



*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

Headteacher: Mrs A McMurrugh

24th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have planned some fabulous opportunities for learning outdoors this week as we come to the end of what has been a very different spring term. Ms Lomax has transformed the forest into an Easter Wonderland for the children to explore and nurture their spiritual development with a treat at the end. Mrs Watkins has also recorded the children performing an Easter song or poem for our Easter service. This is available on the website by clicking on Home, then Easter 2021 and then Easter Service 2021 and click on the link for your child's class. We also hope that you enjoy our spring newsletter (this will be sent out on Friday) which is packed full of photos of our children enjoying learning together again.

Reminders:

Friday is the end of the spring term and school will finish earlier than usual. The staggered finish times are as follows:

YR and Y1: 1:45pm

Y2: 1:50pm

Y3: 1:55pm

Y4: 2:00pm

Home learning folders:

A gentle reminder to check the home learning folders for our food tech homework. Please feel free to complete this over Easter and we look forward to seeing photos of the finished products.

HCC have asked us to send this reminder to our families:

Only students in year 7 and above have been asked to complete rapid testing, also known as lateral flow tests, twice a week. Secondary schools and colleges will advise how this will work. Home tests absolutely should not be carried out on children in nursery, infant or primary school. It is explicitly not recommended as part of the testing programme and we are concerned that it could hurt or cause injury to small children. If you are worried about small children or they develop symptoms, please seek advice from your GP or call 111.

Parents, carers and adults in support bubbles providing childcare are also being encouraged to take twice weekly lateral flow tests (on themselves, not children) at home. You can find your nearest collection site and order online at: www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests. You can also book a test for yourself at one of the county council's rapid test centres: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/rapidtest.

School staff will continue to test twice weekly through the holidays.





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Reporting a positive COVID test during the Easter holidays:

The email address to use to notify us of a positive Covid case during the Easter break is covid@layston.herts.sch.uk.

Covid 19: Testing during the Easter holiday period.

If your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) at any point during the Easter break, please notify us as soon as possible so we can complete the relevant tracking and tracing process with public health, if required, and notify any other children or staff who have been close contacts and who need to self-isolate. During the holidays you should contact covid@layston.herts.sch.uk Please don't call the normal absence line as this won't be covered during Easter break.

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

I would like to thank all the Layston staff for their dedication and hard work during this difficult term. We wish you all a very happy and relaxing Easter.

Best wishes,

Adele McMurrough
Headteacher

