



*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

9th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Spirituality:

This week in Forest School the children have been harvesting our potatoes! We continue to notice signs of autumn.



Teaching & Learning:

As October is Black History Month, we had an African Drumming Workshop for the whole school on 08.10.24 to support our celebration of Black History. On World Mental Health Day, children and staff wore yellow. They considered how they can contribute towards their own positive mental health and let their light shine.



Harvest Festival:



Last week, the worship group children made a Harvest sheaf with Reverend Kirsty. The children made a beautiful bread image of corn, bound with a plait, complete with a tiny harvest mouse. The corn represents the harvest provided by God's world. The mouse reminds us that we share this world and its resources with other creatures. The plait represents being held together by God's love.

The children were wonderful both in their performances and as an audience at the Harvest Festival, in our school hall, especially our youngest YR children. Choir and recorder groups were equally brilliant! Well done to all our Layston

children.

Harvest food collection:

Thank you all for your kind donations. Mr Harwood has been in touch with Buntingford Food Support for the food to be collected and distributed.



FOLS: A reminder that FOLS are organising Y2 fundraiser sweet stall, Tuesday 14th October, after school in the playground.

Parents' Consultations:

Parent consultations are scheduled for Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd October at 3:30pm-6:00pm. Please arrive at the school office entrance just before your allotted 10 minute timed slot so that we avoid over-crowding in the hall. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



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Arbor:

Please use the link below to access the Parent Introduction Guide to using Arbor when accessing for the first time. In addition, if you are unsure of your login details, please click on the forgotten password section of the site, to which you will be emailed your password.

<https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/212097029-A-quick-introduction-to-Arbor-for-guardians-and-parents>

School attendance:

Fri 26th- Thur 2nd Oct

YR 98%

Y1 85%

Y2 99.3%

Y3 98%

Y4 99.2%

Well done to Year 2 for winning the attendance bus two weeks in a row.

At Layston, we want our children to feel safe, happy and enjoy coming to school. Our attendance target is 96% but we are always aiming for 100%.

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.

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 3:30-6:00pm
FOLS School Disco	Friday 17 th October 5:30-7:00pm
Dental talk YR	Friday 24 th October

Best wishes.

Adele McMurrough
Headteacher