



*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

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Headteacher: Mrs A McMurrough

Dear Parents and Carers,

Celebrating Spirituality:

Highlights from last week:

Our Reception children collected sticks which they made into a tree. They learnt a poem about trees and many of our children identified their favourite trees. Our older children used their knowledge of overhand knots to make twine. Well done!

Celebrating Teaching, Learning and Enrichment:

Teaching and Learning:

It has been another busy week of learning at Layston. We had a visit from Anne Gorolini, our School Education Advisor. She did a learning walk with myself and Mrs Donna Rolt, our SENCO. She commented upon the strong culture of safeguarding around school which was demonstrated by all staff. She was also impressed by the level of engagement of the children during their morning phonics sessions. She was very impressed by the high expectations of staff and the behaviour of the children at Layston. Well done to all!

Celebrating Attendance:

Attendance: 1/12/25-5/12/25

YR 95.63%

Y1 92.31%

Y2 71.55%

Y3 98.86%

Y4 93.52%

Very well done to our Y3 class who had the highest attendance.

Celebrating enrichment and parental engagement:

Christmas post box:

The Christmas post box is now out in the hall. Children will be able to post Christmas cards to their friends across the school. Please remember to write the full name of the child on the envelope and the class so that the Y4 children can deliver these to the correct children!

Christmas Jumper/ Dinner day:

On **Wednesday 17th** December, children are welcome to come to school wearing their Christmas jumpers or outfits, however this is optional. On this day we will be having our Christmas Lunch please remember there will be no cold option.



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Open afternoon:

On **Wednesday the 17th** at 2:15pm we would like to invite our parents into school to share their child's learning this half term. Parents can take their children home afterwards.

Highlighting 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.

YR Christmas Nativity	Tuesday 16 th December at St Peter's Church at 9:30
Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day	Wednesday 17 th Dec
End of term	Friday 19 th Dec 1:30pm
Open Morning for prospective YR starting Autumn 2026	Wednesday 7 th January 2026 09:30

Christmas production

A huge well done to Years 1-4 for their fabulous performances of Olivia on Wednesday and Thursday afternoon this week. They were confident and shone brightly and are now looking forward to the finale this evening! A massive thanks to all the staff who have worked tirelessly to enable our Christmas production, especially Mr Harwood and Mrs Scarrott.

Reception Nativity:

Reception children will be performing the Nativity at St Peter's Church for their Christmas performance on **Tuesday 16th December at 9:30**. Parents of reception children, please see separate email for more information.

A reminder that we are holding an Open Morning for prospective YR starting in Autumn 2026. This will be on **Wednesday 7th January 2026 at 09:30** in the School Hall.

Also attached are some flyers for various extra-curricular clubs for you to peruse.

End of term:

School will finish at 1:30 on Friday the 19th December.

Adele McMurrough

Headteacher