



*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 McMurrough

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back to the spring term 2026.

Celebrating Spirituality:

We had a visit from Reverend Norman today and he delivered a collective worship around Epiphany. Epiphany is a time when we remember the Wise Men who followed the star to find something very special. They didn't know exactly where their journey would take them, but they were willing to learn, listen and keep going. This story links really closely with our value this term of Wisdom. Wisdom is knowing lots of facts - it's all about making good choices, being kind and learning from what we see and experience. We will help our children grow in wisdom and encourage them to ask questions and to reflect on how their actions affect others.

Celebrating Teaching, Learning and Enrichment:

Teaching and Learning:

It has been a lovely start to the new spring term. I have noticed how polite the children are when dealing with others, holding doors open and waiting patiently for them to get to the doors. The children have been so thoughtful and considerate by asking their friends and teachers if they have had a nice Christmas and wishing them a Happy New Year! I am super proud of them all, they are a credit to you.

Cold weather:

Winter has arrived! As temperatures have dropped please ensure your child has appropriate layers and footwear, a school coat, hat and gloves, all named.

Snow procedures:

A reminder of our snow procedures

We will post on our website and Facebook, send a parent email via Arbor and notify the Hertfordshire information services if we are closing the school. This decision will be made in conjunction with the local Headteachers in Buntingford.

If snow is heavy overnight and leads to a closure the next morning, we will ensure that we send an email to parents via Arbor email, the website and Facebook are updated by 8:00am at the latest.

If a closure decision is made during the day, we will notify parents via Arbor email and post on our website and Facebook. We will also publish a time for pupil collection.

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.



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Prospective reception Parents Open Morning	Wednesday 7 th January at 9:30
Freman Big Band visit	Monday 12 th January 11:20
Rocks and Soils Workshop Y3	Friday 16 th January

Remember to link the school calendar directly on your phone so you can receive all the latest calendar dates and enrichment events for the coming term.

<https://www.layston.herts.sch.uk/useful-information/school-calendar/>

Allergies:

Another reminder as we start the spring term that we are a nut free school please make sure you are not sending your child in with any nuts or bars that contain nuts (please check the ingredients).

Adele McMurrough
Headteacher