



NEWSLETTER

A ROUND UP OF THE WEEK AT LAUREL PARK SCHOOL

Headteacher's Message - Adele Christofi

I hope this newsletter finds you well. It is with great pleasure that I share with you the recent happenings at Laurel Park School.

Firstly, I am delighted to announce that we successfully hosted a Teach Meet for Enfield schools, focusing on the development of pedagogy. This event was made possible by the generous sponsorship of Step Teachers, who donated a Kindle for our raffle. It was a fantastic opportunity for our staff to collaborate and share best practices with colleagues from other schools.

In addition, our Year 9 students had an incredible experience last week as they attended the highly acclaimed Tina Turner musical at the Aldwych Theatre. Prior to the show, they were privileged to participate in a workshop with the production team. The students had a great time and it was a wonderful opportunity for them to appreciate the performing arts.

Our talented students from Years 7 to 11 showcased their skills at Enfield's Dance Festival, held at the Millfield Theatre. Their performances were nothing short of outstanding, truly highlighting the exceptional dance talent we have here at Laurel Park School. I would like to extend my gratitude to Ms. Antwi for accompanying and supporting our students throughout the event.

Furthermore, our Year 10 students had a valuable opportunity to explore different career paths during a special careers event. Industry professionals from Natwest, Marketing, and Urban Planning shared their expertise and insights with our students. I am pleased to announce that a winning group from this event will be treated to a VIP experience at City Hall on the 16th July.

As part of our commitment to the Enterprise Cooperative Trust, our student group has been actively involved in commissioning artwork for a student-run cafe. They recently had a site visit and spent a productive day with industry professionals, gaining valuable firsthand experience. More details will be later on in the newsletter. I am tremendously proud of our students for their initiative and dedication.

I would also like to take a moment to celebrate the achievements of David and Chidum in Year 11. They have been delivering maths intervention sessions to their peers as part of our period zero interventions. Their dedication and willingness to support their fellow students is truly commendable.

Lastly, I would like to inform you of some important upcoming dates. Week beginning 25th March 2024 will be our Achievement Assemblies, where we will celebrate the accomplishments of our students. Additionally, please note that the last day of term will be on the 28th March. On this day, students will have a full day of school and will finish at 3.15pm. We return to school on Monday 15th April, with students expected to be in school at 8.20am. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Together, we can ensure the success and well-being of our students.

Wishing you all a peaceful break over the next two weeks.
Adele Christofi
Headteacher

**Next week it
will be week 1**



BENEFIT

DEFINITION

Noun:

1. an **advantage, improvement, or help** that you get from something
2. money provided by the government to people who are **sick, unemployed or have little money**

SYNONYMS

- Good
- Welfare
- Assistance

SENTENCES

1. The new credit cards will be of great benefit to our customers.
2. You might be entitled to housing benefit.

ETYMOLOGY

The noun "benefit" (1300-1400) Anglo-French ben fet, from Latin bene factum, from bene factus; → BENEFACTION

MARCH

Week beginning 25th April: Achievement assemblies
Tuesday 26th: Health drop in clinic

APRIL

Week beginning 15th April: Year 10 mocks
16th April: Year 8 immunisations
18th April: Swan Lake trip to the Royal Opera House

Week beginning 22nd April: Year 10 mocks continue
Wednesday 24th April: Year 8 Parents Evening
Thursday 25th April: British Army Engagememnt Open Day

Character Education focus of the week

New month, new virtue!

This month's Virtue is **Critical Thinking**

Critical Thinking is the ability to think reflectively and to come to independent conclusions

"Reserve your right to think, for even to think wrongly is better than not to think at all." - Hypatia of Alexandria

This weeks' value is **excellence**

How can **Critical Thinking** help us achieve **Integrity**?

- People are more likely to share ideas and take risks in a **friendly** atmosphere, leading to innovation and **excellence**
- **Friendliness** fosters trust amongst team members, which leads to better communication and collaboration
- **Friendliness** promotes open dialogue and brainstorming, resulting in more effective problem solving and better results.



Laurel Park School will finish for the Easter holidays at 3.15pm on Thursday 28th March



Neurodiversity Week at Laurel Park School

Assemblies this week were linked to Neurodiversity Week and were led by one of our SEN teachers, Mr Martin.

Mr Martin shared the personal experience of bringing up a child with neurodivergent needs and some of the discrimination his son James has faced from people in the outside world. It was a deeply moving assembly and gave our students an appreciation of the challenges it can bring to have a neurodivergent child, but also the joys that can happen when James has the support he needs from his education and from strangers.

Mr Martin is encouraging anyone who is interested to pursue an Level 1 AQA UAS award in Autism Awareness, which can be used towards training to be an educational psychologist.

Thank you Mr Martin for such an inspiring and thought provoking assembly



HEALTH DROP-IN CLINIC

FOR STUDENTS

Run by The Enfield School Nursing Team 0-19 Service

Location: Student Support room (A corridor)

Dates: Tuesdays - 6th Feb, 5th March, 26th March, 16th April, 14th May, 11th June, 9th July

Time: Lunchtime

Mental Health | Acne
Periods | Puberty | Hygiene
Healthy Eating | Sleep
Smoking/Vaping
Sexual Health | Vaccinations

all students welcome

Discuss **any** health concern with a nurse in a safe space.

Sessions are confidential. No appointment needed – drop by!

If you'd like some confidential health advice, and are unable to attend the drop-in clinic, please call the school nursing team on 020 3988 7300.



A reminder that our new health drop in clinics will run again on Tuesday lunchtime - these are drop in sessions that all our students can attend.

We are really grateful for the support from North Middlesex for making this happen

Enfield Easter 2024 Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

Food and fun!
Free for those in receipt of benefits related free school meals.



You will have emailed this booklet from the school - lots of free activities on for those of you in receipt of free school meals. More opportunities will be in next week's newsletter



Please can you ensure your ParentPay lunch money account is topped up in advance to enable your child to visit the Bay Leaf Restaurant. Meals are £3 per day and therefore you should expect to top up £15.00 per week if your child visits every day.

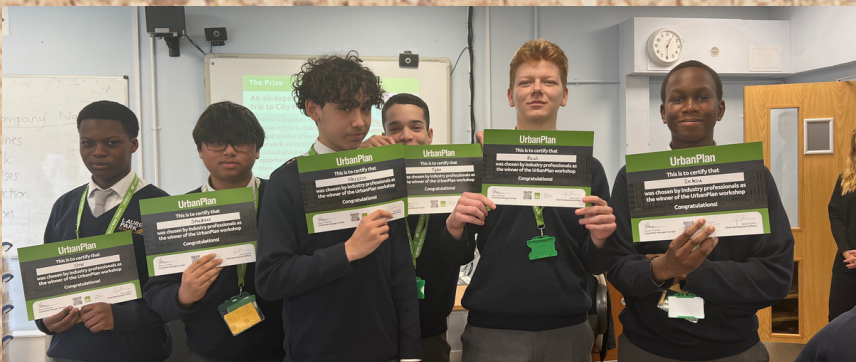
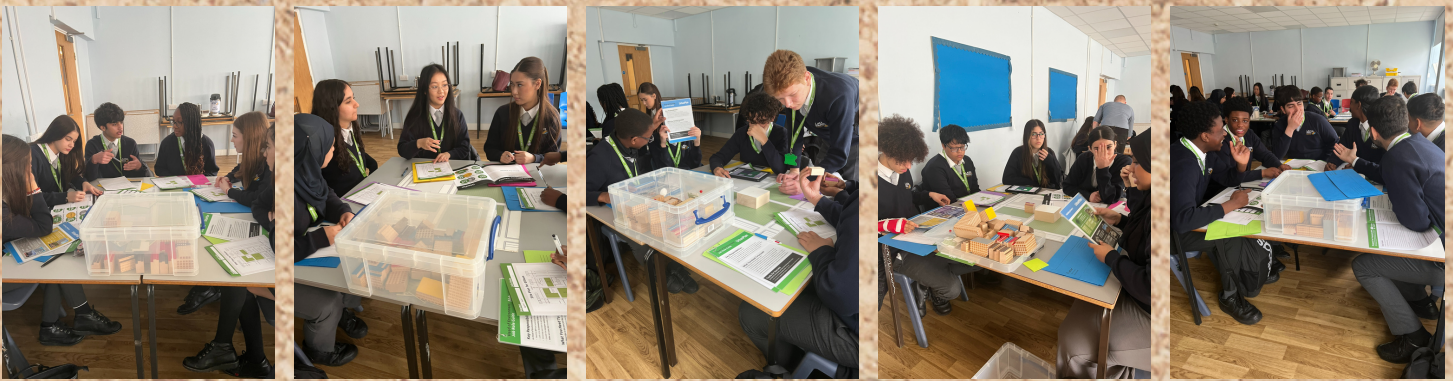
Year 10 careers based workshops

On Thursday, all of Year 10 took part in a careers based workshop led by groups of professionals who volunteered their time to work with our young people and support them in the world of work.

The first group took place in NatWest CareerSense Exploration workshop, looking at students developing their entrepreneurial skills. The students were given the chance to consider the difference between fixed and growth mindset and how this can help them in the world of work. They also had access to a 'Find Their Potential' tool to support with this.

Most of the students took part in a Know Your Brand workshop, looking at Data Science Foundations as a growing industry. They looked at why different companies, such as Boohoo, analyse their data and how they use it to grow their companies.

The final group took place in a workshop run by Urban Plan. Students were put into groups, all given a role and had to come up with a company name. They then had to set up a new town, having to use a budget and abide to planning rules. They then had to pitch their idea to the council, represented by a group of industry experts in order to succeed with their bid. The winning team, *Business Black*, have now won a VIP trip to City Hall in July. Well done to **Sekou, Tyler, Heissin, Raul, Orel and Shakeel**.




Unifrog webinars open to all students

Did you know that Unifrog regularly hosts seminars that your child can access through their Unifrog account?

Coming up next week they are hosting:

How to prepare for exams - Monday 25 March @ 17:00 UK time - 45 mins

Addressing global challenges with engineering: Why study bacteria? - Tuesday 26 March @ 17:00 UK time - 45 mins

All webinars can be accessed here: <https://www.unifrog.org/teacher/webinars>

Previous webinars can also be access here: <https://www.unifrog.org/teacher/webinars-past>

Top Character points this week!

Year 7

Esham, Favour, Alice, Amelia, Ostap,
Kaja, Aida, Anna, Urooj, Daria,
Reatlegile, Gergana, Ezgi, Edwin,
Shri



Year 10

Amir, Eylul, Muhtasham, Lara,
serena, Raul, Shakeel, Melina,
Petroula, Endri, Brielle, Nefeli, Kira,
Siyar, Jasmin, Esma, Ana

Year 8

Darvin, Kaitlyn, Nicollas, Rumeysa,
Kadir, Flavia

Year 9

Farhaan, Mohammad, Keira, Isobel,
Miracle, Dea, Simona, Tereza,
Khadija, Alex P, Keiran, Zora, James,
Marina, Mary

Year 11

Ciprian, Jasmin, Madiha, Msli,
Miruna

Laurel Park School visit the Netball Super League

Last weekend, Ms Robertshaw and Ms Smith took a group of students to the Copper Box Arena to see a Netball Super League fixture.

They watched the home team London Pulse take on the Severn Stars. The teams included several international players from the England Roses, the New Zealand Silver Ferns and the South African Proteas. Footballing legend, Paul Scholes's daughter Alicia also plays for London Pulse. The final score was 54 - 47 to Severn Stars.

Our students were in awe of the elite players level of skill and really enjoyed the atmosphere at the event. Jasmin and Yvonne who adopted the away team as their team for the evening were delighted with the win and lost their voices from cheering so much. The playlist after each goal and between quarters, the view of the London skyline at night and the Laurel Park School shout out from the organisers were added bonuses to an enjoyable evening.



Enfield Dance Festival 2024

Laurel Park School were thrilled to be a part of this fantantastic festival and showcase the dancers at Millfield Theatre.

The talented dancers have demonstrated electrifying energy and dedication through their tireless preparation, staying after school on Wednesdays in order to rehearse. They have been intense, but the hard work and commitment of our dancers have truly shone through.

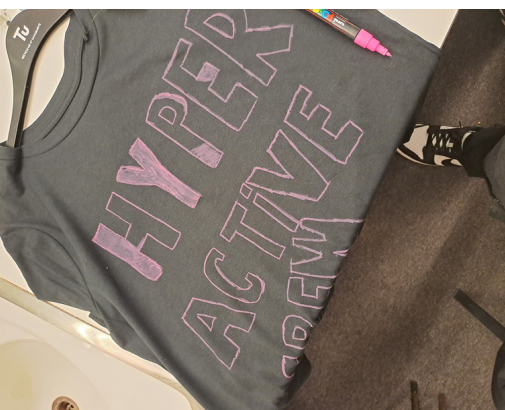
On Wednesday our dancers, showcased their talents to their families, friends, staff, and members of the public. At Millfield Theatre, each dancer poured their heart and soul into perfecting their routines, demonstrating not only their individual talents but also their remarkable teamwork, captivating the audience with their mesmerizing performances!



I'm so proud of them



Ms Antwi



The Enfield School Immunisation Team are going to be in school on 16th April to deliver the HPV vaccination to Year 8 students. If you require further information about vaccines this can be found here www.saisenfield.co.uk
To complete a form to give consent OR to decline the vaccine, please follow the links below.

Please only complete the MMR vaccine form if your child needs it.

- HPV Consent Form -

<https://www.enfieldhealthimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/HPV>

- MMR Consent Form -

<https://www.enfieldhealthimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/MMR>

Your child's school code is: ENF102056

More information can be found in this [leaflet](#)



Why we love Laurel Park School

We might be a bit biased but we think Laurel park is a brilliant place to work, learn and thrive!

We would love to have your feedback about what makes Laurel Park special.

We would love for you to fill in this quick survey and to give us your feedback!

<https://forms.gle/PnriGLGSxUC9iU>
8P6

**LAUREL
PARK**
SCHOOL 



As Ms Christofi mentioned, some Year 9 students and Ms Gray have been working with Learning for Life Charity, London Historic Buildings, Chickenshed, Orchardside and West Lea in order to decide what happens to the Edmonton Girls' Charity School, which can be found at 24 Church Street. This was originally built over the road in 1778, moving to it's current site in 1793 as the girls were 'too noisy'!

The group are now collaborating with artists Karen Cox and Dean Blunkell to decide how best to turn this into a community space whilst preserving the history. Last week we got the visit the site for the first time, see the pictures below. If you would like to find out more, there is a talk in Edmonton Library, details of which you can find on the next page in the newsletter.

ON THE RIGHT: This is the old teacher's cottage - with low ceilings - this was lived in until recently



ON THE LEFT: Three buildings in one - nearest is 1793, middle is 1827, furthest is 1894

ON THE RIGHT: The black on the wall indicates where the coal used to sit



ON THE LEFT: These are the old toilets, which would have been outside

TOLD EDMONTON: CHARITY SCHOOL

DISCOVER STORIES FROM THE CHARITY
SCHOOL RECENTLY UNEARTHED BY
COMMUNITY RESEARCHERS



THURSDAY 4TH APRIL 6.30 PM – 8.00 PM
FORE STREET LIBRARY
109-111 FORE STREET, LONDON N18 2XF

Untold Edmonton is
being delivered by:



The Charity School project is being delivered in
partnership by:



And is funded by:



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ENCOURAGING OPEN CONVERSATIONS AT HOME

With tricky topics and occasional clashes of opinion, it can be challenging to maintain an environment where children feel able to talk candidly and honestly. However, encouraging such conversations helps to develop trust – making it easier to unpack even sensitive subjects as children get older. Here are our top tips for promoting open conversations at home.

1 CREATE A SAFE SPACE



Criticism, blaming or shaming can all prevent children from feeling emotionally safe – while showing affection, positive attention and an interest in what a child has to say builds their sense of security. These formative years are when children's opinions and values begin to take shape, so it's important to provide a non-judgmental environment in which to discuss them – especially if their opinions differ from your own.

2 CONSIDER OTHER OUTLETS



Some children may find it easier to talk while they're participating in another activity such as drawing, writing, walking or sport. If it's possible, taking part in these activities together presents you with an opportunity to communicate while doing something side by side. A child may feel less pressure that way and can be more inclined to open up of their own accord.

3 NORMALISE CHATS ABOUT FEELINGS



Incorporate mental health and emotional wellbeing into everyday conversations, using age-appropriate language and examples to help children understand their emotions. Ask questions like "How are you feeling today?", "What was the best and worst part of your day?", "If you could start today again, what would you do differently?" and "Is there anything you want to talk about?"

4 LISTEN ACTIVELY



When children express themselves, make it obvious that you're listening closely and giving them your full attention. Maintain eye contact and validate their feelings without immediately trying to solve the problem. It's not helpful to dismiss their issues as childish or "teenage angst" – or to assume that they'll simply "get over" whatever they're feeling. Children don't have your life experience; their resilience is still developing as they learn to push through difficulties and handle problems.

5 ASK OPEN QUESTIONS



Encourage children to share their thoughts by asking open questions about their feelings and experiences. Closed questions (such as "Did you enjoy school today?") are more likely to elicit a simple "yes" or "no" response. Instead, you could ask things like "Who did you spend time with at break?" or "Who did you sit with at lunchtime?"

6 RESPECT THEIR BOUNDARIES



If a child isn't ready to talk to about something yet, respect their boundaries: this reinforces that their feelings are important and worthy of consideration. Ideally, you're aiming to let them know you care without smothering them, so just make it clear that you're there for them whenever they're ready to chat. Gentle, regular check-ins can sometimes be the best form of progress.

7 LEAD BY EXAMPLE



Model open, honest and healthy communication in front of children and young people. Try to demonstrate kindness when talking about others and yourself, because if children hear adults being overly harsh, critical or judgmental, or see them having unrealistic expectations of themselves, it makes them more likely to adopt and repeat this behaviour themselves as they grow.

8 HAVE REGULAR CHECK-INS



Check in with children periodically to discuss how they're feeling and what's going on in their lives. This could be a weekly or monthly conversation, where the child has an opportunity to share whatever's on their mind. For parents and carers, getting away from the house and other distractions might be productive here: you could consider regular trips to a coffee shop or a café, or just a weekly walk.

9 PROVIDE RESOURCES



It's often beneficial to let children know about other support that's available to them if they're struggling to talk to you specifically. Encourage them to talk to school counsellors, trusted adults or even a therapist, if necessary – while normalising this route and dispelling the harmful stigma around asking for help. Older children could engage with resources such as Kooth or YoungMinds.

10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION



It's beneficial to praise children for expressing their feelings honestly – emphasising how important it is to talk about their emotions and how proud you are of them for doing so. This can be especially pivotal for boys, who often experience more of a stigma around talking frankly about their feelings and their mental health – a barrier that can be overcome, with enough love and support.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®