

Blossom Federation

Daubeney, Sebright and Lauriston



Executive Head Teacher Update

Issue 1

21st October 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

Nearly a whole half term under our belts. The Summer seems a long time ago, but we have been super busy and are ready for a little break next week. Last week, the Heads of School and I attended the Hackney Teaching School Alliance conference in Whitstable. This is always a valuable experience, not only to spend time together and with other school leaders, but to reflect, appreciate and look forward. Having this space is valuable and there were some excellent takeaways for me:



What would it be like as a new employee and you get to shadow yourself....what would you see and what would people see about you?

The power of storytelling in building identity safe schools. How we as leaders are the chief narrators of our school stories.

How we would sell our schools as a film story pitch

How we should be peacocks and shake our tail feathers and show off our school strengths

Taking time to enjoy life's glimmers to develop a glass half full culture.

Glimmers are the opposites of triggers and we need to train our brains to look out for the things which bring us joy—a sunrise, the smell of freshly cut grass, children asking you to play a game with them whilst on duty at lunchtime. The good things. Some lovely learning this week made me feel glimmers....check out our highlights and Instagram for more.

Our next big glimmer is 'half term'!



Since my last letter, I have had my **Robin in Residence** week at Lauriston. This was a lovely week for me in so many ways, but most importantly it was seeing the very smooth day to day running of the school, the happy and productive classes, seeing the same staff and parents and carers every day and spending more time with the children. And laughing a lot with Mr Harris!

Our schools are focusing on this year's development priorities and there is already evidence of impact since September. As we near the half term holidays, a few updates and development priorities from across Blossom for you:

At Daubeney, construction is almost complete on two projects – the community cafe and our new learning resource room/library. The café opens tomorrow! The latter makes use of all the reading resources from Colvestone, putting them into a new home, with very stylish furniture. The school's other priorities include improving writing outcomes and developing children's oracy skills.

At Sebright, as well as aiming to reduce its carbon footprint, the school is working on developing writing outcomes and strengthening its provision in Maths. Sebright is also expecting a visit from Ofsted at some point this year. We are ready! I am delighted with their development journey so far and the school looks incredible. Over half term, a few classes are getting a flooring makeover and some updates to the playground.

At Lauriston, construction has begun on the downstairs children's toilets. This is a well overdue project, but one which will look wonderful when complete. Last week, the new playground structure opened to much excitement from the children (and adults!). Priority wise, Lauriston have started using floor books to showcase outcomes in Science, History and Geography. These already look mighty fine! Other areas of improvement include writing and creative arts....the singing development is impressive!

A friend of mine alerted me to some half term offers across London for eligible children and families next week. These may be of use to some of you to keep your little people busy!

[The Tower of London for £1.](#)

[Kew Gardens for £1](#)

[The Kings Gallery for £1](#)

[London Zoo](#)

[Cutty Sark](#)

A reminder about our Instagram sites **@BlossomExecHT** **@DaubeneyHackney** **@SebrightPrimaryBlossom** and **@LauristonSchool**. The mini competition between the Heads continues to see who can get the most followers.....

Have a great half term break and see you all again on Tuesday 5th November.

Rhianen

Executive Head Teacher



The Blossom Heads (plus Miss Lucey) in Whitstable

