

# Newsletter

## December 2019

# Christmas with the aliens

*Class 2 were out of this world in their performance of Christmas with the Aliens!*







*The acting and singing was outstanding and showed the enthusiasm that all children in Class 2 brought to the stage. Well done!!*



# ♡ All ♡ About ♡ Christmas

Nursery and Class 1 children performed brilliantly!

We saw Christmas through the eyes of Tala the Teddy Bear.

The children sang beautifully to retell the nativity story.



Father Christmas and his reindeer even made an appearance!



# 'Sherlock and Cinders'



This year's KS2 Christmas production was 'Sherlock and Cinders' where we saw Holmes and Watson conduct their most challenging investigation yet - to find the foot that fits the glass slipper.



Congratulations to Classes 3 and 4 for their fantastic performance! The singing and acting was wonderful! Children showed excellent commitment to learn their many lines and songs. Well done!





*We are very pleased to welcome two new members of staff to school from January.*



*Miss Chelsea Hughes will be joining our Nursery Team to help support our two-year-olds. She has lots of experience working with nursery children and we're really looking forward to new and exciting nursery adventures next term.*



*As Mrs Claire Linfoot has taken on the role of Vice Chair of our Governing Body, she has resigned as Lunchtime Supervisor as the Vice Chair cannot be a member of staff. Claire has been a fantastic Lunchtime Supervisor, organising so many fun activities over the last few years. She has promised us that she will still be around lots which is great news!*

*Miss Nichola Watkinson will be joining our Lunchtime Supervisor team very soon. She regularly volunteers at Breakfast Club and many Community Centre events and so already knows lots of our children. We can't wait for her to start and join in with our lunchtime activities.*



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 a brilliant

**£884.91!**

# CHRISTMAS FAYRE



Thank you for all the fabulous donations for the class hampers. All five hampers could have been the winner!

It was Class 4 who achieved first place this year with their green theme and they will enjoy a movie with refreshments.



Thank you to FOLAS for helping to organise the fayre and for your kind donations and time spent making sure everything was ready. We really do appreciate your support!







Children in Need: Our school Council organised a fun fitness session to raise money for Children in Need this year.

Despite having no Wi-fi and not being able to join in with the national Joe Wicks fitness session as planned, children and parents/carers enjoyed a gruelling circuit session with one of our sports coaches, Mrs White. Members of The School Council and Class 4 also decorated Pudsey themed biscuits and were overwhelmed by the number of parents, grandparents and carers who came to buy them. Thank you for helping to support this wonderful charity.



*We raised a brilliant £228!*



# 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 huge thank you to all our brilliant Breakfast Club volunteers. You all do an amazing job!*

*Special thanks go to...*

*Helen Blakey, Jessica Cottrell, Ellen Cottrell, Claire Linfoot, June Nichol, Tracy Pickering, Tracy Salmon and Nichola Watkinson.*



*Anti-Bullying Week for 2019  
focused on the theme of  
Change Starts With Us!*



*We celebrated Odd Socks Day as part of Anti-Bullying Week this year, raising awareness of differences and acceptance.*

*Nursery and Class 1 explored differences by designing odd socks. Nursery created their designs using the computer and Class 1 made striped patterns. Class 1 also invented pairs of unusual friends.*

*Class 2 designed odd socks and created a poster about how to be a good friend. They enjoyed creating stories about unlikely friendships e.g. a tiger and a mouse.*

*Class 3 carried out a maths task looking at positive and negative comments that might be heard during the day. They wrote letters to persuade bullies to change their ways and looked at cyber bullying and how we should all conduct ourselves online.*

*Class 4 looked at how change needs to start with us and discussed ways in which to make positive changes to behaviours. They each created an explosion book of positivity.*



*Thank you to parents and carers who came into school to support Anti-Bullying Week this year, working with their children to create a logo for the theme 'Change Starts with us.'*



Class 4 once again visited Durham University's Physics Department to take part in a space themed day of physics learning activities.



It was great fun and we are looking forward to welcoming a physics graduate from the University into school next term to support us in our physics learning.

Nursery, Class 1 and the Community Centre Toddler Group had a fabulous time visiting the Durham Gala Theatre to see Aladdin.





# *Mayor of Durham visits School*



*Councillor Katie Corrigan, the 417th Mayor of Durham, visited school with some of the Durham Mayoral Bodyguard.*

*We learned about the role of the Mayor in the past and her present-day role promoting the city, even finding out about her ceremonial robes with hidden pockets. Three of the Mayor's Bodyguard also visited and told us about their job. They showed us their robes, the mace and the sword, explaining the significance of each item.*



*We were especially excited to invite The Mayor of Durham into school as she is one of our School Governors.*

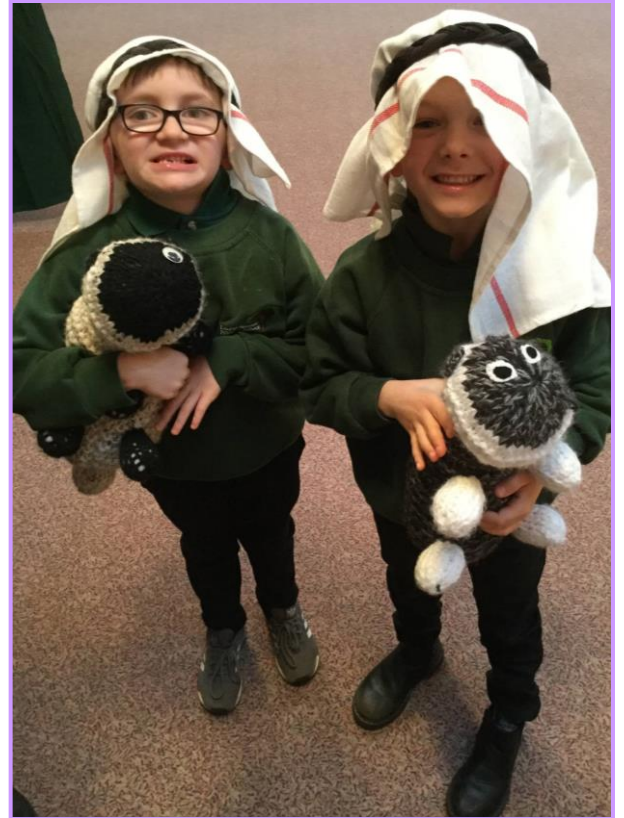


# THE CHRISTMAS JOURNEY

*Class 2 enjoyed visiting Carrville Methodist Church, where they took part in a fantastic interactive story of the Christmas Journey.*



*Children got into character to help tell the story of Jesus' birth.*





Children from Class 4 visited the preview evening of Lumiere's 'Into the Birds' at The Botanical Gardens as part of the Start Arts Programme. It was wonderful to see the bottle chandeliers created in school displayed outside the Botanical Gardens.



Class 4 have taken part in the  
**Junior Education Programme**

this term. We have had visits to school and talks from The Dog's Trust, an Environmental Crime Officer from the Council and our local PCSOs.

They have learned about safety and responsibilities to the community they live in, Cyberbullying and Road Safety.



*Class 4 took part in a Sports Hall Athletics Festival at New College, Durham. The children competed in both track and field events such as triple jump, javelin and relay races and showed wonderful levels of fitness and skill, enough to win the competition!*



*Class 3 have recently completed their fitness review, after a 12-week health and fitness programme with LK Health and Wellbeing.*

*What a fantastic improvement we saw in the children's stamina and fitness levels over the course of the 12 weeks. Children are now balancing, sprinting, squatting, lunging, planking and performing sit-ups like professionals!*





# Class 3

## Gymnastics



*Class 3 recently took part in a Gymnastics Festival at Durham City Gymnastics Centre, Sherburn. The children all had a fantastic morning taking part in activities including the trampolines, balance beams, horizontal bars and tumbling floors. They were then treated to a tumbling sequence performed by a World Champion silver medallist! A great experience for all.*





# *Multi Skills Festival*

*Class 2 took part in a multi skills festival in school where they completed different sport skills and competed against each other in small groups.*



*The festival was organised by our Ned Crew who did a fantastic job supporting Class 2 to develop a wide range of skills.*







## School Nutrition Action Group

# SNAG

Our SNAG arranged Halloween and Children in Need themed meals this half term and have been asking children in their classes about the new menu. They have lots of ideas for meal themes for next term.





## Golden Table

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



Chloe, Madyson,  
Tom, Riley  
and Jack



Jasmine,  
Charlotte, Tia,  
Lee, Logan  
and Kane



Ethan, Alisha,  
Finley, Hamoodi,  
Emma and Jaxon



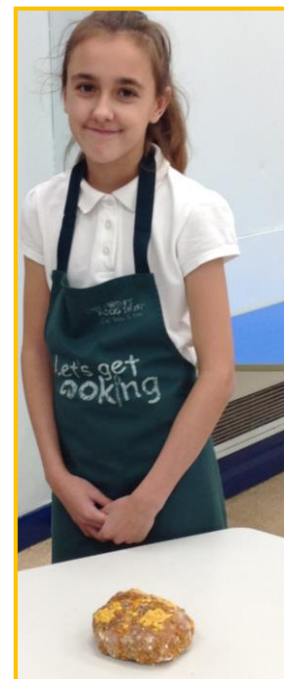


# Let's get cooking

*Our Let's Get Cooking chefs have been working hard to create some culinary delights again!*



*Congratulations to Ben, Anas, Teagan-Leigh, Daniel, Casey, Brooke, Leon and Cameron.*





**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:** *Aiden, Kris and Mason*



**Class 1:** *Devon, Jaxon I and Elisha*

**Class 2:** *Harrison, Lilyan and Connor*

**Class 3:** *Daisy, Lilly-Su and Tommy Sw*



**Class 4:** *Anas, Casey and Lilly-Mai*

**Ms Davison:** *Charlotte P, Elisha and Lilly-Su*



Whole School Attendance is currently



**95.3%**



We've had a difficult term for attendance with many absences due to illness.

Let's really get our target back on track from now!

We can administer prescription medicine in school.

If you can't get an appointment after school, please bring your child into school first to get their mark and then return after the appointment. Thank you.







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

**Nursery:** Evie-Mae, Kris, Nathan, Presten and Mia

**Class 1:** Hamoodi, Elisha, Catherine, Emma, Savannah, Shakya, Jaxon R, Hylton and Tala

**Class 2:** Chloe, Rubie, Riley, Julia, Shahid, Alice, Bailey, Lilyan, Karam, Phoebe, Miyah, Alisha and Simon

**Class 3:** Aliyah, Luke, Leah, Emily, Samual, Ebony, Layla-Rae, Scarlett, Tommy Sc, Mohanad, Zak, Summer, Tommy Sw, Kane and Matthew

**Class 4:** Tia, Tyler, Jasmine, Nicole, Darcie, Daniel, Lee, Leon, Lilly-Mai, Charlotte P, Frankie, Anas, Alex, Connor and Lexie

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

**Nursery:** Kris, Nathan, Fearne and Mia

**Class 1:** Hamoodi, Tyler, Elisha, Devon, Catherine, Emma, Savannah, Shakya and Tala

**Class 2:** Levi, Tristan, Chloe, Rubie, Riley, Ella, Julia, Alice, Lilyan, Phoebe and Alisha

**Class 3:** Aliyah, Luke, Leah, Avika, Mia, Emily, Samual, Casey, Ebony, Scarlett, Lilly-Su, Mohanad, Daisy, Summer and Tommy Sw

**Class 4:** Tia, Tyler, Jasmine, Nicole, Daniel, Lee, Ben, Charlotte P, Frankie, Betsy, Anas, Alex, Lexie and Cameron



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

**Nursery:** Evie-Mae, Kris, Nathan, Aiden, Fearne, Rosie, Hollie, Luke, Presten, Mia, Shailea, Charlie, Emily, Mason and Alicia

**Class 1:** Hamoodi, Tyler, Elisha, Devon, Madyson, Jaxon I, Catherine, Tom, Savannah, Shakya, Jaxon R, Hylton, Tala, Jack and Charlie,

**Class 2:** Levi, Callum, Logan, Sophie, Tristan, Ethan, Chloe, Charlie, Rubie, Harrison, Bethany, Riley, Ella, Julia, Shahid, Alice, Bailey, Blakley-Joe, Karam, Phoebe, Miyah, Alisha, Connor and Simon

**Class 3:** Aliyah, Luke, Erin, Leah, Ray, Avika, Harvey, Kayden, Emily, Casey, Ebony, Logan O, Scarlett, Lilly-Su, Tommy Sc, Mohanad, Daisy, Zak, Summer, Kaiden, Zac and Matty

**Class 4:** Kai, Tia, Tyler, Jasmine, Nicole, Darcie, Daniel, Tayven, Charlotte P, Frankie, Betsy, Anas, Alex, Connor, Lexie, Cameron and Grace

Each week, children who achieve 100% attendance have the opportunity to win a stationery prize of their choice.

Congratulations to:

Shakya

Alice and Imogen

Class 100%



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

Catherine

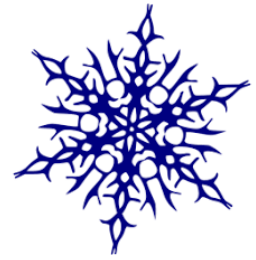


# *Laurel Avenue Community Centre*

*All clubs and activities will start back after the Christmas holidays,  
week commencing Monday 13th January*

## *Laurel United Youth Groups*

*Senior 11+ years - Mondays 5.00 - 7.00 pm, 50p entry  
Junior 5-11 years - Tuesdays 4.00 - 5.30 pm, 50p entry*



## *Tea Club*

*Tuesdays 3:15 - 4.00 pm (straight after school), £2.00 per child which includes entry to youth club. Money must be sent into school or Community Centre clearly marked with child's name by no later than Tuesday morning. Any additional spending money for the tuck shop can also be included.*

## *Toddler Group*

*Thursdays 9.00 - 11.00 am. Sessions are for children aged 0 - 5 years. Breakfast and activities are FREE.*

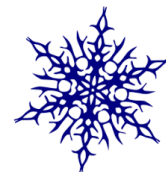
*Credit Union savings club is also held during this time; school children may also bring their savings books into school on Thursdays. To find out how to join please contact school office or Claire at Community Centre office.*

## *LA Rising Stars*

*Tuesdays 6.30 - 8.00 pm, all children welcome. This session is FREE. Activities include cheerleading, drama, musical classes, singing and dancing.*

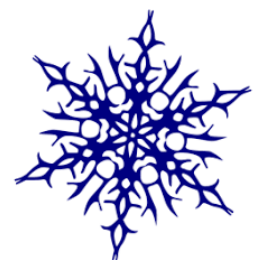
## *Lunch Club*

*Thursdays 12.00 - 2.00 pm, everyone welcome.  
£3.00 includes a 2-course hot meal and activities.*



## *Caff Gaff*

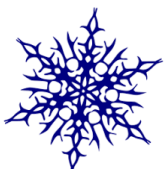
*Coffee morning, every Monday between 9.00 - 12.00 pm.  
FREE - everyone welcome. Come along and meet new friends.*



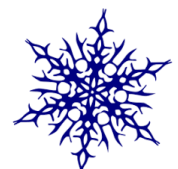
## *We are a distribution point for Durham Food Bank.*

*Opening times are between 9.30 - 11.30 am every Saturday. For further information about referrals or other distribution point opening times, please contact Durham Food Bank: 0191 3037559.*

*We will close Friday 20th December & re-open on Monday 6th January 2020.  
Food bank will remain open during the Christmas & New Year period.*



*Tel: 0191-3845427 Mobile: 07825956094  
Email: Claire-laca@hotmail.co.uk*





# Diary Dates



Spring Term starts Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January: Class Photographs

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January am: Class 2 Gymnastics Festival, Durham City Gymnastics

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February: Safer Internet Day

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February: Break up for half term

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February: Second half term starts

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February, am: Year 2 Multi Sports Festival at Maiden Castle

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March am: Firefighters' Charity Clothing Collection

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March: World Book Day. The School Council will send out information about this year's theme before the event



Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March: British Science Week

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Sport Relief

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March, am: Class 1 Infant Agility at Framwellgate School Durham

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 3.30 – 6.00 pm: Parents' Evening for Class 1, 2, 3 & 4

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, am: Class 2 and Class 4 performing in the Dance Festival at Durham Gala

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00 – 12.00 am & 1.00 – 3.00 pm: Nursery Open Day

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 3.15 pm: Mothers' Day Tea in School Hall

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> April, in classroom

Class 1: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 2: Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 3: Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 4: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 9.15 am: End of Term - Easter Assembly

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April: Summer Term starts



**IMPORTANT**

Year 6 Key Stage 2 SATS: 11<sup>th</sup> May – 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Year 2 Key stage 1 Assessment Period: Month of May 2020

Year 1 Phonics Tests will take place during the week beginning June 8<sup>th</sup> 2020

Year 4 Multiplication-Tables Check will take place within the three-week period from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020



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

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Vrolijk Kerstfeest Dutch

كرسمسمبارك Urdu

Śubh Krisamas (शुभ क्रिसमस) Hindi

Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia Polish

عيد ميلاد مجيد Arabic

Noelê we pîroz be Kurdish

