

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

11th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Spiritual Development:

The meadow in the Layston Forest School is loving the mixture of sunshine and showers this week with many beautiful ox-eye daisies growing. Pupils have been learning about sustainability and how we can play sustainable games in the Forest. There have been some wonderful creative ideas. Instead of egg and spoon, we've had leaf and cherry races!



Curriculum and teaching:

I have been so impressed this week by the progress and the effort made by all the Y1 and some of our Y2 children during the phonics screening check this week - well done to you all!

On Monday 8th June, Year 4 enjoyed our Ancient Egyptian day. Some of us dressed up, a few were mummified. We considered what we could learn from images, including the true and false parts shown. We learnt how to read and write with hieroglyphics, solving hidden messages and recording our names. The whole class loved learning about the embalming process, especially removing internal organs. We finished by learning about the Great Pyramids. We learnt about their structure, condense and investigated a mystery around them.



On Thursday, Year 2 had a visit from Rabbi Irit Shillor from the Harlow Jewish Community. This was part of our RE learning about Judaism. She brought items from her Synagogue to share with us, and answered lots and lots of questions about Judaism and her life as a Rabbi. She even taught as a Jewish song sung at Shabbat. It was a fantastic opportunity for Year 2 to learn about a faith community and to see items used in Jewish worship.

Last Friday, some of our Year 2 children enjoyed a fantastic Athletics Festival at St Edmund's. The pupils took part in a range of track and field events, demonstrating great enthusiasm, determination, and teamwork throughout the day. It was wonderful to see everyone trying their best, encouraging one another, and having lots of fun while developing their athletic skills. Well done to all the children for their excellent effort and positive attitude, Miss Croucher was very impressed!



Kindness Shout-Out of the Week

- **Ava** in Y1 for looking after friends at break and lunch times.
- **Sadie** in Reception for always including friends in her games.
- **George** in Reception for being a kind friend.

Well done to all three pupils for being such positive role models and helping to make our school a kind and supportive place.



Loving to learn, Learning to love.
For every child a chance to shine



Sports day:

Sports day will take place on the morning of Friday 19th June. The reserve sports day will be on the morning of Friday 26th June. We will aim to start at 9:30am and look forward to welcoming as many parents as possible to the school field so that you can support and cheer on your child/ren. Access to the top field will be through the car park gates which will be open from 9:15am.

Fundraising:

Non Uniform Day: Thurs 18th June

A reminder that we are holding a non-uniform day to raise funds towards the reopening of the Ward Freman Swimming Pool. To date they have raised £255,775 towards the first target of £300,000, however, as I'm sure you are aware, predicted costs keep increasing with inflation and a few new issues have emerged, such as the need for a dedicated mains water supply, so our fundraising continues. We ask that families donate through their Crowd funder account [Ward Freman Community Pool Group - a Sports crowdfunding project in Buntingford by Ward Freman Community Pool Group](#) Please do not bring your donation into school, instead, donate directly on their crowd fund account. Thank you!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Diary dates:

Girls Football club	Y3 & 4, every Monday at 3:15-4:00pm
Tag Rugby club	Y3 & 4, Tuesday lunchtimes
Choir	All year groups, Monday lunchtimes
Non uniform day - raising funds for Ward Freman Swimming Pool	18 th June
Sports day	19 th June 9:30-11:30 (Reserve 26 th June)
2026-27 new mixed YR/Y1 parent information update	30 th June 9:00-9:30
Y1 Shepreth trip	2 nd July
Reports out	6 th July
Transition Day	9 th July - Year 4 to Edwinstree, YrR-3 Transition morning.
Summer Fayre	10 th July
Open afternoon	17 th July
Leavers service at St Peters	Thursday 16 th July TBC
Y4 Leavers BBQ 15:15-16:30	21 st July
End of term - finish at 1:30pm	23 rd July

Best wishes,
Adele McMurrugh
Head teacher

