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“Learning Together, Learning for Life”

Aspiration

Independence

Resilience

Respect

Welcome to Layton Class Curriculum Letter

Autumn Term 2025

Teacher: Miss Walsh

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Mrs Wittich will teach the class P.E., with the addition of French on a Thursday. Miss Wilson will take the class for Forest School on Fridays.

Welcome to Layton Class! I hope that you have all had a wonderful, fun-filled, but relaxing summer break! It has been lovely to welcome you all back to school and start to get to know all of the children and families! I'm truly looking forward to the year ahead and all the fun, learning and adventures we get up to!

Please find below details of our curriculum for this half term.

We will be actively trying to demonstrate our values of:

Independence by selecting our own resources in and around the classroom to help us learn in the way that suits us best.

Respect by following the daily routines of the class and school, being kind, polite and helpful to one another, and building effective working relationships with each other.

Aspiration by encouraging each other to take risks and challenge ourselves to reach our goals.

Resilience by reflecting on our learning and choices, developing a growth mindset and using our mistakes as learning opportunities.

English

In writing, we will start the term, by looking at story settings. We will do this through books such as, “The Stone age boy” and “Stig of the dump”. We will also look at non-chronological reports and free-verse poetry.

Reading: As it is such a vital part of your child's home learning, they should be reading at home every day. When they are reading, please focus on developing fluency. In their home school communication book, you will find a sticker explaining the skills that they should be working on as part of reading at home. To read the book and work on the skills, the book will need to be kept for at least two days. It is very good practice to read shorter books three times. First to decipher new words and meanings; then to check for comprehension and, finally, to read fluently and with expression. Comments on their reading and skills should be recorded every day in the Home School Communication book. Children are welcome to take home one of the books we have looked at in our assemblies to read. They will need to discuss this with Mrs Wittich and return the book to her once it has been read.

The children will also bring a library book home with them. Our library session is on **Thursdays** and children have free choice from a wide range of books. Books can be

kept until finished, there is no pressure to change every week, but please remember to return the book in order to be able to choose another one.

Spelling: Spellings will be given out every **Friday** and tested the following **Friday**. Spellings will consist of 3 words from the year 3 / 4 statutory list. These words will come home. There will also be no more than 5 words focussing on a specific 'rule' that we are working on in our spelling lessons. These are not specific words to learn, but rather a rule to work on and apply. Weekly spelling words will be sent home in the Home School Communication books. Children working in Mrs Wittich's spelling group will also have tricky words to learn and you will be told about the focus of the week's spellings each Friday and there will then be a quiz the following Friday. Remember for all of the children, the only words you know will be in the quiz are the tricky statutory words, the rest will be unknown but check to see if your child can apply what they have learnt.

Maths:

The main focus this term will be on Place Value, and Addition and Subtraction. Moving on to multiplication and division and then measurement.

Times Tables: By the end of Year 4, the children should know all of their times tables up to 12x12 and related division facts; we work on these as a class throughout the year. In June, the Year 4s will be completing their Multiplication Tables Check. Please ensure your child learns their times tables and does a little work on TT Rockstars every day. Any Mathematics or Purple Mash activities will be recorded in the Home School Communication book. Parents are expected to sign the stickers to show completion of tasks. These activities will be updated each **Friday**.

Science

This term in science we will be looking at states of matter and forces. The children will learn about solids, liquids and gases, observing that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled. They will also compare how things move on different surfaces and observe and discuss magnetic forces. The children will learn key scientific skills such as how to compare, predict and observe.

History

For the first half-term our learning will be centred around the Stone Age. We will learn about changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age, and will use the archaeological site of Skara Brae to help us learn about life in the Stone Age.

Geography

In the second half-term we will be looking at mountains. We will learn what a mountain is and how they are formed, as well as look at some famous mountains from around the globe.

Art

We will be looking at Art as evidence. Through a study of Stone Age art, we will share knowledge of the culture of life in the past including simulating techniques used. We will practice the elements of line, shape, colour and texture and use the mediums of drawing, painting, printing and collage.

DT

We will be turning a 2-D into a 3-D product, through the topic of textiles. We will be develop our own ideas, choose our own fabrics and fastenings based on their properties and use a range of stitches and decorative techniques.

Computing:

We will be using the Chromebooks and Purple Mash in our computing lessons. This term, our units are electronic communication and modelling and simulations. We will look at internet safety and understand what simulations are.

The children will also have a chance to use Chromebooks in other subject areas, for example to undertake research.

PE:

The children will be working on skills needed to apply to a number of sports. These will include the ability to change direction, adapt speeds and develop control and balance. Once we have secured these will be be bac on the rugby pitch for tag-rugby.

We will also be developing our posture, balance and control in our second lesson of yoga.

PE lessons will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Children need to have their PE kit in school every day. If your child wears earrings, they should either be covered with surgical tape which you should provide or not worn on PE days. Please remember kit should include black shorts all year round for indoor PE even when the weather is colder.

PSHE:

Our Jigsaw theme this half term is: Being Me in My World. This will focus on being part of a class team; rights, responsibilities and democracy; rewards and consequences; and group decision-making.

R.E:

This year, we will be learning about religious beliefs and practises within Christianity and Sikhism.

Music:

Our Music unit this half-term is, let your spirit fly, where the children will be learning about the genre of R&B including songs and artists within that genre. They will also learn to, sing in unison and in simple two-parts, have an awareness of the pulse internally when singing, and play instrumental parts accurately and in time, as part of the performance.

French:

In French we will be learning about the country of France while we learn some of the language by studying phonics, topic words and phrases. Topics will include: greetings and animal names.

Forest School:

This outdoor learning will take place on Friday with Miss Wilson. Please ensure that children come to school dressed in their PE kit. We will be outside whatever the weather, so waterproofs come the time are essential!

Talk Time:

Talk Time is aimed to support the children in building the skills and confidence to talk to an audience. Every term, the children will prepare a 5-minute presentation at home related to Topic to give to the rest of the class. Our Topic this half-term is The Stone Age and next half-term mountains. Children can use resources such as pictures or Google slides to support their presentation. There will then be a chance for the audience (the rest of the class) to ask questions and then feedback on the presentations they see. The dates the children will be taking part in Talk Time this term are:

22nd September: Max and Lacey.

29th September: Su and Frankie.

6TH October: Nathaniel and Blake.

13th October: Livvy and Pearl.

20th October: Mia H and Pearl.

10th November: Ben and Elodie.

17th November: Mia O and Leo.

24th November: Esme and Edward.

1st December: Scarlett and Sebastian.

8th December: Finley and Poppy.

Additional information:

It is important that your child has a named water bottle in school every day. This will need to be taken home at the end of the day, washed and refilled. All children should have a pair of wellington boots which can be kept in school in the class boot box outside.

School uniform: Please ensure you name all items of clothing (including footwear) clearly. Any earrings should be small plain studs. Please make sure hair accessories, socks and tights are in line with our expected uniform.

Home learning: Please check Google classroom regularly for announcements and home learning. Instructions around home learning will continue to be explained in the Home School Communication book. This book should be used and tasks completed, signed and commented on five times a week. We will monitor the home learning completed and use your comments to help assess progress.

There will be a chance to discuss any questions you might have on Tuesday 9th September at 2:45pm in Layton classroom. If you cannot make the meeting in person, you can join via your child's Google account. If you need to talk with me at all, please write a message in the Home School Communication book, arrange a meeting, or send an email to j.walsh@reed.herts.sch.uk Please note that emails may not get a response straight away, and any emails sent in the evenings and over a weekend/holiday may not be answered until the next school day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely, Miss Walsh (Layton Class teacher)