen at any time,
It is an awful crime.
Bullies can be everywhere,
They take and act like they don't care.
Bullying is here again,
Actions and looks to make people insane.
They don't have kind words – there's no respect,
Better behaviour from them we expect.
Bullies can hurt here and now today,
Words and touches day after day.
Bullies hurt feelings - can be physical too,
They can hurt me and you.
Bullies hurt feelings and show no respect,
Not thinking of words and their effect.
Bullies are here and there,
Pulling and tugging at my hair.
Hurting people's feelings like stepping on a stick,
Seeing this makes me feel sick.
When you bully children at school,
That does not make you cool.
They take people to the side and bully every day,
Bullies take lives in their evil way.
Bullies can break into tiny pieces your heart,
Don't give up; don't let it start.
Bullies leave people out of their games,
Bullies say things and call names.

choose
kind



STOP
BULLYING
STAND UP. SPEAK OUT.

♥ I Will ♥
Be Your
Friend



Bullies are nasty a lot of the time,
Not thinking that they are committing a crime.
They yell and shout and scream some more,
Following you home to your door.
The bullies think their friends should tag along,
But all in all the bullies are wrong.

A target feels all alone,
Get some friends and they will make you feel just like home.

The target is very sad,
No more bullies because bullying is bad.
Children sad, upset in their room,
Hitting themselves, filled with doom.
Crying, shaking in their room,
Filled with darkness and gloom.



Targets are very sad,
Bullies are very bad.
Upset, crying standing alone,
While the bullies are like a dog with a bone.
Targets are bullied – they get sad,
While others get mad.
Sad and lonely standing still,
Filled with emotion until...
Talking to someone who they hold dear,
Standing united bright and clear.



It's time to leave,
No bullying - just achieve.
This is the time to link,
To click and think.
No crying,
No lying.



Become a defender and help others,
Stick up for people – sisters, brothers.
Think about others' feelings,
Think about your words and their meanings.
Feelings get hurt every single day,
Let's all come together and stop what people say.
Anti-bullying week is here again,
A time to think about children, women and men.
Bullying can happen anywhere to anyone,
But let's stand united together to make it be gone.



Be Internet Legends



Classes 1 to 4 thoroughly enjoyed The Google 'Be Internet Legends' assembly delivered by ParentZone this term. We really impressed them with our online safety knowledge.

The assembly focused on the five core pillars of the Be Internet Legends educational programme, incorporating characters from an imaginary world called Interland. The pillars are:

- **Be Internet Sharp:** Centred around the importance of thinking before sharing, evaluating whether a piece of information is private or not, and bearing in mind who will be able to see what is shared.
- **Be Internet Alert:** Teaching pupils how to spot phishing scams and how to report them, be able to tell what is real and what is fake, and to think critically about information found online.
- **Be Internet Secure:** Focused on keeping personal information safe by creating unique passwords, combining characters, numbers and symbols.
- **Be Internet Kind:** Encourages pupils to spread positivity online, speak up against and report bullying, and teaches them how to identify inappropriate behaviour.
- **Be Internet Brave:** About standing up when witnessing something inappropriate online, and to speak to a trusted adult about any concerns.



Click here [👤](#) to join the Legends Family in this animated series as they go on a journey to Interland and learn some very important lessons about internet safety along the way.

You can watch the exact assembly delivered to us by clicking here: <https://youtu.be/wxTP7HeL9mU>



Take part in the Legends Family Challenge

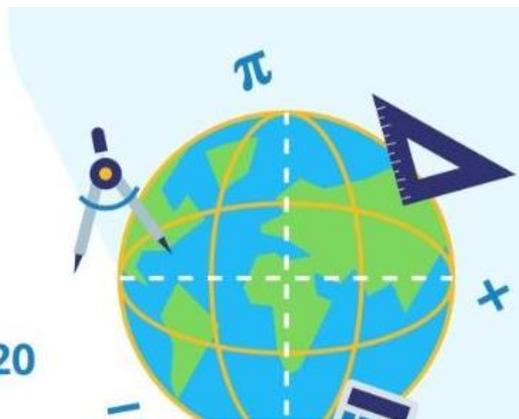
Our partner, Parent Zone, has some very special Be Internet Legends prizes to give away – enter the draw and school could win the prizes!

To take part, simply go to their site by clicking here: <https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/challenge/> complete the short form and answer three quick questions about the online world. Good luck!



November Numeracy Challenge

16th - 22nd November 2020



Children from Reception to Year 6 took part in the Mathletics November Numeracy Challenge alongside other schools in the UK, Europe, Middle East and Asia. Each activity they completed on the Mathletics platform earned points and at the end of the week the points were added to give a first, second and third place from each class.

Well done to:

Class 1: 1st - Shailea
2nd - Hollie
3rd - Charlie

Class 3b: 1st - Luke
2nd - Ebony
3rd - Avika

Class 2: 1st - Tala
2nd - Ella
3rd - Elisha



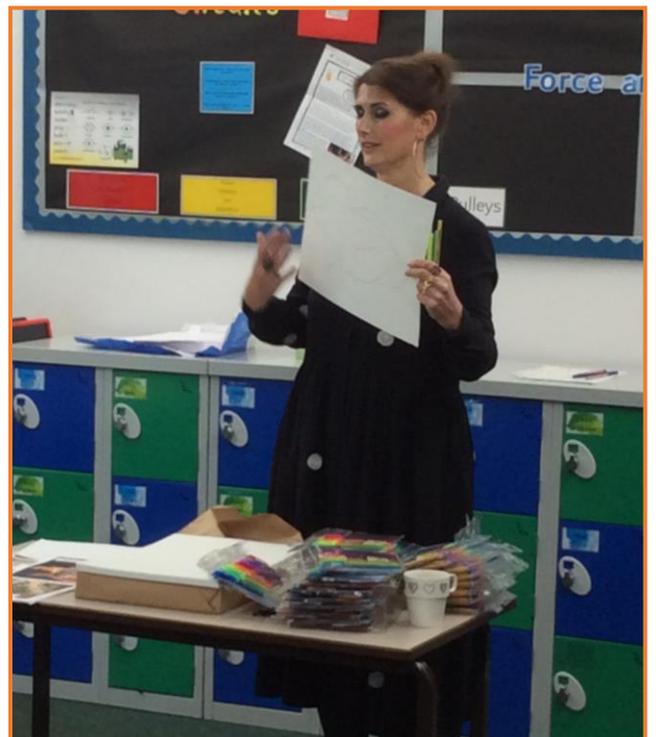
Class 3a: 1st - Logan
2nd - Riley
3rd - Phoebe

Class 4: 1st - Saliha
2nd - Mohanad
3rd - Lilly-Su

Where Did All the Animals Go?

Global Art and Environment Project in partnership with Born Free and the Great North Museum.

We have been chosen as one of ten North East schools and ten international schools to take part in the 'Where Did All the Animals Go?' exhibition which will be hosted by the Great North Museum, between the 1st June and 5th September 2021.



Class 4 took part in a workshop with artist Jane Lee McCracken to create pen drawings of endangered species. Ten drawings from each school will be selected to be displayed in the exhibition whilst all drawings not selected will appear in digital form to showcase the work created by all the students involved.



In addition, Class 4 will have the opportunity to partner with schools from the Outreach Programmes in Guyana, Kenya and California to share their experiences, art and local wildlife.

Jane was extremely complimentary about Class 4 – both their attitudes and art skills.



Durham University Castles Students

Unfortunately, due to circumstances this year, the students have been unable to come into school and support readers and run our Latin and Bright Sparks Clubs. However, they have been keeping in touch with us all. They sent an Advent Calendar Challenge we enjoyed completing and a Christmas colouring competition for Key Stage Two pupils. They even sent Latin Christmas carols for those children in Latin Club.



Congratulations to Kane in Year 4 for his fabulous Christmas Tree picture.



Congratulations to Daisy in Year 5 for her fabulous Santa's Sleigh picture.



Both of you have won a chocolate Teddy Bear!

Class 3 took part in yoga sessions this term as part of their PE lessons. This has given the children an opportunity to focus on their core strength and flexibility as well as mental wellbeing and relaxation techniques.

YOGA



Laurel Avenue Community Centre

Special message from Claire Linfoot, Community Centre Manager:



Laurel United Youth Group & Toddler Group

What an extremely tough job it was judging the winners for the nativity scene window displays. We were amazed when we visited your homes this week. They are ALL fantastic. Well done to everyone who has taken part. We hope you have enjoyed your activity packs this term.

In no particular order, the winners are:

- 😊 Madeleine - Toddler Group
- 😊 Lauren - Senior Group
- 😊 Paige, Nathan & Connor - Senior Group
- 😊 Zara - Junior Group
- 😊 Avika - Junior Group



We loved Alfie's wooden tree decoration of the Aldi carrots and Charlie's Nativity scene that he has been working so hard on during his time isolating.

Well done everyone! Look out for us calling with your prizes this weekend. 😊

If anyone would like to join our youth or toddler group then you can request a registration form from the office. These are currently being emailed. Or you can pick up one in January once the new school term starts.

Please email: admin@laurelavenuecommunity.com



Stay safe and we hope you all have a lovely Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

If you or anyone you know require support during the Christmas period, please don't hesitate to contact us.
admin@laurelavenuecommunity.com
Tel: 07825956094



Phone Call Meetings for Parents and Carers

In January, we will be making arrangements for teachers to hold phone call meetings with parents and carers to discuss your child's progress.



Information about how to book these meetings will come out in January.

Phone call meetings will be held for Year 3 in February so that Miss Duffy can have some time to get to know her class before holding these meetings.

Parents and carers are always welcome to contact their child's teacher via their email address and through the Class Dojo.



Diary Dates



Spring Term starts Tuesday 5th January 2021

Wednesday 6th January: New Year Party for Nursery

Friday 8th January: New Year Party for Classes 1 - 4

February is Michael Morpurgo month

Tuesday 9th February: Safer Internet Day

Friday 12th February: Break up for half term

Monday 22nd February: Second half term starts

Thursday 4th March: World Book Day. The School Council will send out information about this year's theme before the event

Monday 8th March - Friday 12th March: British Science Week

Friday 19th March: Red Nose Day

Friday 26th March: End of Term

Monday 12th April: Summer Term starts



All the staff of Laurel Avenue Community Primary School would

like to wish you a very happy and safe Christmas and look



forward to seeing you all in January!

