

“Learning Together, Learning for Life”

The Owl - May 2024

Cultural Celebration

We had some very proud children, taking on a very important role of expert tour guides of countries they have strong links with.

All of the children loved taking off around the school and landing in Poland, Germany, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey and Russia. The children found out where in the world they were and got a flavour of some of the music, language, dance, food and traditions.

Parents and carers have told me how much their children enjoyed the day. A great indicator of this is how much knowledge they took home to share. From what the children have told me, the food and dance were firm favourites!

As with all of our events, a huge amount of planning and organisation is needed to make them successful. Huge thanks to the staff members who piloted the groups to the countries and to our parents and carers who shared their knowledge of the places visited.



DIARY DATES

June 2024

- 3rd INSET Day (School closed to pupils)
- 5th Coffee and Catch up Layton Class parents 2.30pm
- 10th Money Week (more details to follow)
- 10th Reduce, Reuse, Recycle assembly and workshop (fully funded)
- 12th Coffee and Catch up Bysouth Class parents 2.30pm
- 17th June Community Safety event hosted by Reed First School
- 20th Jackson Class trip
- 22nd Strawberry Tea FoRS in partnership with St Mary's church, Reed
- 26th Coffee and Catch up Jackson Class parents 2.30pm
- 28th Bysouth and Reception pupil trip

July 2024

- 3rd Science Fair at KJAR for Layton Class
- 4th Summer Performance 2pm
- 5th Summer Performance 2pm
- 10th Community tea party for residents of Reed (Layton Class)
- 11th Herts Transition Day, school moving on day
- 12th Open afternoon (All families welcome to be shown the school and learning by the children.)
- 16th Sports Day 11am
- 19th End of term 2pm finish for pupils

September 2024

- 2nd INSET day (school closed to pupils)
- 3rd Term starts for pupils

School Development

As you know, we are always looking for ways to ensure we offer the best experience and education we can for all of our children. Being a small school means that there is no less to do compared to larger settings but that the team invariably have to wear multiple hats. We have the most wonderful team of staff at Reed who I am sure you will agree, often go the extra mile. An example of this is the development of our Forest School Base camp. Mrs Arnott and I have spent most of the day today digging, carrying and pruning. We look forward to the area continuing to evolve. Thankfully there was a digger to hand which made creating our pond space much easier! Huge thanks to the Arnott and Mudd family.



While I endeavour to recognise our progress and success as much as I can, it is always nice to have this confirmed. Our Herts School Effectiveness Advisor had the following to say after her visit to us this month:

The school continues to go from strength to strength. The curriculum is broad, balanced, ambitious and designed to give all pupils, particularly pupils in receipt of the pupil premium grant and pupils on the SEND register, the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life. It is coherently planned and sequenced towards cumulatively sufficient knowledge and skills for future learning and employment.

Teachers have good subject knowledge and present subject matter clearly. They check pupils' understanding systematically, identify misconceptions accurately and provide clear, direct feedback. Teaching is designed to help pupils to remember long term the content they have been taught and to integrate new knowledge into larger ideas.

Leadership is strong and leaders have high expectations. Leaders ensure that systems and procedures are in place for pupils to catch up quickly if they fall behind in their learning.

AN INSPIRATIONAL VISIT

We were so excited when we discovered that our GB athlete coming to visit us was Commonwealth bronze medallist Saffron Severn!

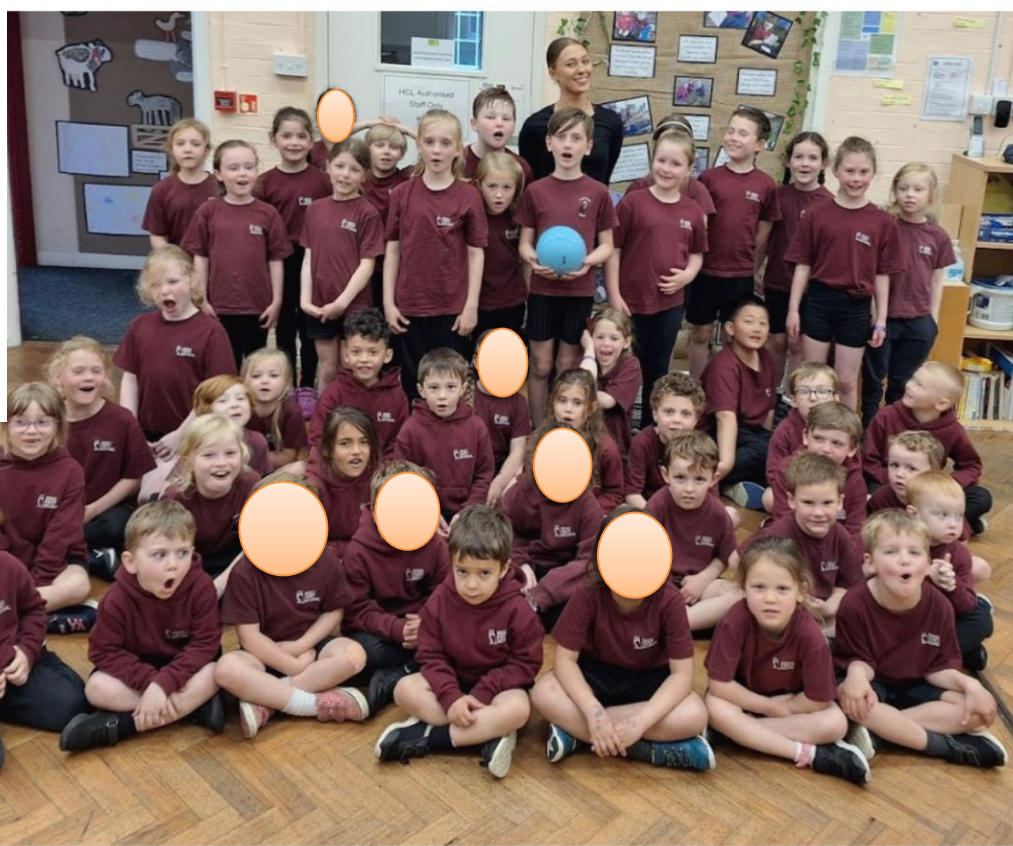
The children were so committed in mastering spotty dogs, leg drives, push ups and star jumps before the big day and in some cases have continued afterwards!

Saffron was very impressed by the children's skills and determination to complete each exercise circuit.

I was very impressed by Layton Class who took part for longer than expected by helping our younger

children. Saffron's story has really helped to demonstrate our values of aspiration and resilience. The children were quick to recognise our values in her life, where her dream of competing at the Commonwealth Games was not always certain.

Many thanks to our children who have been looking for sponsors for our event and recognised the part they can play in helping other athletes like Saffron reach their goals. Money raised will support athletes for Great Britain but also potential future athletes at Reed First School. Once we have discovered how much has been raised, a percentage of this will come back to the school and I will be asking the children about equipment to purchase to continue to give a high priority to physical education.



KINGSWOOD 2024

Any visit, event or trip we organise, always has clear objectives. Layton Class certainly met theirs in Norfolk! Hopefully the photographs show how we were able to tick them all off!

We look forward to meeting more objectives with our next trips to Southend and the farm!

1. To develop resilience
2. To cope away from home
3. To work as a team
4. To develop stamina



And finally... Maths open sessions

Everyone who came to our open maths sessions this month, found them very useful. Use of practical resources have helped parents and carers understand how to transfer what is being taught at school to home including: talking sticks and hic-ups! Being able to see progression between classes was identified as being very useful too. Those that attended are keen to have more, including master class sessions on written methods. These will be taking place in the autumn term.

