

## **Layton Class Letter** **Summer Term 2025**

Teacher: Mrs Dear

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break. We are already diving in to our new term, with lots of interesting things to look forward to.

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

We will be actively trying to demonstrate our values of:

**Independence** by using the working walls and resources in and around the classroom to help us produce our best work and fulfil our learning objectives.

**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 supporting and 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 have been following the adventures of Beowulf as he travels to Denmark to rid them of the fearsome beast Grendel. We have used our senses to write setting descriptions for Heorot, the great Mead Hall, and Grendel's terrifying lair. We are now reading Arthur and the Golden Rope, comparing our two protagonists and asking, what really makes a hero? We will be using persuasive language as Arthur takes on his own quest, and writing a diary to help us understand his decision. The children will hear about Arthur's ancestors, whose artifacts are in the Brownstone family vault, before writing their own myth based on a historic relic.

Our writing all links to our history work on Anglo Saxons and Vikings, and our poetry topic will include writing Kennings, as tributes to a brave Anglo-Saxon King.

*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.

**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 fractions, money, time and decimals, as well as devoting time to building confident recall of times tables. These lessons support children to spot patterns and choose the most appropriate and 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 *Rocks*. We will be learning about the physical properties of rocks, soil and how fossils are formed. Our last topic this year will be Animals including humans.

**Topic (History):** We will continue our learning on Anglo-Saxons, leading into the Vikings.

**Topic (Geography)** Our next topic this term will be 'Our local area'. We are also covering the topic of Rivers in our morning geography sessions.

**Art:** We will be exploring mark making and shape by drawing arms, linked to our work on Beowulf, as well as using tints and washes to draw and paint rivers.

**DT:** Our DT food topic will be linked to our Summer Community Tea Party and, as we finish our shell structures, we will move on to exploring mechanical structures.

**Computing:** We will start our learning this term by exploring sound and music to create our own podcasts. We will then move on to look at handling information using data bases and graphs.

**PE:** We will be developing our striking and fielding skills with the game of Rounders and then moving onto athletics in preparation for Sports Day! **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: Relationships and Changing Me. Year Three will be having their Jigsaw lessons with Mrs Dear and Year Four with Mrs Wittich.

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

**Music:** Our music this half term is based around the song 'Blackbird', by the Beatles, and includes listening to and appraising other Beatles songs. In the second half term we will be learning the songs for our summer play.

**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.

**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. As the weather gets hotter, children should also have a hat at all times and sun cream applied.

**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.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Dear

*Layton Class Teacher*