



“Learning Together, Learning for Life”

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Aspiration

Independence

Resilience

Respect

## **Welcome to The Layton Curriculum Letter** **Spring Term 2025**

Teacher: Mrs Dear

On Tuesdays, Mrs Wittich will teach the class PE. Mrs Wittich will also teach P.E. and French on Thursdays. Miss Wilson will be teaching the class on Fridays during Forest School sessions.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas with family, friends and a well-earned rest. Our first week has flown by, full of panto-themed learning, and we are looking forward a busy spring term.

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:** Our lessons start with lots of writing focusing on the story Cinderella. We are using persuasive vocabulary to write blurbs to go on the back of the fairy tale book, and theatre reviews which give carefully considered opinions with reasons. Cinderella must go to the ball, so we spent an interesting afternoon making bases for her coach, sturdy enough to take the weight of a pumpkin (or a stand-in box!). A tricky, but not impossible, task when you are only given some sheets of paper and a little tape. Lots of important skills were worked on in this lesson, including maths, listening, communication, reasoning and resilience. The children have already written their own versions of the story and, having read The Egyptian Cinderella, will be designing an Egyptian style crown for her to wear when she marries the prince.

Our next focus will be on writing recounts. We will be linking this to our new science topic, and writing newspaper articles based on real events.

**Reading:** Children will be reading regularly at school. As an important part of your child's home learning, they **should be reading at home every day**. The children should be reading with or to an adult. When they are reading, please make use of the activities and questions in the covers of the book. It is often very helpful to read shorter books three times. Once to unpick new vocabulary, again to build understanding of the text with fluency and expression and a third time for easy enjoyment. Comments on their reading and skills should be recorded every day in the Home School Communication book. Comments are used as part of my reading assessment for each child.

The children will also be bringing a library book home with them, the children will be changing their library books every Tuesday. This will be a book of their choice to enjoy at home. Please remember to return the book in order to be able to choose another one.

**Library books should come to school every Tuesday.** They do not have to be changed, but will be read in our library time.

**Spelling:** Spellings will be given to the children every Friday and tested the following Friday.

Spellings will either be focussed on a specific 'rule' or on a set of statutory words. **Weekly spelling words will be sent home in the Home School Communication books.**

**Maths:** In maths, we will be learning about multiplication and division, before moving onto measurement, using length and perimeter.

**Times Tables:** These are a vital part of our maths learning and we will have a weekly lesson dedicated to spotting pattern and using helpful strategies. Daily times tables homework in the form of games, songs and / or TT Rockstars will help children to become quick and confident.

**Science:** This half term, our Science topic is *Light*. We will be learning about the light and dark, shadows and reflections.

**Topic (History):** We will continue our learning on Egyptians.

**DT:** We will be exploring shell structures and making boxes.

**Computing:** We will start our learning this term with a moon landing lesson, using algorithms to plot a route for our space bot. We will then move onto branching databases, sorting objects using yes / no questions to create a binary tree.

**PE:** On Tuesdays, the children will be working on their fitness. On Thursdays, the children will be working on their golf skills. **Please ensure your child has the correct clothing and footwear for PE, please also ensure these are labelled.**

**If your child has earrings, you will need to either provide medical tape** to cover them or if possible come to school on PE days without earrings. This is part of the expected health and safety procedures of primary PE requirements.

**PSHE:** Our next two Jigsaw topics for this term are: Dreams and Goals and Healthy Me. Year Three will be having their Jigsaw lessons with Mrs Dear and Year Four with Mrs Wittich

**R.E:** In RE this year, we will be focusing on two religions which are Christianity and Sikhism.

**Music:** In Music, we will be doing units on rap and soul, using music by artists such as Will Smith, Bill Withers and Gospel choirs. We will be creating our own raps and composing simple melodies.

**Modern Foreign Language:** In French lessons, the children will be learning French Phonics: ch (sh), ou (oo), on, oi (wa), i (ee), in, ique (eek), ille. We will also Learn how to use key greetings, as well as ask and answer the question 'how are you? Ask and answer the question 'what is your name?', recognise, recall and spell numbers 1-10, recall and spell to 10. We will also be learning how to describe the weather in French and to read a well-known traditional story in French.

**Forest School:** Our Forest School sessions will take place every Friday. Please ensure that children come to school dressed in their PE kit. Please also ensure your child has their wellington boots and a waterproof coat (with a hood) in school.

**Talk Time:** Talk Time is a session in our school, 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. The presentation topic this term will be Egyptians. The children can use resources such as pictures, objects 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. I look forward to listening to all of your talk times! The dates the children will be taking part in Talk Time this term are:

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January: Ruby  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January: Grace and Nathaniel

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February: Piotr  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February: Edith and Henry

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February: Danté  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February: George and Isla

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February: Livvy  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February: Millie and Isabel

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: Mia  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March: Immy and Lily

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March: Blake  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March: Max and Pearl

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March: Frankie  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March: Lacey and Su

### **Reminders:**

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.

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

**Please ensure your child has their full PE kit in school each week.**

**Home learning: Please check the Google classroom and stream regularly for announcements and home learning. Please also comment on posts uploaded. 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.**

If you need to contact me at all, please write a message in the Home School Communication book, arrange a meeting via the office, or send an email to [d.dear@reed.herts.sch.uk](mailto:d.dear@reed.herts.sch.uk). Of course, I will also be on the playground each morning and afternoon. 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.

If you wish to come into class after school to look at your child's learning, then please feel free to email me or talk to me in person. Please let me know beforehand due to after school commitments.

Thank you for your continued support. I am looking forward to an exciting term!

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Dear

*Layton Class Teacher*