



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

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It is reassuring to see that the lockdown is starting to have an impact and cases in our area are slowly starting to drop. However because of the new strains of the virus it is still crucial that we continue to follow the government guidelines and stay at home for a few more weeks. Spring is definitely on its way and the evenings are starting to get lighter.

#### Teaching and learning:

Mr Strahan, our remote learning lead, has successfully trialled a live weekly 'Catch Up' with his Y4 class. This has been very warmly received by the pupils and parents and so we plan to roll this out to the rest of the year groups over the next couple of weeks so they can catch up with their class teacher and friends. You will receive an email with details on how to access this along with your child's username and password. Mrs Betley has added a new document called 'Parental Engagement - supporting your child.' You can find this on our website under Parents, Parental Engagement. This is full of helpful tips on supporting and engaging with your child at home with their learning.

#### Parent Conferences:

A reminder for parents to sign up to your teacher/pupil/parent conference. Remember to book your slot by following the instructions in the email sent out last week and read the information leaflet on the Home Learning section of the website 'Learning Conferences 2021.'

#### Mental health and well-being:

This week is children's mental health week. Mrs Betley and I have recorded a collective worship to support this. You can find this in both the home learning zone (collective worship button) and the mental health and well-being section of the website. Please also explore the mental health and well-being section of the website for further information and videos relating to well-being as we have added new items from the Anna Freud Centre to support this week. We will be sending out a short survey for families to complete before half term so please look out for this also.

#### 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





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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](http://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](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Have an enjoyable weekend, stay safe and remember that we are here to support you.

Best wishes,

Adele McMurrough  
Headteacher

