

NEWSLETTER

A ROUND UP OF THE WEEK AT LAUREL PARK SCHOOL

Headteacher's Message - Adele Christofi

As we approach the end of another vibrant week, I'm delighted to share with you the remarkable achievements and experiences that have enriched our school life over the past week.

Our pupils have once again demonstrated their exceptional talents and commitment to the arts. On Tuesday, we were treated to a spectacular showcase at the Millfield Theatre, where our dance troupe, comprising pupils from Years 7 to 10, performed alongside the prestigious Royal Academy of Dance. My heartfelt thanks go to Dylan, our dedicated dance teacher, and Ms Antwi for their unwavering support in bringing this extraordinary event to fruition.

In a historic moment for Laurel Park, we hosted our first-ever Iftar dinner, bringing together our diverse school community to break fast during Ramadan. It was truly heartwarming to see Muslim and non-Muslim pupils and teachers alike coming together, sharing delicious food, and fostering a spirit of unity and understanding. This special event, coordinated by our capable student prefects, exemplifies the inclusive ethos we strive to cultivate at Laurel Park.

Our commitment to celebrating culture and heritage was further highlighted by the Year 8 girls' trip to the British Museum, where they explored Black Heritage. We are grateful to Ms Joseph for facilitating this enriching experience, which aligns perfectly with our school's key priorities.

Nurturing aspirations is central to our educational philosophy, and this week, Ms Umer led a group of our budding mathematicians to Imperial College. This visit provided our younger pupils with invaluable exposure to higher education in mathematics, inspiring them to dream big and aim high in their academic pursuits.

Our Year 11 pupils have been exceptionally busy, showcasing their culinary prowess and musical talents through their public exams in food technology and music performance. The creativity and skill displayed in their dishes and compositions are a testament to their hard work and the dedication of our teaching staff.

As we look ahead, please note that school will finish for the term on Friday, 4th April at 3:15 pm. Following this, Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th April will be remote working days, with pupils expected to complete assigned work from home.

I continue to be immensely proud of our pupils' achievements and the vibrant, supportive community we have built together at Laurel Park. Your ongoing support and engagement are invaluable as we strive to provide the best possible educational experience for every child.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful weekend,

Ms Christofi Headteacher





Headteacher's Award



At the end of each week, form tutors choose one student from their form for the 'Headteacher's Award'. In a special ceremony with Ms Christofi, she shares the 'story behind their success' with the winning recipients. The students also receive a special certificate and pin badge to commemorate the achievement.

Congratulations to the Year 7 and 8 winners from this week who received a great surprise to find out they had won this prestigious award!

<u>Y7</u>

Terri - Wins for Determination, Terri is a fantastic student who always shows determination and excellence in all of her lessons.

Siva - Wins for Excellence, Siva consistently demonstrates a positive attitude to learning and school life. He works hard in lessons and is enthusiastic to engage in activities outside of the classroom. His contributions in PSHE are mature and considerate. He is a role model for all of our school values.

Savvas - **Wins for Excellence**, Savvas ticks all the boxes when it comes to school values. This term he has been a great example for other students to follow in lessons by doing the right thing first time everytime, always determined to reach extension task and beyond and always showing excellence with a positive attitude to learning



Y8

Vy - Wins for Determination, Vy has shown outstanding representation of LPS students, consistently demonstrating integrity and determination in her learning. Vy does the right thing day in and day out, setting an example for others to follow. Her positivity, helpfulness, and respect for others are qualities that make her stand out.

Isabely - **Wins for Excellence**, She has been such a great help in form time, assists her peers and is turning into a wonderful student.

Gabriel - **Wins for Excellence**, Gabriel demonstrates exceptional dedication, and consistently presents an attitude of positive learning. His commitment to academic excellence and community engagement makes him a deserving candidate for a Headteacher's Award.

Fatima - Wins for Ambition, Fatima has had a fantastic term . There has been a massive improvement in her behaviour . She has been working very hard to earn the title of a trampoline coach which she has done successfully . Keep up the good work!





Headteacher's Award



Congratulations to the Year 11 winners from this week who received a great surprise to find out they had won this prestigious award!

Siyar- Wins for Integrity, Always being respectful and putting 100% effort into his learning and education. Always a joy to have in lessons and his commitment to LPS.

Sami - Wins for Integrity, For always being respectful and committed to improving his school work, using his problem solving and creativity skills. He is determined to do well and shows his peers excellent behaviour and discipline. He arrives to school with the correct mindset and is fully equipped. He always makes valuable contributions to TTRP and PSHE.

Raul - Wins for Determination, For determination in study skills for Mock exam preparation.

Ayseneva - **Wins for Ambition**, For always being ready for school each day. She is respectful, committed and strives to improve her school work. She is determined to do well and shows her peers excellent behaviour and discipline. She is always attentive during PSHE and enjoys carrying out form responsibilities showing her excellent organisational skills.





This week Mr Coyle, our Head of English has been leading our assemblies all about the amazing playwright and poet, William Shakespeare.

Mr Coyle talked to all the year groups about Shakespeare's 38 plays and all his sonnets, which he only numbered and didn't give names to. He explained the rules of a sonnet - 14 lines with a specific rhyming scheme. For Years 7-9 they got to work through the rhyme scheme as part of the assembly. For Year 11, the assembly was also tailored to prepare the students for their GCSE exams.

Thank you Mr Coyle for an inspiring assembly all about the GOAT William Shakespeare





On Tuesday night, our Year 7-10 dance group took centre stage at the Enfield Schools Dance Festival, delivering a spectacular performance that left the audience in awe.

The festival, aptly themed "A Night at the Musicals", showcased the creativity and dedication of our young dancers. Our pupils chose to bring the magic of "MJ The Musical" to life, and their execution was nothing short of excellent. Their energy, precision, and passion were evident in every step, truly capturing the essence of the King of Pop.

I must give a special mention to Talia, whose outstanding performance stood out amongst an already impressive group. Her dedication and talent shone brightly on stage, embodying the spirit of excellence we nurture here at Laurel Park.

The success of our dance group at this festival is a testament to the hard work of our pupils and the unwavering support of our staff and parents. It's moments like these that remind us of the incredible potential within our school community.

Well done to all involved - you've made Laurel Park proud!



A big round of applause to the following students for their outstanding performance on Educake this week:

> Aleks S Alexander C Kavish D Dea K Ismail M

Keep up the great work, everyone! Your hard work and dedication are truly inspiring.

Educake can be accessed here https://my.educake.co.uk/login

Students are regularly set homework on here and have the option to select their own questions too.







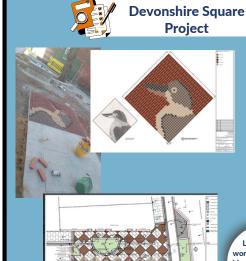
This week our Year 10 prefects led a powerful assembly to the Year 8 and 9 students about relationships.

Following on from the campaign workshops last week, the Year 10 prefects learnt about, planned, then delivered an assembly all about what a healthy and unhealthy relationship looks like. There was a live drama performance as part of the assembly statistics about domestic abuse, awareness about the dangers of social media and information about where people can get support from.

The prefects will continue with their campaign, looking at how they can shape relationship education at Laurel Park through social media posts, posters and adaptations to PSHE lessons. The prefects did an exceptional job and we look forward at what else is to come.









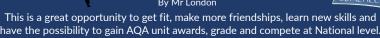
Last term Havatsu Architects came and worked with Year 11 students on developing ideas based on Palmers Green's history. They took away the students drawings and translated them into designs that could be

They've just sent these photos of the work in progress. It is due to be finished at the end of May and I'm hoping to be able to visit the finished square with the art class, so that they can see the final end point of their work

Well done to all involved.



Venue: Main Hall.







This week some of our Year 11 students have been busy completing part of their final exams.

All of our Food students have cooked a three course meal this week. There have been some fantastic foods - lasagne, beef wellington, stir fries, koftes and empanadas!

Well done to all the students, Ms Ezzeldin and Mr Mandrides for all their hard work.

As well as this, our Year 10 and 11 Music students have completed their performance piece as part of theor BTEC work. All of them had had to evaluate their practises and then perform on camera - nerve wracking! Thanks to Mr Christofidies for his support with this.



Three Day Trip to Rome



Trip includes:

May 2026 as part of our Character Education programme.

Return flights, accommodation and unlimited public transport Guided tours of the Colosseum, Vatican Museums, Roman Forum, and more Stay at Hotel Villa Rosa.

Cost: Approx. £750 (includes transport, accommodation, some meals, and activities)*subject to change based on flight prices

Limited to 25 places – first come, first served. Deposit of £100 payable on ParentPay.

Only available for current Year 7-10 students. Students must have a valid passport and EHIC/GHIC. Poor behaviour may result in removal from the trip without a refund.

Full details are available in the letter on ParentApp and our website. Additionally, there is a poster at the end of the newsletter for more information.



A great opportunity for any Year 11 or Year 10 student interested in a career in video games. They can join us for a free, one-day event designed to kickstart their career in the UK's fastest-growing creative sector: video games. Whether they've never built a game before, or just want to meet the industry. They'll hear from eight speakers from top London game studios, take part in hands-on workshops, and explore the multitude of career pathways open to them.

> Date - Wednesday 9 April Times 11:00 - 17:00

Location - Access Creative College, 41 Commercial Rd, London E1 1LA

Interested students can book themselves a place by clicking the following link below:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/get-into-games-careers-eventtickets-1279623411069?

aff=oddtdtcreator& gl=1*15457wu* up*MQ..* ga*MTA1Mzk4Mz MyNS4xNzQxNzA5Mzk3* ga TQVES5V6SH*MTc0MTcwOTM5Ni <u>4xLjAuMTc0MTcwOTM5Ni4wLjAuMA</u>

Year 8 students have been developing their scripted interpretation of the epic Ramayana, exploring World Theatre, Storytelling, Ritual & Ensemble Theatre to bring the script from page to stage.

Using ensemble work, ritual, and performance skills, students are creating unique characters through voice, movement, gestures, and facial expressions. Each scene incorporates narration, storytelling, physical theatre, stylized movement, and vocal soundscapes to imaginatively convey the story.

Additional elements include choreographed dance, stage combat, singing, and live music, enhancing key moments such as Hanuman's monkey army and Sita's magic



Teaching and Learning Teaching

Year 10 Students Shine in Beauty Course

Khyra and Dajahna in year 10, are bringing passion and a lot of hard work to their Beauty course. Both students have always been interested in makeup, skincare, and beauty treatments, and this course has given them the perfect opportunity to develop their skills. "I've always loved experimenting with makeup and learning about different beauty techniques," Khyra says. "I can turn my passion into a career." The Beauty course at Laurel Park provides hands-on experience in everything from skincare and facials to makeup application and nail treatments. For both students, the practical aspect of the course is the most exciting part.

"We get to practice with each other and learn professional techniques. We have improved a lot since we started the course." Dajanha

Both students are considering careers in the beauty industry in some capacity. Their dedication and enthusiasm have already been noticed by their teachers, who praise their creativity and commitment, including work experience in the salon. Both students are incredibly talented; they put so much effort into learning and perfecting their techniques, and we have no doubt they will go far in the industry.

The course has also helped them build confidence and teamwork skills, as they often collaborate on projects and help each other refine their work. Their advice to other students considering the Beauty course? "Go for it! If you love beauty and enjoy being creative, it's a good opportunity to learn and get a really good idea of how a salon works"



Inspired to Create New Food Products in Food Technology

Could you create a new food product using seasonal vegetables? This term, Year 9 students have been busy in the kitchen, turning seasonal vegetables into exciting new food products. As part of their Food Technology lessons, the young chefs have been experimenting with fresh produce to create their own unique cakes. Students explored a variety of vegetables such as squash, carrots, courgettes, and potatoes. They learned about where these vegetables come from, why they are best eaten in certain seasons, and the environmental and financial implications of eating locally sourced foods. By learning how they can be used in different recipes students can positively contribute to our local economy.

Through hands-on cooking activities, the students mashed, mixed, and blended ingredients to develop brand new food ideas. By giving our students the freedom to create their own recipes, they became excited about healthy eating and trying new foods. The project also encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and sensory exploration. Students had the chance to taste-test their creations and share their thoughts on the different flavors and textures. Many were surprised by how tasty vegetables could be when prepared in creative ways.

Why not try some innovative creations of your own? It might spark a love for cooking and creativity you never knew you had.



Year 7 Students Have Fun with Fractions in Maths!

Students have been diving into the world of fractions in their Maths lessons, and they are having a great time exploring this important topic. From adding and subtracting fractions to understanding equivalent fractions and simplifying them, students have been developing their skills through a range of interactive activities. One of the highlights of the lessons has been using visual aids like fraction bars and pie charts to help students grasp tricky concepts. Did you know you can learn about fractions by using hands-on activities, such as cutting up shapes to represent different fractions and playing fraction card games? These help to make learning both fun and engaging.

Students have also been applying their knowledge to real-life situations, such as dividing pizzas and sharing ingredients in recipes. This helped them see how fractions are used in everyday life and why they are such an essential part of Maths. Students worked hard to solve fraction problems and should be commended for their efforts. It was good to see how different fractions can be combined and simplified. Mr Uddin used mastery teaching with expert explanations and modelling to enable our students to grasp the concept well.

Well done to year 7 students for their enthusiasm and hard work in Maths! Keep up the great learning, and remember—fractions are everywhere!



Character Education focus of the week

The vision of Laurel Park School is to develop well rounded students who have the ambition and determination to excel in life whether this be through academic study, vocational training or employment.

Alongside this, we have a commitment to developing character and integrity across the school and wider community. Opportunities are provided outside of the taught curriculum to develop core life skills, preparing our students to be proud global citizens.

Finally, Laurel Park is a school where all members of the community are treated with care and respect, whilst supported both with their well-being and their academic aspirations.

This is achieved through our Core Values of Integrity, Determination, Excellence and Ambition

Each month we will see a Skill and each week we will try to link this Skill to one of our Values.

This month's Skill is Aiming High!

""Don't fear failure. — Not failure, but low aim, is the crime. In great attempts it is glorious even to fail." -Bruce lee

This week's value is Ambition!

How can Aiming High help us achieve Ambition



In school, you can achieve this by:

- Setting personal academic goals, such as improving grades or mastering a subject.
- Participating in extracurricular activities like sports, music, or student leadership.
- Seeking feedback and constantly working to improve.
- Challenging yourselves to go beyond your comfort zone, such as presenting in class or entering competitions.
- Supporting and inspiring others to also aim high and reach their full potential.

Students will be presented this in assembly each week but please also speak to them at home











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£750 total with a payment plan option





CALLING ALL YEAR 11
STUDENTS



GOLDEN TICKET RAFFLE

1ST APRIL 2025

£100 AMAZON VOUCHER

£20 NANDOS VOUCHER

THREE COURSE
MEAL FOR 2 AT
PREZZO

CINEWORLD VOUCHER FOR 2

£60 JD VOUCHER

LAUREL PARK

The menu in our Bayleaf Restaurant will be changing from 22nd April! Please see the new menu helow

Summer Term Lunch Menu - Week 1



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			
Main (Option	Jacket Potato with homemade baked beans and cheese (Milk)	Battered Fish (Wheat, Fish)	Chicken Katsu Curry	Beef Lasagne (Wheat, Milk)	Chicken Souvlaki Wrap (Wheat)			
Main (Option	Ratatouille Pasta Bake (V) (Wheat, Milk)	Aubergine and Courgette Stack (V) (Milk)	Lentil and Sweet Potato Curry (V)	Vegetable Lasagne (V) (Wheat, Milk)	Halloumi Wrap (V) (Wheat, Milk)			
Sides	Garlic Focaccia (Wheat)	Bread (Wheat) Chunky Chips	Rice and Raita (Milk) Flatbread (Wheat)	Focaccia (Wheat)	Homemade Chips Homemade Tzatziki (Milk)			
Vegetabl	es Mixed seasonal veg	Peas	Roasted Spiced Cauliflower	Chopped Salad	Rainbow Slaw (Egg)			
Salads ar Dessert		Seasonal Salads, Fresh Fruit and Yoghurt Prepared and Available Daily Tuesday - Jam Coconut Cake (Wheat and Milk) Thursday - Classic school cake (Wheat and Milk)						

Summer Term Lunch Menu - Week 2



in partnership with

CHEFS M SCHOOLS

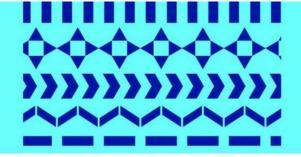
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main (Option 1)	Jacket Potato with homemade baked beans and cheese (Milk)	Jerk Chicken Drumsticks	Homemade Beef Burgers (Wheat, Sesame, Sulphites, Soya)	Chicken and Pepper Fajitas (Wheat)	Chicken Sausage (Wheat, Sulphites)
Main (Option 2)	Arrabbiata Pasta Bake (V) (Wheat, Milk)	Falafel Plate (V) (Wheat, Sesame)	Mexican Gochujang Bean Burger (V) (Wheat, Sesame)	Vegetable Fajitas (V) (Wheat)	Veggie Sausage (Celery, Wheat)
Sides	Focaccia (Wheat)	Jollof Rice Seeded Bloomer (Wheat)	Sweet Potato Wedges Homemade Burger Sauce (Egg, Sulphites)	Cajun Rice Chipotle Mayo (Egg) OR Homemade Hot Sauce (Sulphites) Yoghurt Dip (Milk)	Spring Onion Mash (Milk) Homemade BBQ Beans
Vegetables	Mixed seasonal veg	Rainbow Slaw (Egg)	Salad Stack	Smoke Paprika Corn	Seasonal Vegetables

Salads and Desserts

Seasonal Salads, Fresh Fruit and Yoghurt Prepared and Available Daily
Tuesday - Marble Cake (Wheat and Milk)
Thursday - Lemon Drizzle Cake (Wheat and Milk)







Calling all transport superfans!

We are celebrating 25 years of Transport for London and we're on the hunt for 25 young transport 'superfans' aged 5-16 and love London transport.

What do we need pupils to do

Participating in the competition is straightforward. Young superfans are invited to write why they're a superfan of a particular London transport mode in 100 words or less.

Entries must be emailed to TfLSuperFansComp@tfl.gov.uk along with their name and age, as well as contact information for their parent or guardian.

Please flag to the school if you enter this competition as this will contribute to their TfL Travel for Life accreditation. Find out more about accreditation at travelforlife.tfl.gov.uk

Who can enter Children aged 5 – 16 years old, but they would need an adult to supervise their submission. Deadline Superfans must submit their entry before Wednesday 23 April for their chance to win this once in a lifetime experience. What's the prize? Winners get to record a personalised 25th anniversary message for TfL, which will be broadcasted at a station related to their mode of entry. Winners get a behind-the-scenes tour related to their entry, such as bus, river services, cycle hire, Tram depot, IFS Cloud Cable Car, Tube, Overground, Elizabeth line or DLR station, or coach depot. We look forward to seeing your entry!



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKYSOCI

GE RESTRICTION

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X - but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

NO PRIVATE **ACCOUNTS**

accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH **STRANGERS**

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE



and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users

a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

Advice for Parents & Educators

18

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are

ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the

LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually

KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much;

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.





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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app



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