



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



LAYSTON C of E FIRST SCHOOL
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Headteacher: Mrs A McMurrough

15th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to begin by saying a big thank you to you all for supporting your child/ren at home with their learning this week. I also wanted to say how proud I am of all the children for showing determination and resilience when engaging with the home learning activities. Well done!

Teaching and Learning:

The teachers have shared with me some of the wonderful learning happening both in school and at home. This is an amazing start, keep it up! I have been overwhelmed with messages of support, gratitude and praise from parents and carers about the quality and quantity of remote learning available to all children on the website. These messages are on display in the staff room for all staff to see and staff have been touched by these lovely positive and helpful comments. Everything that we do is for the benefit of the children and so it makes it all worthwhile.

Christian Value:

Our value for this half term is 'Courage'. This is very appropriate at the current time. As a community we reflect on how we can find our inner strength and help others who are facing difficult times. Teachers supporting children and their families, and parents supporting teachers and the school - this is a strong partnership. "Courage is not the absence of fear, but the willingness to overcome that fear."
- Nelson Mandela.

Achievements:

During the autumn term 2020 our school participated in the Herts Virtual School Games events. Congratulations to our Year 4 team, Dennie, Charlie, Max, George, Mirren, Lily, O, Lizzie, Daisy, as they became the overall county winners in speed stacking. Layston has been awarded a voucher towards PE equipment. Thank you to Mr Strahan for supporting the children in this event.

Collective worship:

A reminder that collective worship videos are available on the website under Parents, Home Learning, Collective Worship.





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Covid 19:

Remember as soon as your child or any member of your household develops symptoms, they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test. Main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature (37.8 deg C or more)
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste - this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you're not sure whether symptoms suggest that they have COVID-19 or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult this online NHS symptom checker: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

If your child is attending school please do not send children in to school if any of the following apply:

- they have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)
- they, or any members of your household, have tested positive for COVID-19
- they haven't completed the full 10 day isolation period requested

Self-isolating is one of the most important things we can all do to help stop the spread of the virus and protect our loved ones and the vulnerable. You can read our helpful self-isolating guide at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/selfisolatingguide

If you or your family are affected by COVID-19 and need support locally with things like shopping, getting medication or financial advice, visit: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus

Remember if you need any support we are here to help you. Have an enjoyable weekend and stay safe.

Best wishes
Adele McMurrough
Headteacher

