



*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
Head teacher: Mrs Adele McMurrough

10th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that all Layston children and families have had a wonderful summer break. As we start a new academic year, I would like to share some reminders in order to support your child's start to school. We loved welcoming all Layston children to school this week and were especially proud of our new reception class. As I walked around the school after drop off on the first day back, every single child was calmly engaged with their teacher. Well done parents for everything you have done to prepare them for their start/return.

Year group curriculum maps, timetables and autumn term information booklets are being finalised. You will be able to view these on the school website (Education - Class Pages) by the end of the school week.

Arrival and collection information:

Arrival	Gates will open at 8:40am. Please arrive in school on time so children can enter their classrooms at 8:45am. The entry gates will close at 8:55am and late arrivals must sign in via the office. The registration period ends at 9:00am.
Collection	Gates will open just before 3:15pm. Please arrive to collect your child at 3:15pm when school finishes. Gates will close by 3:25pm. At pick up, please wait patiently on the bottom playground, in your allocated class zone, for your child's class teacher to dismiss your child to you. This is to ensure that handovers at the end of the day are smooth and children are safe. Thank you for your patience and support with this. YR to be met at gate by Preschool. Y1 outside their classroom. Y2 by the enclosed sand play area. Y3 by the bike shelter. Y4 by the side of the demountable.

Any child arriving after 9:00am but before 9:30am will be marked as late. Our attendance policy can be viewed on the school website <https://www.layston.herts.sch.uk/key-information/#attendance>

Year group Forest School and PE times are below and available on the calendar on the school website <https://www.layston.herts.sch.uk/useful-information/school-calendar/>

Year group	Forest School Day	PE days
Y4	Wednesday	Tuesday and Friday
Y3	Tuesday	Wednesday and Thursday
Y2	Tuesday	Wednesday and Thursday
Y1	Wednesday	Tuesday and Friday
YR	Monday	Thursday and Friday



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Uniform:

Children should wear uniform including black school shoes on days when your child does not have PE or Forest School, unless there are extenuating circumstances. <https://www.layston.herts.sch.uk/useful-information/uniform/> All uniform and equipment must be named. All long hair should be tied back and please keep hair accessories simple, small and in line with our uniform policy.

What will my child need in school?

Your child will need:

- Water in a water bottle
- A healthy snack, remember we are a nut free school
- Coat
- Sun hat, weather dependent
- Forest School and PE kit, this can be worn into school instead of uniform on relevant days. Please include joggers in cooler weather because most PE sessions will be outdoors.
- A small school bag, including a change of clothing for younger children

School meals:

The menu choices are available on our website <https://www.layston.herts.sch.uk/useful-information/lunch-menu/> Please discuss this with your child the day before to check they are happy with the options. Children can also bring in their own healthy packed lunch. At Layston, we promote healthy lifestyles. With this in mind, we ask for your support in encouraging your child to eat healthily and if supplying them with a home packed lunch or snack, that the food items are healthy. **Please note that we are a 'nut-free' school.** All children should bring a suitable bottle of water into school every day which they can re-fill. Please view our website for school lunch options.

Economic support:

Please view this area of the website. <https://www.layston.herts.sch.uk/economic-support/>

Volunteers in school:

We are delighted to invite you into school to volunteer with either reading, Forest School and/or cookery. If you would like to volunteer in school please can you register your interest by emailing the school office as soon as possible admin@layston.herts.sch.uk An induction meeting for parent volunteers will take place on Wednesday 1st October at 9:00am.

Dates for diaries

Here are a few key dates for the first half of the autumn term. We will update you as and when additional dates are added with regard to school visits, visitors in school and FOLs fundraising events.

Meet the teacher	Week beginning 15 th September at 2:45-3:00pm Y1 15.9.24 YR 19.9.24 Y3 16.9.24 Y4 18.9.24 Y2 17.9.24
Individual children's photos	Thursday 18 th September
Y4 Anglo Saxon Workshop	Monday 29 th September
Reading/Phonics meeting for YR parents	Tuesday 23 rd September 9:00-9:30am
Parent Volunteers Meeting	Wednesday 1 st October 9:00-9:30am
Harvest Festival	Tuesday 7 th October 9:30am St Peter's Church
Black History Month African Dance	Wednesday 8 th October - all day



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World Mental Health Day	Friday 10 th October
Flu Immunisation	Tuesday 14 th October
Open morning for prospective parents for Reception intake next year.	Wednesday 15 th October 9:30-10:00am
Parent Consultations	Monday 20 th & Wednesday 22 nd October 3:30-6:30pm
Dental talk YR	Friday 24 th October

Teachers will be updating you on any trips and enrichment during the autumn term. RTYFC will continue to run after school clubs at Layston. Please see their website for booking details.

<https://roystontownfc.ktckts.com/brand/after-school>

If you have any questions or require any support please contact your child's class teacher via the school office email address: admin@layston.herts.sch.uk address. For any SEND or mental health queries please contact Mrs Rolt DRolt@layston.herts.sch.uk

Layston staff are all very much looking forward to working with you all again.

Best wishes,

Adele McMurrough
Headteacher