

# NEWSLETTER



# New



# Nursery



# Grass





Nursery have been having a wonderful time jumping, bouncing, running, rolling, relaxing, stretching, sliding, dancing, exercising and taking part in yoga sessions on our new artificial grass.







# Woodland Walk



Nursery love their woodland walks, looking for animals. Some of the children even saw rabbits.



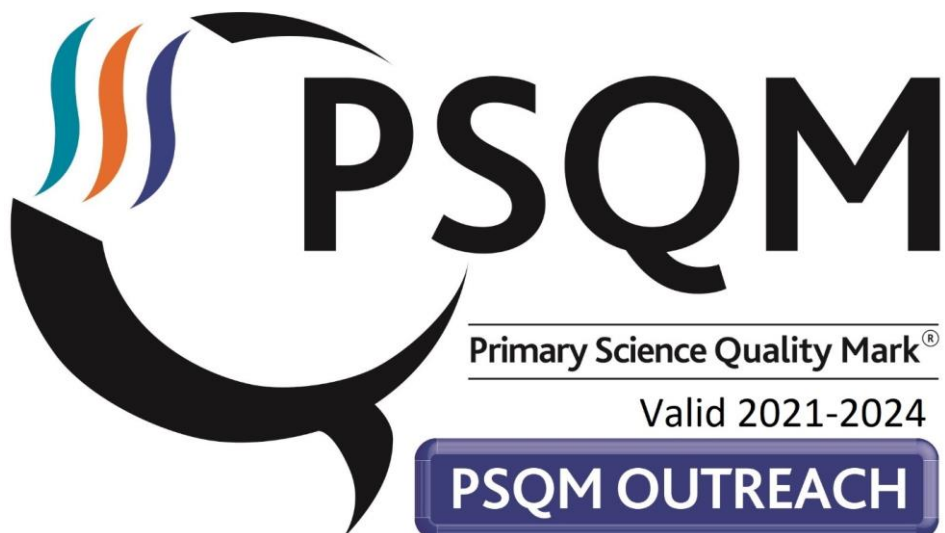


*We have achieved the Primary Science Quality Mark!*

*We have been awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark to celebrate our commitment to excellence in science teaching and learning.*

*(This is the second time we have achieved this award.)*

*The Primary School Quality Mark programme ensures effective leadership of science, enables schools to work together to share good practice and is supported by professional development led by local experts. It encourages teacher autonomy and innovation while at the same time offering a clear framework for development in science subject leadership, teaching and learning. **Schools that achieve PSQM demonstrate commitment and expertise in science leadership, teaching and learning.***

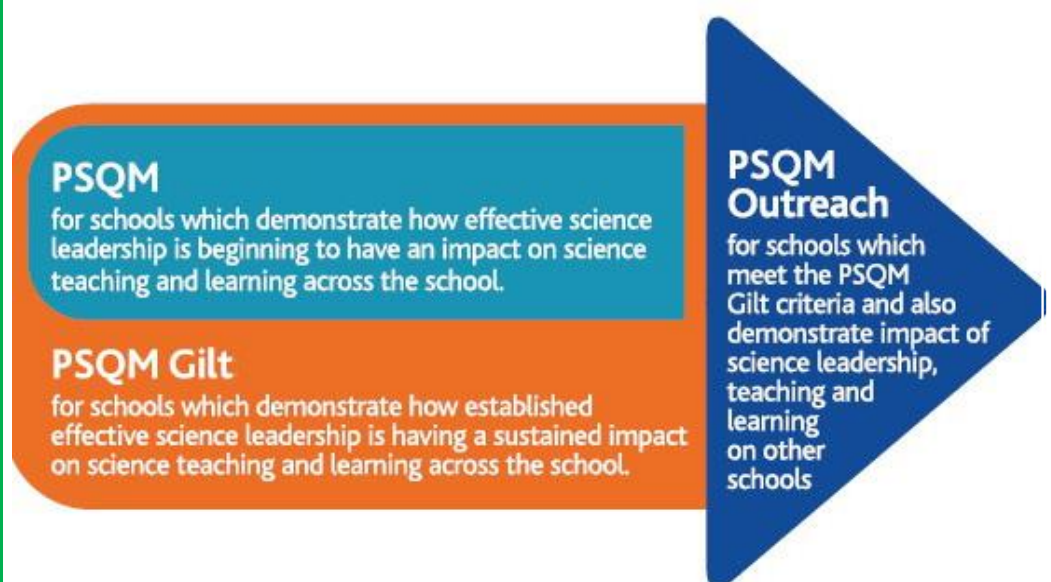


*The Primary Science Quality Mark is led by the University of Hertfordshire, School of Education in collaboration with the Primary Science Teaching Trust.*



*Associate Professor Jane Turner, PSQM National Director said: “There was never a more important time for primary children to have a high-quality science education. The Coronavirus Pandemic has made everyone aware of the impact of science on our daily lives. Primary schools have an important role to ensure that children understand how science works and keeps us healthy and safe. Schools that have achieved a Primary Science Quality Mark have demonstrated a significant commitment to science teaching and learning, even at this challenging time for schools. The profile and quality of science in each awarded school is very high. Children are engaging with great science both in and outside the classroom, developing positive attitudes towards science as well as secure scientific understanding and skills. Science subject leaders, their colleagues, head teachers, children, parents and governors should be very proud.”*

*A huge well done to all staff and children for their part in our high-quality science teaching and learning. This is an excellent recognition of the wonderful science happening across our school every week. A special mention also to Mrs Lawson, our science coordinator, who has led the provision of science so brilliantly and created the portfolio of evidence during a pandemic – fantastic work!*



*The arrow attached shows the different levels of award schools can achieve, so you can see, outreach is the highest level of award that can be achieved.*



# CONGRATULATIONS!

## Congratulations to Miss Mills!

We're delighted and proud to announce that Miss Mills has achieved her Level 3 Forest School leadership award! A tremendous achievement, meaning even more exciting outdoor learning for our children!



Miss Mills is now a Forest School Leader who is able to set up and run a Forest School programme.



Class 1 children have been loving extending their learning outside now that we have our fabulous canopy and outside area.

We have invested in lots of new resources to support teaching and learning. Have a look...



Making relationships



Working as part of a group



Trying new activities with confidence

Listening attentively



Expressing ideas to an audience







Moving confidently



Solving problems



Observing  
and  
describing

Recognising and ordering  
numbers



Reading and  
understanding







Children loved sitting under the canopy and listening to the rain banging on the canopy roof. Whatever the weather, we can still learn and explore outside. Thank you again to Believe Housing.

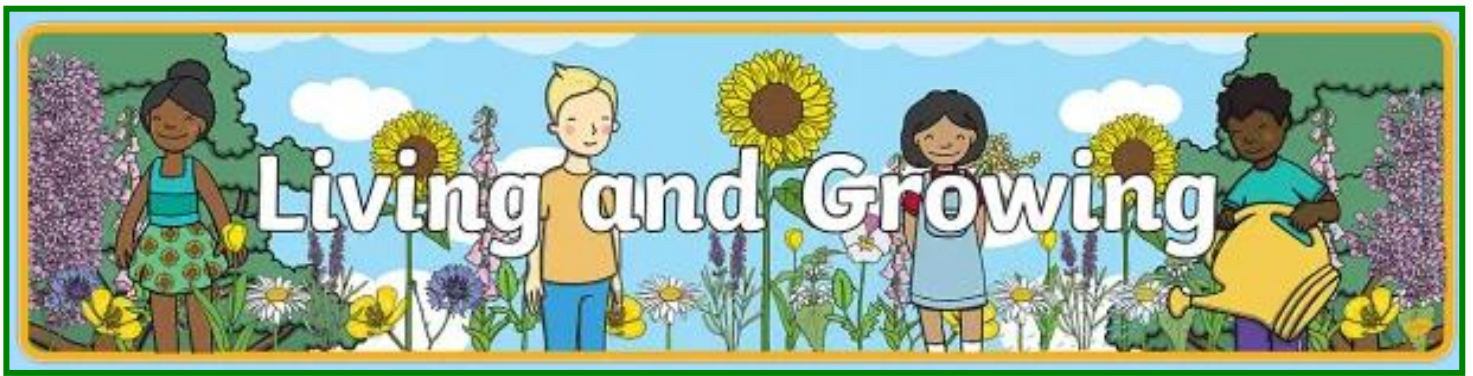




Class 2 are also loving their outdoor area which helps to bring their learning to life! New resources include a water pump system, bug hotel and places to complete maths challenges outside!







Laurel Avenue has been alive with many things living and growing.



Nursery children have been finding out all about growing plants. They have planted lots of different kinds of seeds and waited patiently to see what would grow. Our children are very good at watering their seeds!





With a lot of love  
and care, look what  
they have grown!



Children have also  
been observing  
some new friends  
in nursery...  
caterpillars!



The caterpillars  
became chrysalides.  
Nursery children  
were very patient,  
waiting for the  
exciting news...





The first butterfly in Nursery came out of its cocoon when no-one was watching!



Nursery children were so excited to release the butterflies.

Whilst children in Class 1 were looking at the butterfly that had just emerged, something amazing happened... another butterfly emerged from its cocoon.



The children were amazed whilst watching it wriggle its way out and stretch its wings.





The excitement continued for Nursery when more butterflies were released.





Class 1 have also been growing lots of things to eat, including spinach, peas, beetroot, salad leaves, radishes and brussels sprouts.



After reading 'Jack and the Jelly Bean Stalk', the children wondered if jelly beans really grow so they planted some to find out. (They ate some too just in case they didn't!)



Class 1 moved some of their plants into the outdoor growing area. They can't wait to taste their vegetables.



Class 2 have also been busy, digging and weeding in our little garden at the bottom of the yard. They are helping Miss Mills to make an outdoor area for some of their Forest School activities.



There will be some exciting Forest School activities coming up soon, so keep an eye out for updates!







Class 2 children  
have made their  
own wormery!



The children have had so  
much fun observing  
channels appearing where  
the worms have burrowed  
and mixed up the layers  
of sand and soil.







Class 1 were very lucky to welcome firefighters into school. They told the children a story about fire safety, talked about smoke alarms and then saw the fire engine and listened to the sirens. As if this wasn't exciting enough, they were then able to squirt the hose!

We hope that the children told you all at home that if you don't have smoke alarms, you can contact the fire service and they will fit some for you.

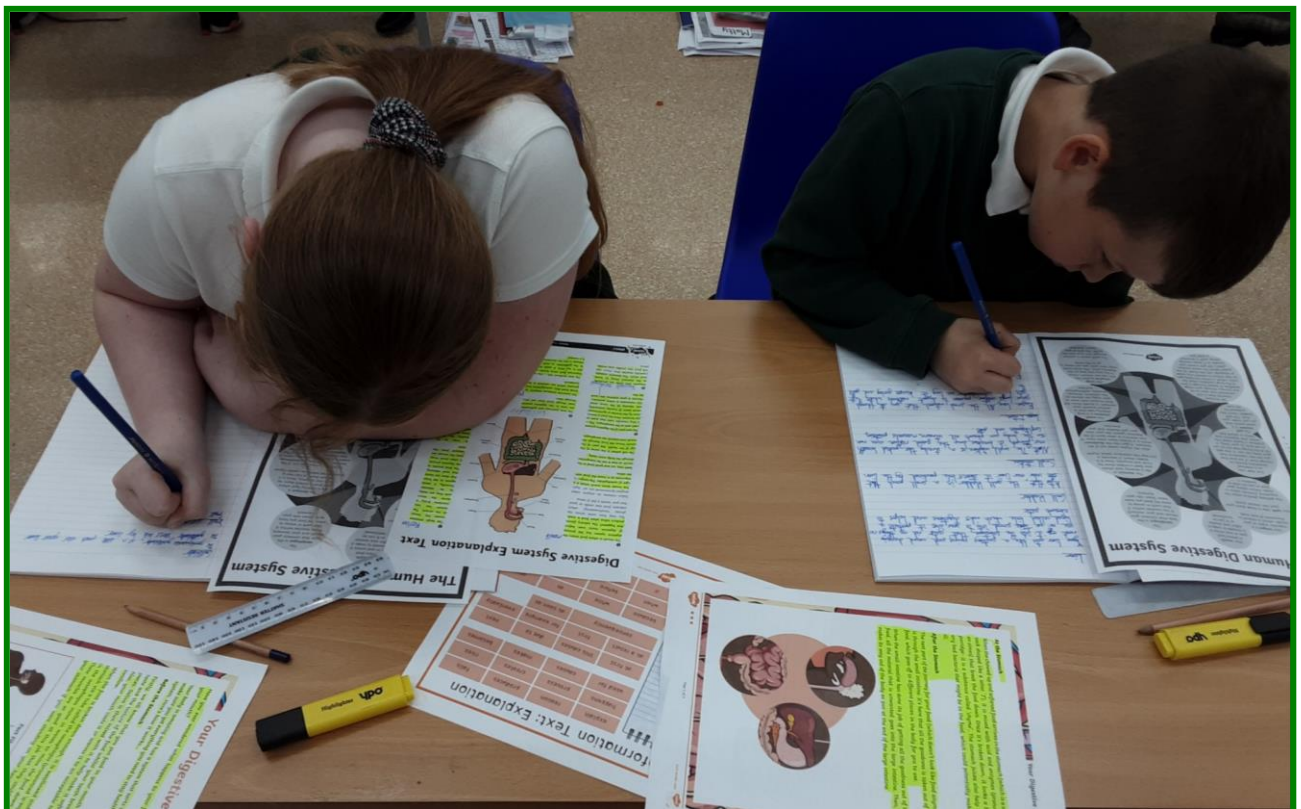
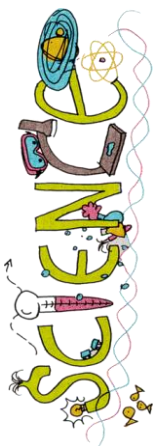
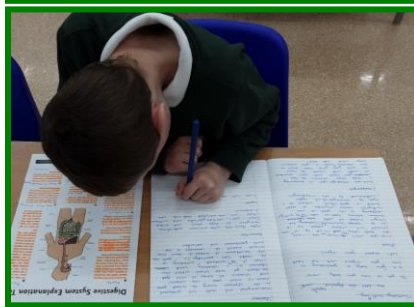








Class 3 have been learning all about the human digestive system. Just look at how studiously they all work and with such beautiful presentation too. Well done!







Class 4 spent time this term identifying the male and female parts of flowering plants and the role they play in the fertilisation stage of a plant's life cycle.

Class 4 enjoyed their maths lesson outdoors whilst revising translating points and shapes.







*We have continued to work with a variety of coaches over the term.*



*Rich has worked on football skills and tactics with Years 3 and 4.*





*Coaches worked with all of Key Stage 2 on team building skills.*



*Children had to work on very different challenges which all required them to work alongside their partner or team.*





*Working with children in Class 2 during a rainy lunch time.*

*Leanne from LK Fitness has been coaching all classes across this year and really working hard on improving the children's fitness levels.*





# Forest School



Class 2 have had an amazing time visiting the local woodland. They built a den and collected lots of sticks for making fires after half term. Have a look at some photographs. Their faces say it all!











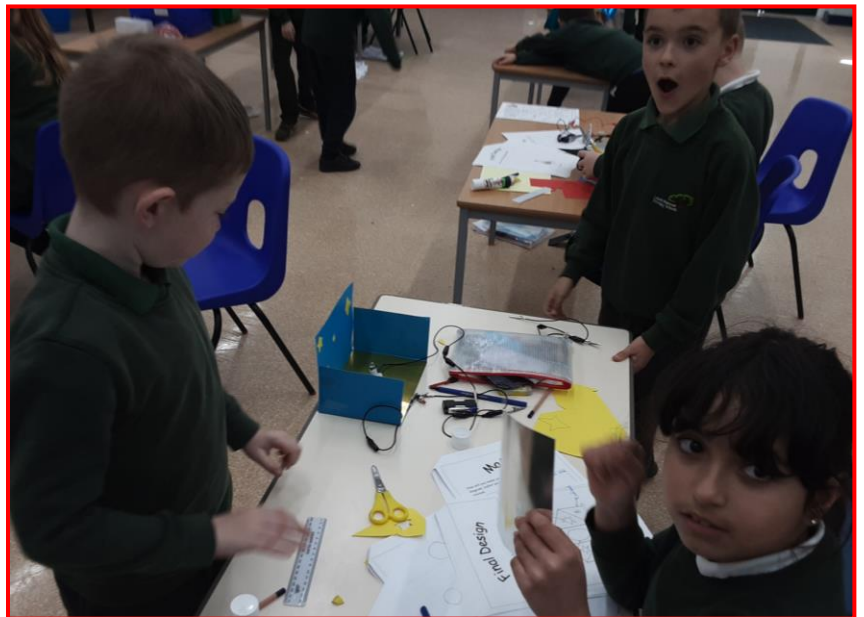




Class 3B are designing a night light for a child during their DT Week.



First of all they researched night lights already available and ideas to help with their designs.



As you can see, they have started constructing their night lights using electrical circuits. Keep checking on Facebook to see their finished night lights!



# facebook®



If you haven't visited our Facebook yet,  
why not go over and like our page?  
Laurel Avenue Community Primary School





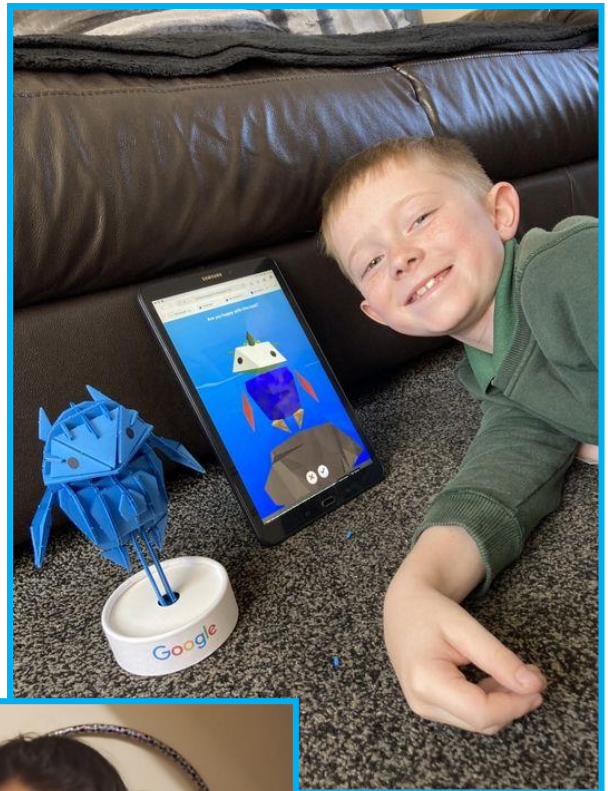
# INTERLAND

Be Internet Awesome.



Children in Classes 3 and 4 have loved completing the Google Internet Legends Family Challenge.

We still have some left in school, so if you would like one, please ask at the office. (First come, first served.)



Congratulations  
if you have  
completed the  
challenge!





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



*\*apply sunscreen on your child before school*

*\*if you would like your child to apply their own sunscreen before going outside, please send a named bottle into school which they can keep in their locker*

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

*\* Legionnaire caps are on sale for £5 from school.*



## Five ways to stay safe in the sun



Help ensure you're well protected from UV rays, by following these tips.

### 1. Use good quality sunscreen

Buy one that has 'UVA' on the label, a star rating of 4 or 5, is at least SPF 30, water-resistant and still in-date.

Put it on 30 minutes before you go outside and reapply at least every two hours.

### 2. Wear protective clothing

Wear loose clothes that cover your skin, made from breathable fabrics with a tight weave to stop UV rays getting through. Wear a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses too.

### 3. Check the UV index

The UV index tells you how strong the UV rays are in your area. Check it online before you head out.

### 4. Seek out shade

Avoid sitting in the sun between 11am and 3pm. Seek shade – under some trees perhaps, or bring a parasol out with you.

### 5. Drink plenty of water

Aim to drink 6-8 glasses of water per day or more if you're feeling thirsty. Steer clear of alcohol as it makes you pee more and can leave you even more dehydrated.







**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 at school and at home.



**Nursery:** Aiden, Jordy, Annabell, Cameron, Ivor, Mylo and Romeo



**Class 1:** Rosie, Sophia, Mia, Kris, Shailea, Mylo and Emily



**Class 2:** Amelia, Tyler, Jaxon I, Harrison, Daniel, Apral, Emma, Tala and Tristan

**Class 3A:** Logan, Riley, Bethany, Ebony, Alisha and Karam



**Class 3B:** Scarlett, Zak, Matty, Luke, Ebony, Ray and Sharie



**Class 4:** Mohanad, Jayden M, Grace, Yazan, Lexie, Alex and Tayven



**Ms Davison:** Emily, Tristan, Ebony, Harvey, Elisha, Jaxon R, Lilyan, Charlotte P, Sophie G, Reuben, Connor, Alice, Erin, Esmae and Nathan







Do you have or know of a child who is nearly two and would like to book a place in our nursery to start the term after their second birthday? Do you have or know of any two, three or four year olds who would like to begin their learning journey in our school nursery? Even though schools are closed to most children for a few weeks longer, you can still book a nursery place for your child. The next few pages of the newsletter explain the offers and places we have in our school nursery so please give us a ring to discuss a place for your child. If you would like your child to start in the school nursery, you will need to call 0191 3868416 and ask to speak to Gaynor Davison or Chris Lawson. You can also email [laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net](mailto:laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net) We'd love to hear from you.



[Click to read our school nursery brochure and find out more about our fabulous nursery.](#)



*Important*



*If you have a nursery aged child and you would like them to start in our fabulous nursery, you need to come into school to complete our application form and arrange a visit.*

***This is the only way your child can start their learning journey in our school nursery.***

*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](mailto: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.***



*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), end of the week (Wednesday afternoon 12.15 – 3.15, full days Thursday and Friday), five mornings (9.00 – 12.00) and five afternoons (12.15 – 3.15 pm). **Some sessions are nearly full.** 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 or our website.*



***Your two-year-old can get free play and learn sessions (15 hours) if you 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 Education, Health and Care*

*Plan (child)*

*Special Guardianship, or an*

*adoption, or Residence Order*



Your 2-year-old may be entitled to 15 hours per week of funded childcare and early education



### ***How do you apply?***

*Bring your golden ticket into our school office and we will tell you when your child can start.*

*If you don't have a golden ticket, visit:*

*<https://education.durham.gov.uk/parentportal/> where you can check whether you are eligible.*

*If you are eligible you will then receive a letter which you should bring into school.*

*Places will be available at the start of the term after their second birthday.*

***Application forms are available from school.***

**FREE childcare**

From September 2017



for **working parents**

of 3 and 4 year olds for up to 30 hours a week

Find out if you are eligible at  
[www.durham.gov.uk/earlyyears](http://www.durham.gov.uk/earlyyears)



# 30 HOURS

## FUNDED CHILDCARE

*If you think that you are eligible, and you would like to extend your child's education in our nursery to 30 hours, please visit [www.durham.gov.uk/earlyyears](http://www.durham.gov.uk/earlyyears) to find out or look here for more information <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>*

***Our School Nursery takes children for the full 30 hours so please make enquiries at the office or with Ms Davison or Mrs Lawson, to discuss this.***

***Thank you.***



## Holidays during Term Time





With the government's proposals for 'safe travel', we understand that many families will be thinking about booking a holiday. We also understand that after the last year we've had, spending time away with your family is exactly what you might want to do right now. However, the education of all of our children needs to remain the priority in school, and so any absences due to holidays taken during term time will not be authorised.



Please note, if the leave of absence is classed as unauthorised and you still choose to take your child out of school and you have reached 7 days of unauthorised absence in any twelve week period, information will be passed to the Attendance Improvement Officer and a fixed penalty notice may be issued which carries a fine of £60 per child, per parent/carer.



# School Holidays 2021/2022

<i>Holiday</i>		<i>Closing Date</i>	<i>Date Re-opens</i>
<b>Summer 2021</b> (6 weeks 3 days)		Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2021
<b>Autumn Half-Term 2021</b> (1 week)		Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021
<b>Teacher Training Day</b> (1 day)		Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Christmas 2021</b> (2 weeks 3 days)		Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
<b>Spring Half-Term 2022</b> (1 week)		Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
<b>Easter 2022</b> (2 weeks)		Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022
<b>May Day 2022</b> (1 day)		Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2022
<b>Summer Half-Term 2022</b> (1 Week)		Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
<b>Teacher Training Day</b> (1 day)		Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2022
<b>Summer 2022</b>		Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2022	To be determined

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



# Laurel Avenue Community Centre

## Laurel United Youth Groups

Youth sessions are currently being phased back to on site activities with a weekly session for Infants, Juniors and Seniors. Thank you to everyone who has contacted us to express an interest in joining the youth group. If you haven't been offered a place yet, be assured that we are working hard to get everyone back as soon as possible.





If you are interested in joining, please email the

office: [admin@laurelavenuecommunity.com](mailto:admin@laurelavenuecommunity.com)

Or send a message via our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/laurelavenuecommunitycentre/>

Or you can telephone; 0191 3845427 / 07825956094



## LA Rising Stars - The show must go on

Sessions are held on Saturdays for:

Infants: 11 am – 12 noon

Junior and Senior 12 - 2 pm

Places are limited and booking is essential. There are still some places left for each session. Please contact the office to book a place.

## Laurel Ladies (ladies and girls only group)

Meet every Saturday between 11 am - 1 pm.

With a focus of positive connections and laughter, join in discussions around local issues and create your own social events calendar.

No need to book, drop in for coffee and a natter.

Dare to do something new, I dare you! 🤪



## Can my child go to school today?

### Do they have any **COVID Symptoms**?

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

**Yes**

They have a COVID symptom

### **Self Isolate and Book a COVID Test**

Book the test online or call 119

All members of the household should stay at home until the test result is known.\*

\* Visit [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) for advice on when to stop isolating and return to school after a positive or negative test.

**No**

They do not have a COVID symptom

### Do they have **diarrhoea or vomiting**?

**No**

They do not have diarrhoea or vomiting

**Yes**

They have diarrhoea or vomiting

### Do they **feel unwell**?

It is important that parents keep children at home when they are unwell

**No**

They do not feel unwell

**Yes**

They feel unwell

### **Send to School**

So long as your child feels well, has not been told to self-isolate and there are no other household members with COVID symptoms, it is OK for them to attend school.

### **Keep at Home**

- Remain off school until they feel well enough to return. Seek medical help from a GP if needed (or 111 if your surgery is closed).
- Remain off school until at least 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting. A COVID test is not required for diarrhoea and vomiting without the other symptoms above.



# IMPORTANT NOTICE

*If anyone in your household has any one of the Covid-19 symptoms, they must get a PCR test taken. **This is not the lateral flow tests** that are being used routinely to test if anyone may be positive but has no symptoms.*



## CORONAVIRUS STAY ALERT TO THE SYMPTOMS

*Thank you for  
your ongoing  
cooperation  
with this so  
that we can  
keep everyone  
as safe as  
possible.*

**HIGH TEMPERATURE  
OR NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH  
OR LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL?**

No one in your household should leave home  
if any one person has symptoms.

Find out how to get a test, and how long to  
isolate, at **nhs.uk/coronavirus**



**STAY SAFE**





*Have a great half term!*

*If you need to get in touch please email  
[laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net](mailto:laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net)*