

Welcome to Reception at Layston Autumn Term 2020



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



Our priority at the start of this term is to make sure that all the children are happy to come in to school, confident around the classroom and settling in well. I am so proud of how they have all managed given the circumstances! Over the next few weeks, we will be spending lots of time learning how to use the different areas of the classroom, playing games to get to know each other, and practising routines, so that our day runs smoothly.

The Reception Team:

Mrs Kelly is the Reception teacher. Mrs Price, Miss Scott and Mrs Burton are our teaching assistants.

Our curriculum

In Reception, we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This is a continuation of the curriculum that your child will have been working on at nursery/pre-school if they attended one. It covers the areas of Personal Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, Physical Development, Maths, Literacy, Expressive arts and design, and Knowledge and Understanding of the World. It also helps children to develop the Characteristics of Effective Learning (CoEL).

We work towards the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) in these curriculum areas, and at the end of Reception, we will create an Early Years Foundation Stage Profile for your child. This lets you know whether your child is meeting their Early Learning Goals, working beyond them, or continuing to work towards them. It also gives you information about how your child learns. Copies of the Early Learning Goals and Characteristics of Effective Learning are attached to this for you to have a look at.

Our day:

The EYFS is child-centred, so children have lots of time to explore their own interests within the classroom. They will also spend time in adult-led sessions, which may focus on any of the areas of the curriculum. Children will take part in some maths and phonics learning every day from week 3. The timetable and balance of the day will shift over the year, as the children grow and develop.

Phonics:

Normally we would invite you in for a meeting to introduce how we teach phonics. That won't be possible this year, so I will be making a video with information which I will share via Tapestry in the next few weeks.

Timetable information:

Forest School is on **Monday**. Children need to come to school in their Forest School uniform - they should wear school shoes to come into school and we will change into wellies at school (please do send your child in with a pair of wellies for them to keep in the classroom if they haven't already).

P.E. is on **Friday**. Children need to come to school in their P.E. kit. We will be doing P.E. outside unless the weather is too bad, so please could they wear trainers, and jogging bottoms if it is cold.

As always, please ensure everything is named!

Cooking is currently being reserved for the summer term due to the pandemic and the fact that we cannot allow volunteers into school at the present time.

Tapestry:

Tapestry is what we use to record the children's learning journeys. It allows us to make observations of their learning and link these observations to the EYFS curriculum. Hopefully you have already seen some observations for your child. The children will be learning all the time as they take part in their own choice of activities and adult-led sessions. We don't try to record all this learning! The learning journeys aim to celebrate your child's achievements in snapshots of their learning across the year.

Tapestry also allows you to contribute to your child's learning journey. If your child does something that makes you think, 'Wow!' take a picture and upload it! We would love to see it. You can also comment on your child's observations from school. At times, I may send out challenges for you to have a go at at home. If you need any help using Tapestry, log into your account, click on your name and go to Help and Tutorials.

I will also be using Tapestry to send out reminders, requests for junk modelling, challenges etc. so do please keep an eye on it. **It might be worth setting up Tapestry notifications to your phone or email if you haven't already.**

General Information:

Please send your child in with a named coat each day (whatever the weather forecast), as well as a named water bottle and a named snack. Thank you.

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