



Loving to learn, Learning to love.
For every child a chance to shine



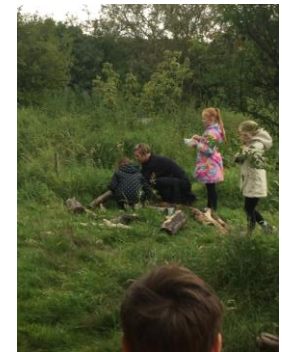
LAYSTON C of E FIRST SCHOOL
The Causeway, Buntingford, Herts. SG9 9EU
Tel: 01763 271235 Email: admin@layston.herts.sch.uk
Head teacher: Mrs Adele McMurrough

12th July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Teaching, Learning and Enrichment:

What a busy couple of weeks we have had at Layston. Last week tennis coach Matt Fellingham, delivered a tennis session for our Y3 and Y4 children. He was extremely impressed with how well the children played and especially how polite and respectful they were.



On Wednesday Y2 visited Rye Meads RSPB wetland nature reserve. The children enjoyed learning about different types of plants, they made leaf rubbings and looked at herbs. They also went on a bug hunt and found lots of mini beasts including a newt! The children were complemented on their behaviour by the staff at the nature reserve. Well done Y2!

YR children had a visit from Garg's Animal Experience. It was so exciting and they were able to see lots of unusual animals. The giant millipede was a big hit!

This week in Forest School, our children have enjoyed building dens and tasting garlic bread using garlic grown in our school allotment. Delicious!

The Y4 Leaver's service took place at St Peter's church on Tuesday. The children were amazing and exceeded our expectations yet again. We are extremely proud of them all and wish them every success for the future.

Sport:

We are thrilled to announce that Layston has been awarded the prestigious Gold School Games Award! This outstanding achievement is a testament to our school's commitment to sports and physical activity provision.

The Gold School Games Award, initiated by the Youth Sport Trust, recognises schools that excel in promoting physical education, inclusivity, competitive opportunities and fostering young leaders in sports. This honour highlights Layston's continuous efforts in ensuring our pupils have access to high-quality physical education and numerous sporting opportunities. Our school's dedication towards fostering sportsmanship, teamwork, and inclusivity has been the foundation for this recognition and was evident during our sports day. We would like to extend our gratitude to Miss Kelly, our PE lead, and dedicated sports coaches for their passion and commitment to our children. Well done!

England Euros Final:

Due to England's men's team reaching the final of the Euros we will be leaving registers open until 10 am on Monday morning. We acknowledge this is a significant sporting achievement and many of the children will want to watch the game. As it does not start until 8pm this inevitably means a late night. With the registers open until 10am (no-one will be recorded late until after 10am) we are giving parents the option to let their children have a later start. However this is your choice and school will be open to everyone at the usual time of 8:45am.





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Transition:

Thursday's transition day ran smoothly with all children having the opportunity to spend time in their new classroom with their new teacher. Anyone who was absent will be given the opportunity to spend some time with their new teacher next week. The Y4's had a great day at Edwinstree/Ralph Sadleir.

Staffing for next year:

Miss Wheatley is leaving at the end of this term. We would like to thank her for her hard work and dedication to the school and wish her all the best in her new role. We have been busy recruiting this term and have appointed Ms Lucy Keen to cover Miss Wilcox for the autumn term whilst she is still on maternity leave.

We are looking forward to the autumn term and class teachers next year will be as follows:

Y4- Mr Ben Strahan

Y3- Miss Gemma Croucher

Y2- Ms Lucy Keen - Sept -Dec, January onwards, Miss Helen Wilcox and Mrs Helen Kelly, job share

Y1- Miss Nicole Kelly

YR- Ms Susie Betley (Monday) and Mrs Amanda Stamp (Tuesday-Friday)

We have an excellent team in place for September and we all look forward to working with you and your children next year.

School lunches:

From September the price of a school lunch will increase to £3.30. Herts Catering have increased the cost of a school meal and so we have reluctantly had to pass on some of this increase to our families in order to cover the cost. We thank you for your support and understanding with this matter. The new menu will be available on the website over the holidays. Please remember to inform Herts Catering if your child has any food allergies ready for the start of term.

Y4 Leaver's Events:

Wed 17th July: Y4 Leaver's BBQ for children -3:15-5:00pm (Mr Strahan will be sending out further information).

End of term:

Your child will be bringing home their learning from this year from Friday 19th July.

A reminder that school finishes on **Tuesday 23rd July at 1:30pm**

Have a lovely weekend,
Adele McMurrough
Head teacher

