



The Layston Newsletter



Head's desk

March 2023

We started the second half of the spring term exploring the value of Thankfulness. Christians believe that God loves and cares for them in many different in all aspects of their lives. They know their response to this provision should be one of thankfulness and praise.



Teaching and learning: The children have had a fabulous spring 2 and they have shown gratitude and thankfulness in their learning. The Y3 children have enjoyed a fabulous Romans experience earlier this week when they took part in a range of activities including designing mosaics, creating roman pendants.



Y1 enjoyed an exciting visit to Church Farm yesterday. They were buzzing with excitement when they returned to school keen to tell me all about feeding the animals!

The children demonstrated thankfulness during our Easter service at St Peter's church. Each class performed a song and our worship group wrote a prayer of thanks to God, which they read out at the end of this service

Donations



Thank you for all your generosity in raising money for charity this term and all your donations were greatly appreciated.

Notification of adjusted school hours with effect from Monday 5th June 2023

The DFE requires that all schools show their pupils have school provision for at least 32.5 hours per week. As a result, and following discussions with governors and school staff, Layston has to make a slight increase in school hours. Our adjusted hours for pupils from Year R to Year 4 will be as follows:

School gates will open at 8:45am and children will be allowed up to class. Registers will close at 9:00 and school will finish at 3:15pm.




To be clear, from **Monday 5th June** for YR-4 the school day will be formally be starting five minutes earlier than it does now and pupils arriving after 9:00 am will be marked in the register as late.

Attendance

We continue to prioritise attendance and are delighted to list all the children who have achieved 100% attendance over the Spring Term (up to 28th March).

- Reception- Eva, Ella, Rafe, Finley, Isla, Daisy, Edward & Greyson.
- Year 1 -.Maisie, Edie, Theo G & Poppy.
- Year 2 -.Ethan, Daisy, Ed, Miles, Jack, Annie D, Annie B & Rosa.
- Year 3 -.Edward, Jacob, Ella, Aleksandra, Jasmine, Olly & Taylor.
- Year 4-.Martha, Stanley, Mia G & Amelia.

Certificates have been awarded as follows:

	Golden Certificates 100% Attendance	31 total Gold
	Silver Certificates 98% Attendance	20 total Silver
	Bronze Certificates 96% Attendance	18 total Bronze

In total there are 69 awards for 96% attendance and above.

Overall percentage for children across whole school is **92%**.

Wishing all our families, a happy Easter and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 17th April.

Reception



We dressed up for World Book day and enjoyed a drama workshop linked to the book 'Weirdo' by Zadie Smith and Nick Laird.

Science week: We enjoyed a First Aid Workshop and did some science experiments in class. We made a volcano and explored how the rain forms in a cloud and the skittles experiment to make a rainbow.



We explored artwork in the style of Kandinsky and the Georgia O'Keefe we used observational drawing to draw our flowers and then explore with colour mixing and painting our flowers.

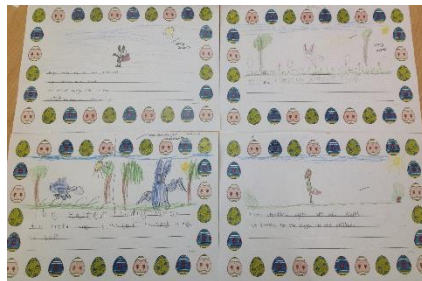
Year 1

We have had a busy term in year 1 and it has been lovely to see all the children engaged in their learning.

In Maths Year 1 have shown a great interest when learning about lengths and heights, as well as learning about Mass and Volume. Year 1 have enjoyed using cubes, Cuisenaire rods, scales and different shaped containers to support their understanding.



In English Year 1 have been working really hard on their report writing focussing on a non-fiction book of their choice. We have also spoken about the importance of healthy eating. The children have been busy planning and writing their own Easter rhyming couplets poem.



Year 1 had an exciting opportunity to take part in basic First Aid. Which they were all brilliant at! In RE the children explored different Easter symbols as well sequencing and recalling the Easter Story. They especially enjoyed eating some scrummy Hot cross buns!

Have a lovely Easter, from the Year 1 Team!



Year 2

It has been another busy half term in Year 2 and it has been lovely for the children to take part in lots of enrichment activities!



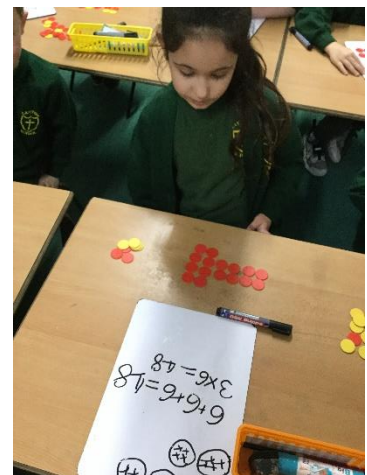
We loved celebrating World Book Day and dressing up as our favourite book characters. It was lovely to hear about the children's favourite books!



During Science week we carried out lots of experiments including making our own rainbows! We also found out about basic first aid skills in our Junior Medic Training.



In Maths, we have completed our unit on multiplication and division. We have looked at how we can use arrays to represent and work out different multiplication and division calculations.



We hope you have a lovely Easter! 😊

Year 3

Year 3 have had a wonderfully busy term with lots of great learning, and they ended this term with a bang thanks to our Romans day brought to us by History off the Page!

"Thank you so much for booking this, this has been the best day ever!" and "This has been the best day of my life!" have been some memorable quotes from the children.

They took part in lots of creative workshops, creating trinkets like scented bags and wax tablets, before taking part in a Roman march! They then celebrated their time with a theatre based workshop in the afternoon. Below is just a selection of the many photos we took. We hope that they will remember this forever!



We hope that you all have a lovely Easter!

Year 4

I know I say this every time, but it's been a busy half term! In geography, the children have been learning about Brazil, and they made salt dough maps of South America. We will paint these after Easter (they take a long time to dry out!).



In science, we've completed lots of experiments including melting chocolate, plugging holes in leaky cups and rolling cans from different heights.



We've done lots around the Easter story. We used drama to retell different parts of the story. These were filmed and edited together to make our very own Easter story video (which is on the Year 4 page on the website). The children will also be writing their own retellings of the Easter story.



The children also made awesome video book reviews on World Book Day. They filmed and edited them themselves. Year 4 parents should have received a link to these in an email.

Forest School and Outdoor Learning

Forest School

This half term we have been learning about squirrels and earthworms and tadpoles. We have also loved reading stories under the trees for World Book Day and sketching with charcoal when it was Ash Wednesday. Pancakes cooked over our fire, with just a sprinkling of sugar and a dash of lemon juice, were rather delicious. Hunting for Easter Eggs was definitely a fun and exciting end to the half term. We are pleased now to see the first signs of new growth and Spring colours appearing. Well done everyone in Forest School for showing great resilience, curiosity and energy.

