

Welcome to Year 1 at Layston Spring Term 2025



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



We thought that it would be a nice idea for the children to begin to practice learning to read and write the RWI Red words/Common Exception words. This will be done through a fun mini-spelling test! Learning spellings at home can be done in a fun and engaging way. Your child might enjoy learning their spellings from using playdough from moulding out the letters, sand tray through mark making or even doing something completely different in which they enjoy!

We will start by only learning 3 spellings after February Half-Term term then increasing up to 5 spellings later in the term. Spelling test will be taken place on a Thursday morning. Children will then be given their score and their new spellings to learn for the following week, giving them plenty of time to practice.

RWI assessments are continuing to take place every half term. Children being allocated their colour band, taking home their Ditty book to start reading. Ditty books will be collected in and changed every Monday Morning.

As always, we are here to help, and are happy to talk to you. Please recognise that, unless it is an emergency, mornings are not a great time for us to speak to you as we are trying to welcome your children and settle them safely and happily into school. If you would like to talk to us, please make an appointment via the school office or catch us at the end of the school day to make an appointment.

Curriculum:

If you look at the school website (Class Pages – Year 1 - Curriculum, you will find a detailed long term (Curriculum Map) for the learning that your child will engage in during Y1.

English this term:

In literacy we shall continue teaching phonics, we will explore traditional fairy tales writing our own stories, describing characters and exploring alternative versions. We will also think about instructional writing. Your child will be heard read regularly throughout the week through Guided Reading sessions using the RWI books. Individual books will be sent home and changed at the beginning of the week. It is important for children to re-read books to develop their fluency.

Numeracy this term:

We will be continuing to work on addition and introducing subtraction, recalling number bonds to 20, and counting forwards and backwards to 100. We will explore measuring length, weight and capacity. We will continue learning mathematical concepts in a hands-on way, using manipulatives and lots of practical learning.

Topics this term:

Forest school supports geography this term looking at human and physical features of their local area. Science explores Materials in more depth. The children will also learn about their bodies, healthy life styles and our senses. In history they will learn about their own history and that of Buntingford.

Art and Design Technology this term:

We are looking at the art work of Frida Kahlo and Pablo Picasso and draw/paint our own self-portraits. In DT we will be learning about and exploring levers and sliders to design and make books with moving parts.

RE and PSHRE this term:

During RE we will be exploring the Christian concepts of gospel, Easter and salvation. In PSHRE we shall be learning about setting goals and keeping safe with medicines, around the home and managing worries.

The Year 1 Team:

Miss Kelly (Class Teacher) will be teaching from Monday to Friday. Mrs Downs (Teaching Assistant) will be supporting from Monday to Friday.

Timetable information:

Wednesday is Forest School and the usual Forest School kit with wellies will be needed. Please ensure everything is named.

Tuesday and Friday are our PE days and again the usual kit, with trainers and joggers will be needed. Please ensure everything is named.

There will be English and maths learning every day.

General Information:

Please send your child in with a named coat each day (whatever the weather forecast), as well as a named water bottle. It is essential that all of your child's belongings are named.

Medicines:

If your child requires medication such as an inhaler or Epipen, please ensure you have spoken to the office to update their Care Plan and that the medication we have is correct and in date.

School website:

Please do check the school website for any further information. It is always helpful if you have discussed the school dinners with your child the night before so that they are sure what they want for lunch. We remind you that we are a nut free school and also expect children to bring a healthy snack for break time, such as cheese and crackers, cereal bars, fresh fruit and vegetables. Please cut grapes in half to reduce any risk of choking.

Remember we are here to help – please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries. Thank you.