

## The Owl - April 2026

### The sun's out, it must be Maypole!

Every year, we ensure all of the children get to experience taking part in Maypole dancing and every year so far, the sun has come out for us too! The tradition celebrates: Spring, new life and community coming together. The children certainly worked together to get the ribbons twisting in the right direction!

Another wonderful way to engage our children in a historic tradition while keeping them outside and active too!



I enjoyed making patterns with the ribbons by having some of us walking around in an outer circle while the rest of us stayed in the middle.

Lily

The music was amazing. We did really well to keep in a circle!

Sammie

I like that it is a celebration of lots of traditions.

Niyah

## Out and about with Jackson Class

Jackson Class went on a local adventure this month to follow their love of books. To get there, they enjoyed a ride on our local bus. It was lovely to see such excitement as they left and how that feeling remained on their return with so much to tell us!



Mrs Arnott said, "The children were very excited and enjoyed the journey there on the two Lynx minibuses as much as the visit itself! They were impeccably behaved and made us feel so proud as they listened carefully to the Librarians and were able to answer the questions about Hertfordshire libraries in a mini quiz!"



The children will be able to tick a few things off in their passport which every child has to track milestones and events experienced at Reed. For example: experiencing the **life skill** of being confident to travel on a bus. They have also achieved within the category of **citizenship** by representing our school so well!



## Behaviour Curriculum

Our curriculum for behaviour maps out our expectations for behaviours in areas of **social skills**, **learning skills** and **organisational skills**. The statements are broken down into Key Stage groups to set clear expectations to enable our children to be ready for the next stage in their journey as a respectful, independent, aspirational and resilient member of society. This month's whole school focus is on **Organisational Skills**:

**Jackson Class:** Use cutlery to eat my food and try to cut some food myself

**Bysouth Class:** Hold my cutlery correctly and cut my own food, tidying any mess I make myself

**Layton Class:** Use my skills when eating to be able to support others to learn.

The whole document is available from our website at the end of our [Values, Vision and Mission page](#).

## Attendance Spotlight

April 2026

Layton	99.1%
Jackson	98.8%
Bysouth	97.9%

### Why Attendance Matters

Attending school regularly helps children to:

- ✓ Achieve stronger academic outcomes
- ✓ Build friendships and develop social skills
- ✓ Strengthen **emotional wellbeing** and resilience
- ✓ Establish **positive habits for future education**
- ✓ Engage fully in school life and activities

**Fantastic! Well done to everyone who comes to school as much as they possibly can!**

## Out and about with Bysouth Class



Bysouth Class have also been exploring our local area.

They walked from school to visit landmarks to support their learning in history, discovering the original site of our school and exploring the church. They learned more about who the Bysouth and Layton families were and their importance to the village and our school. While at the church, they found out more information about these families from villagers: Mrs Jakeman and Mrs Shepherd. Mrs Shepherd is the last remaining Bysouth living in Reed (her maiden name was Bysouth). Mrs Eeles, our Chair of Governors, also shared information about the houses where the Bysouth and Layton families used to live, as well as pointing out key features in Reed.

Being able to see and talk to sources of information really engages the children in their learning, making what we aim for them to learn; memorable and meaningful.

Huge thanks to our local friends who made this tour of the village so successful.



## DIARY DATES

### May 2026

- 4th Bank holiday school closed
- 11<sup>th</sup> Bysouth NSPCC workshop
- 12<sup>th</sup> Year 1 and 2 football festival at Royston Town football club
- 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> Layton Class to Caythorpe (leave 9.50am, back 4.10pm)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Dance for diabetes event week
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Celebration of Europe Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> Half term break

### June 2026

- 1st Pupils back to school
- 1<sup>st</sup> Coffee and catch up 2.30pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Megson concert
- 5th Layton and Bysouth First Aid training
- 5<sup>th</sup> Coffee and Catch up 2.00pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> Whole school photo (summer uniform please)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Athlete visit (whole school event)
- 19th KS2 community safety event hosted by Reed (am)
- 19<sup>th</sup> Bysouth Class farm visit (pm)
- 26th Rounders at Reed (small school rounders event for local KS2 children, hosted by Reed)

### July 2026

- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Summer performance 2pm (All classes involved)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Layton Class 'Schoolympics' at KJAR (Morning: fully funded)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Reed village community tea party hosted by Layton Class 2pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> Herts transition Day (All children spend the day with their new classes)
- 10<sup>th</sup> Open afternoon 1.30pm onwards (A chance to look at your child's learning together and for them to give you a tour of the whole school. Refreshments available)
- 14<sup>th</sup> Sports Day 11.00am – 3.15pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> Final celebration and Leavers' assembly 12.45pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> Tern ends for pupils at 2.00pm

Please remember all dates are available on our [website](#).

## A fond farewell

The children and I were suitably unimpressed by an email I received from PCSO Hannah to tell me that she is moving on to another role in Cambridgeshire.

She did, I'm glad to say, before she moved on, make sure that she came in to see us and say goodbye. We gave her a resounding three cheers!

She has been a fantastic part of our community and the children adore her, while still respecting her role. She has supported events like our KS2 community event over the last few years and has delighted the children in assemblies while teaching them the importance of keeping themselves and others safe.

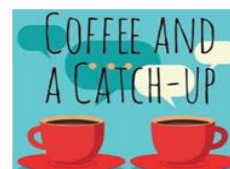
Happily, PCSO Chris Brabrook who is also a familiar face here, will continue to visit us.



You are invited to a coffee and a catch-up session on

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 2.30pm or Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 2.00pm or 4.00pm**

with Mrs Wittich



It will be a chance to reflect on the school year and play a part in continuing to develop a shared vision for the school going forward by sharing your views. If you cannot attend but have particular items you would like to discuss, please still get in touch. Google Meets will be set up for all so if you can join virtually instead of in person, you are very welcome.

RSVP to [head@reed.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@reed.herts.sch.uk) by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May to confirm your attendance.

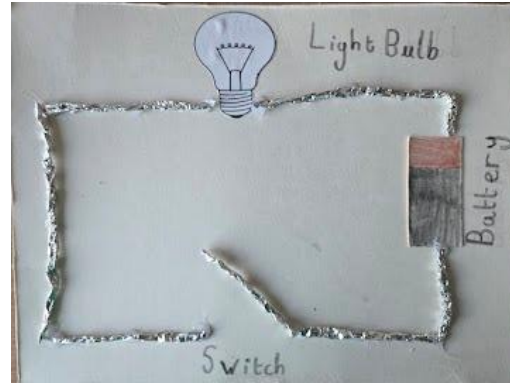
## Eco council

Thank you, Eco-Council, for organising our annual crafting with recycling competition. Fantastic entries were seen across the school. We loved the medals made for the winners – of course made from recyclable materials!



## Layton Class home learning

I wanted to say well done to Layton Class. I have been seeing some really high-quality learning going on at home. You are clearly enjoying the projects you can choose from as part of our revised home learning policy. Keep up the great work!



## NSPCC

As part of our commitment to safeguarding I am pleased to inform you that we are again participating in the NSPCC's Speak out Stay safe Programme in May.

Speak out Stay safe is a programme for children which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline. This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age-appropriate virtual assemblies for Bysouth and Layton classes and supporting classroom-based activities which we have reviewed, alongside NSPCC volunteer led face to face workshops for children in Bysouth Class. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. Jackson Class will also have an additional assembly as a class which will focus on: 'PANTS'. Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages. [www.nspcc.org.uk/pants](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/pants)

You can also take a look at information, support, advice and activities from NSPCC for parent and carers by visiting: [www.nspcc.org.uk/parents](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/parents)

## **And finally...**



Congratulations to two of our families on the safe arrival of their babies.

I know that both George and Rosa are thrilled to become a brother and a sister and have been very keen to tell us all about their new siblings!

Welcome Rosie and Louis to our community.

