

Blossom Federation

Daubeney, Sebright and Lauriston



Executive Head Teacher Update

Issue 2

11th November 2024



Dear Parents & Carers

Autumn 2 is well underway and the approach to all things festive and fun begins. Our Autumn Term parent meetings will be underway shortly and this is one of the opportunities we have to talk with you about your children's learning and discuss steps as well as invite you into the school to see the children's work and have a look around the school.

Last week, we received some information about Sebright Children's Centre. As you know, the council issued a consultation to remove the childcare subsidy and invite expressions of interest from alternative providers to manage the centre or to close it if a provider was not found. A group of local residents objected and sought legal challenge to oppose the Council plans. We were informed last week that the Council has decided to withdraw from its

defence of the Judicial Review and concede the case. In a letter to us last week, the Council said: "The Council stands by the need to make changes to the way we provide subsidised childcare in order to make our early years provision more sustainable, as a result of rising costs, staffing challenges and overall financial pressures on local authorities. We will take this opportunity to review our approach on how to make our early years provision more sustainable in the future, and present future plans as soon as it is practically possible." This means it is Business As Usual for our children and families at Sebright Children's Centre and it is important that this message is shared to keep the Centre full of children and a stable environment for the staff team who do a tremendous job. We await to hear the Council's next steps.



In other news, on Tuesday 3rd December, we officially open Daubeney's Children & Family Hub. We have invited representatives from Hackney and the school and local community to celebrate this. The Hub is already doing some excellent and important works with our families.

I have been doing a few of my School Improvement Partner visits to Southend and in Hackney in the last week or so. It is so lovely for me to see their ongoing improvements and my involvement in this. Staff from the schools are coming to visit our Federation Schools over the coming months. This makes me very proud to do some 'peacocking' with the Heads of School about our provision.

At Daubeney, the library (Learning Resource Space) is almost ready. It will be open for parents and carers to have a little peak into when you come for your child's parent consultation. You will also have seen that Da'Café is open for business and also generating some loyal customers and a bit of income. I have to say, I think the quality of the coffee is excellent. I'm looking forward to using my new loyalty card! Check out the fun our Two Year Olds are having!



At Sebright, some internal renovations are afoot in our nursery. It is looking very impressive so far. A big well done to Miss Owusu and the team for making some creative (and not too costly changes). The decoration in our Y4 classrooms were also completed during half term and look wonderful. Miss Coppen and Miss Howard were very pleased when they returned. Also, if you haven't seen our new Monkey Bars, check these out. A big thank you to Mr Jack for helping us get these in place.

Further enhancements for our OPAL playground.

At Lauriston, the new children's toilets are almost complete and look magnificent. Mr Harris chose the colours. I was a little dubious, but I think they look great and are very Lauriston in design. It has taken us a long time to afford these toilets, so it is important we look after them. Lauriston are



also trialling a new home learning approach which we may roll out across the federation. It looks very good. It has been fun to see where the children have been 'Caught in a book' too.

Check out the highlights section of each site. A reminder about our Instagram sites **@BlossomExecHT** **@DaubeneyHackney** **@SebrightPrimaryBlossom** and **@LauristonSchool**. Plus our sites **@daubeneycfhub** and **@sebrightcentre**

R Warren



Therapy session with Nova