

The Owl – July 2026

Mixed emotions

Over the last few weeks, lots of thoughts and conversations have naturally turned to change and next steps. The children as ever, have been very happy to share how they are feeling, and the mixture of emotions they are feeling are natural. Part of our job, of course is to make sure every child is ready for what is coming. We achieve this through assemblies, Jigsaw lessons (PSHE) and the transition events we hold. I love seeing the pride on the children's faces as they arrive in a new classroom, the excitement as they move through the school, and the relief as they go back to the familiar for the last couple of weeks before the actual change comes!

Many of you have expressed your gratitude to the whole team here, for their dedication, hard work and care in getting to know all of the children. A key message from parents is that we put the children first. This is key to the success of transition, but also the reason why 100% of parents and carers who took part in our recent survey said that their child feels happy and safe at school.

I couldn't agree more! Every member of staff goes above and beyond to make sure every child is able to thrive. As I visit the classes and teach them too, I see radiant smiles and children keen to share. I also see every child included, considered and supported too.

Huge thanks to team Reed: teachers, support staff, children, parents and governors, who together, make our setting a great place to be!



We wish those moving on and their families all the very best as they start the next steps on their journey. For those returning, we can't wait to see what you achieve next. For those joining us, we can't wait to get to know you!

Have a fabulous summer!

Very best wishes and huge thanks for your support, Mrs Wittich.



Diary Dates

September 2026

1st – INSET day: school closed to pupils

2nd – First day of term. Gate opens 8.40am, bell at 8.45am. **All pupils must be at school by 8.45am.**

4th - Forest School begins for all children. PE kit / Forest School uniform to be worn to school. (See link below)

<https://reed.herts.sch.uk/parents/uniform/>

4th – First Celebration Assembly 2.45pm, families all welcome at school or via Google Meet

4th – Class letters out to give you more information about the term ahead.

Week beginning 7th – School run clubs begin*

9th - 7.00pm Phonics and early reading workshop all parents of Jackson Class (in person at school).

*Note all clubs run from 3.15 – 4.15pm

Meet the teacher – a chance to meet with your child's teacher to find out more about the term ahead and ask questions having previously received a class information letter. You can either attend in person or via Google Meet:

7th – Meet the teacher meeting - Bysouth Class - **Year One and Two.** In school / Google Meet

8th – 2.45pm Meet the teacher meeting – Layton Class - **Year Three and Four.** In school / Google Meet

9th - 2.45pm Meet the teacher meeting – Jackson Class - **Nursery and Reception.** In school / Google Meet

October 2025

23rd – INSET day: school closed to pupils

Half term break - 26th October

Community Tea Party

Some of our Year Threes had told me a while ago, how much they were looking forward to the community tea party. It is lovely that our children aspire to reach the time in their journey at Reed First School when they can take part in activities for the older children.

It really was a community event this year, with a range of villagers attending from the age of 18 to 80+. Many of our guests were ex-pupils of the school and our children really enjoyed showing them around the school to see what had changed. For some of them, changes were seen as soon as they left the hall, because they attended the school, when the hall was the whole school!



A great opportunity for historical understanding of changes over time, but also, another great example of the children striving to exemplify our aim of: **LEARNING TOGETHER, LEARNING FOR LIFE!**

The children chatted politely, listened carefully, served the delicious food and

drink they had prepared and LOVED sending and receiving letters as invitations and words of thanks.

One resident got in touch after the event to say:

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank you and the children for making us so very welcome at the Tea Party yesterday. It was lovely to meet the children and hear their singing. When they showed us round it was a tribute to the staff and yourself to see their evident pride in their surroundings. They have had an excellent start to their academic careers.

Well done Layton Class. Miss Walsh and I were very proud of you all!

Congratulations

Our whole school community have continued to work towards our values which aim to help the children: 'Learn Together, Learn for Life'. In case you missed it. The announcements at our final Celebration Assembly were as follows:

Sports Cup: Barn Owls
House trophy: Eagle Owls



Year 4 Values Cup: **Lacey** for demonstrating all of our values throughout the year and her time at our school.

100% Attendance: Lucas, Martha, Sebastian, Poppy B, Edward, Mia H

Excellent attendance (98%): Alice, Sybbie, Issac PM, Toby, Elodie, Isaac H, Olivia F, Stevie, Frankie M, Niyah, Charlie, Carly, Evie F, Jacob, Eva, Casper, Alfie M, Livvy

Very good attendance (97%): Lacey, Norah, Finn, Freya, Mia O, Lottie, George N, Ben, Robin, Lily, Elliot

Values Awards:

Aspiration	Resilience	Respect	Independence
Olivia Hugo Isaac PM Lily N Elodie Nathaniel	Mila Lottie William Woody Edward Blake	Jude George Casper Samara Esme Su	Sybbie Stevie Martha Niyah Finn Mia H
			

Well done to all of our award winners. They were all very well deserved.



Uniform signed, hoodies on, memories shared, graduation teddies introduced, many tears shed (they tell me I'm emotional) but they're ready!



Oh, I do like to be beside the seaside!

Reception, Year One and Year Two had the most fabulous day at Walton on the Naze! They completed a good number of our pupil passport targets, including of course: walking bare foot on the sand!

The trip really enthused the children ready for September to learn about the seaside trips in the past. Having made our trip, the children will be able to compare English seaside trips now and in the past.

It was wonderful to see such delight in the children as they squealed to see waves breaking, the beautifully colourful beach huts and seagulls taking great interest in their picnics!

We brought a coach load of very sandy, ice cream sticky and tired children back to Reed with wonderful memories of a lovely day shared together!



Congratulations on a wonderful summer production children! Despite the heat wave and a record number of lines to learn – you smashed it as ever!



You have had so many rave reviews from your audiences, I hope you are as proud of yourselves as I am!



Sports Day

Thank you to everyone who came to support our Houses at Sports Day. It was lovely to see so many friends and family come to cheer all of the children on.

As ever, the children all tried their hardest and win or lose, they mostly did so with huge smiles on their faces. Well done to Layton Class who helped set up the day and made sure resources were in the right place at the right time. They were also brilliant with our younger children, helping them when needed. Some, were even spotted tidying resources and setting up new ones before they were even asked to! Thank you!

The resilience many of our children showed was wonderful, I have made a point of congratulating some of those who stood out in particular to me.

Lots of fun was had by all and we managed to get some dancing and singing included again too! There were also some fantastic homemade banners this year.

I know that sports day is an event pupils and parents look forward to each year, it really is a lovely day!

