



“Learning Together, Learning for Life”

Jackson's Lane,
Reed,
Royston,
Herts SG8 8AB
Tel: 01763 848304
admin@reed.herts.sch.uk

Aspiration

Independence

Resilience

Respect

Welcome to The Layton Curriculum Letter **Spring Term 2024**

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. We have had a wonderful first week, and are looking forward to the term ahead.

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 Jack and the Beanstalk. We are using persuasive vocabulary to convince people that either Jack, or the giant, are the cause of all the problems. The children are writing their own versions of the story by changing the setting and some of the characters that Jack meets. They are even designing their own book covers and writing catchy blurbs to inspire potential readers.

Our next focus will be on writing instructions. We will be using the book, *Until I met Dudley*, about a very intelligent dog who explains how household machines *really* work. We will use Dudley's advice to help us design our own machines and write the instructions needed to make them work.

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 Wednesday. 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.

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 remain a vital part of our maths learning and we 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 *Plants*. We will be learning about the different parts of a plant, their functions, and what a plant needs to grow.

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

Art/DT: We will be exploring tints and shades, using pencils and paints to create depth a 3D quality to our drawings of Corinthian pillars.

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 developing their football skills and on Thursdays, we will be developing our floor work in gymnastics. **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 a reggae unit, using the Bob Marley classic 'Three little birds'. We will explore elements of music and appraise a selection of reggae songs.

Forest School: Our Forest School sessions will usually 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 will be on our current or geography topic. 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:

Tuesday 6th February: Hanna
Wednesday 7th February: Isabelle K

Tuesday 12th February: Dilan
Wednesday 13th February: Jesse

Tuesday 27th February: Piotr
Wednesday 28th February: Danté

Tuesday 5th March: Grace
Wednesday 6th March: Ruby

Tuesday 12th March: Edith
Wednesday 13th March: Henry

Tuesday 19th March: George and Isla
Wednesday 20th March: Millie

Tuesday 26th March: Immy and Lily
Wednesday 27th March: Isabel B

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. 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