

Lauriston School

School Improvement Newsletter

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Summer Newsletter – Our Summer Term Update

We write a termly newsletter to communicate the work going on in school towards our School Development Priorities. The aim of this is to share our priorities with the whole school community, and keep you updated with the progress being made against those priorities. This newsletter follows on from our latest update in Spring, with updates on how we have made progress against our School Development Priorities this year. Our next newsletter will be the final 'round up' newsletter at the end of this academic year!

School Development Priority Targets

Our school development priorities have been driven by: trends in our results, feedback from parents, pupils and staff and new developments across the school or curriculum.

Our school development priorities for academic year 2022-23 are:

1. Develop and sustain high quality Teaching & Learning of Early Reading, Phonics and Writing.
2. Further develop Teaching & Learning of Science and the Humanities.
3. Maintain and build upon our Mastery approach to the Teaching & Learning of Maths.
4. Strengthening our wider school community.
5. Build exemplary expectations for presentation and handwriting across the school.

1 Develop and sustain high quality Teaching & Learning of Early Reading, Phonics and Writing.

We are very pleased with the progress made against this priority this year. Our Plan-Model-Write approach which was rolled out from Year 2-Year 6 this year is fully embedded across the school. Our School Improvement Partner looked at Writing books and spoke with pupils about their learning in Writing on her last visit and was very impressed with the consistency of the approach and the writing outcomes being captured in books. Teachers have had tailored CPD to support delivery of this model across the year, looking at how we can effectively apply the model to different genres of writing. In upcoming peer observations, sharing good practice in the modelling of Writing will also be a focus! We are also pleased with our progress in Phonics and Early Reading. Teaching of phonics has been restructured this year to allow for streaming across KS1 and small group teaching. This has been very effective! This year has seen the launch of our Blossom Phonics resources, which we are very pleased to be able to share with you.

Check out the Blossom Phonics Youtube page here:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVoeJaN5hWVs60PzMZSXfo_g



2 Further develop Teaching & Learning of Science and the Humanities.

A lot has happened in developing our wider curriculum since Spring term! One significant development has been the introduction of a new history topic in Y5: The Windrush. This has been the result of over a year's planning and we have been very pleased to launch it this year. This year has also seen us change to recording jigsaw and RE learning in class 'floor books'. Recent monitoring of these has found that they are an excellent resource as prompts for children to talk about their learning, and they capture the whole class's learning in an effective and creative way. SMT have met to agree a guidance document for teachers on how to record in these floor books most effectively. These books will be on display alongside pupil workbooks at our next parent drop in – do keep an eye out for them!

3 Maintain and build upon our Mastery approach to the Teaching & Learning of Maths.

A great deal has been happening in Maths across the year! A big focus for Lauriston has been on developing mathematic fluency, as part of our wider work as a school on our 'mastery' approach to Maths. Children have Fluency targets specific to their year group, and direct teaching towards those objectives happens in addition to their daily maths lesson. Fluency checks now take place every half term, and this data will enable us to track pupil progress and tailor support for children further. Our most recent Maths workshop focused on fluency for Year 3 & 4 pupils and strategies for supporting the learning of times tables at home. Keep an eye out for our next workshop targeted at Year 5 parents and carers! This will explore how you can support your child in their Maths learning ahead of Year 6. We are in the process of planning a federation-wide Maths Celebration Day to take place next half term: this will celebrate Maths learning through a fun, themed day!



4 Strengthening our wider school community.

It is always a real pleasure to see the school community coming together in different ways. We are currently planning our upcoming It Takes A Village event: thank you to our parent & carer working party for their support with this. This will be a celebratory event involving talks, pupil presentations and sharing food in the playground. Keep an eye out for future communications on this! We have been pleased to offer a variety of workshops for parents & carers across this academic year. One aim we had was to expand our workshop offer and we are pleased to say this has been achieved: workshops have been held on varied curriculum areas (Early Reading, Phonics, Mathematics Mastery, Fluency) but we have also facilitated 'Made of Money' workshops led by an external agency designed to support families with financial skills during this cost of living crisis. It has also been lovely to see families enjoying our community cooking classes: part of our work to further develop our offer for PPG pupils. We have been seeking to involve parents & carers as much as possible and have been really grateful for parent voice on our curriculum and playground development this year. Please take time to complete this year's parent & carer survey as we begin the School Development Planning process for next academic year!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfxfZzqx_sL29Ve7T6WPWppljkaefmoEfXYqvB9mrTqpfQyQ/viewform

Finally, our School Twitter is a great way to see some of the lovely things going on around school –

@LauristonSchool www.twitter.com/lauristonschool.

5 Build exemplary expectations for presentation and handwriting across the school.

Overall we have been pleased with the progress we can see in presentation and handwriting across the school this year! Our milestone documents were a significant resource in ensuring expectations at each key stage were clear and could be taught to effectively. The documents can be found on our Literacy page in the curriculum section of the website – check them out! <https://www.lauriston.hackney.sch.uk/curriculum/literacy>

Book monitoring across the year has revealed improvements in the quality of presentation within the books. Our system for the teaching of handwriting is now well-embedded. It is lovely to see children eager to share their progress and show off writing work that they are particularly proud of!

Our Blossom Phonics video resources also cover letter formation and handwriting development: these are well worth using as tools for support! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVoeUaN5hWs60PzMZSXfo_g



Thank you for reading! Have a wonderful half term holiday. Our next SDP newsletter will be the final 'round-up' for the academic year 2022-23. Look out for this next half term!

Serena Brooks – Assistant Head Teacher