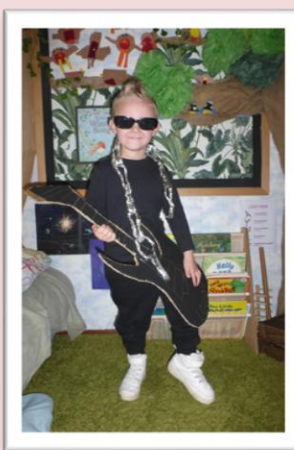


The Owl - March 2026

A plethora of opportunities!

This has been a short half term in weeks, but it has been anything but in how many wonderful events and activities have taken place to further enrich our wider curriculum. I know that the children have been busy adding memories to their pupil passports as a result! We are adamant that despite being a small school, our children will still get as many, if not more, opportunities offered at larger settings. This month has not disappointed. Thank you, children, for engaging in everything with such aspiration, independence, resilience and respect!

Dress as a word for World Book Day!



Mother's Day Morning





Bikeability

Well done and thank you to all of you who took part from Beginners to Level One (children and grown-ups!)



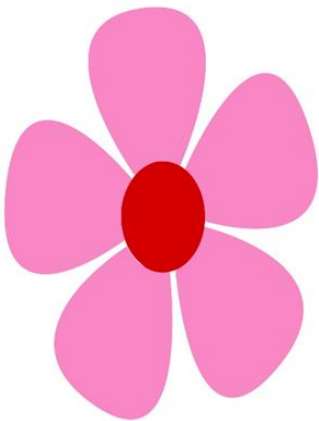
I can't wait to continue to watch the progression of skill as all of the children move through the school and aim to pass level one by the time they leave Year 4. We even had children surpass their targets this year!

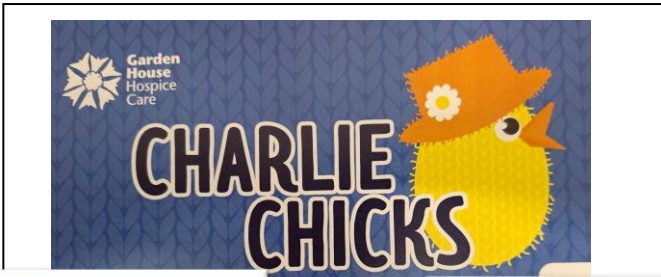


Easter end of term fun!



Wishing
you all an
Eggcellent
Easter
holiday!





Thank you to the members of Layton Class who volunteered to sell Charlie Chicks this year!



Thank you for supporting Red Nose Day 2026 too. This was in some cases while riding a bike!

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 **Social Skills**:

Jackson Class: Use kind words and kind hands.

Bysouth Class: Know that my actions make a difference to those around me.

Layton Class: Ensure the whole class are in a comfortable place and that my actions are helping this.

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

Attendance Spotlight

March 2026

Layton	98.8%
Jackson	97.8%
Bysouth	96.3%

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

Well done to the huge number of children who received attendance certificates at our end of term assembly!

Overall attendance
(7th of 21 schools)

96.3%

0.7%
greater than

Median attendance
of similar schools

95.6%

As I have shared before, it is now possible to compare our attendance to other similar schools. It is great to see that we are doing well. I have certainly noticed more children wanting to improve their attendance as they recognise the difference it makes to their confidence being here as much as they can. The proudest faces are those that know their attendance has improved thanks to their own determination. Just opening the gate to such happy children every day tells me all we need to know!

DIARY DATES

April 2026

- 13th Term starts for pupils
- 16th Non-uniform day for all – bring a teddy for FoRS
- 27th Maypole Workshops (all classes, fully funded)
- 28th Jackson Class Royston Library visit
- 30th Non-uniform day for all – bring a book for FoRS

May 2026

- 4th Bank holiday school closed
- 13th – 15th Layton Class to Caythorpe
- 18th Dance for diabetes event week
- 22nd Celebration of Europe Day
- 25th Half term break

June 2026

- 1st Pupils back to school
- 1st Coffee and catch up 2.30pm
- 4th Megson concert
- 5th Layton and Bysouth First Aid training
- 5th Coffee and Catch up 2.00pm
- 17th Athlete visit (whole school event)
- 19th KS2 community safety event hosted by Reed
- 26th Rounders at Reed (small school rounders event for local KS2 children, hosted by Reed)

July 2026

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd Summer performance 2pm (All classes involved)
- 8th Reed village community tea party hosted by Layton Class 2pm
- 9th Herts transition Day (All children spend the day with their new classes)
- 10th 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)
- 14th Sports Day 11.00am – 3.15pm
- 17th Final celebration and Leavers' assembly 12.45pm
- 17th Term ends for pupils at 2.00pm

Please remember all dates are available on our [website](https://www.reed.herts.sch.uk).

Parent Voice

March included our latest 'Coffee and Catch up' sessions, where parents and carers can come in to chat to me about anything school related as a group.

I often have lots I want to know, but the sessions also ensure what you want to discuss is included too.

I found the discussions we had around communication very useful. Parent surveys always identify communication between home and school to be a strength, but I wanted to know which aspects of our communication are the most impactful. Our conversations within this, included a focus on home learning. As you know, these discussions helped inform changes made to our Home Learning policy.

The following featured highly in the group's views of what they find most useful:

- The weekly bulletin
- The Owl
- Google Classroom
- Communication books
- Parent Consultations
- Open afternoon and other events where parents and carers come into school.

Discussions around parent consultations were really useful. This included the idea of sharing the teacher's notes before the consultations so that the allotted times can be spent focusing on the agreed key areas to explore more. The teachers can also see the benefit to this and so we will be actioning this next academic year. Your views really do get listened to and make a positive impact. Thank you!

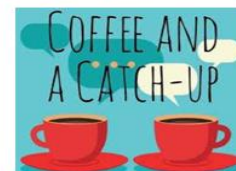


Learning Together. Learning for Life.

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

Monday 1st June at 2.30pm or Friday 5th 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 by Friday 22nd May to confirm your attendance.

Talking Groups

We pride ourselves on how important pupil voice is to us. We talk to the children at every opportunity to support their wellbeing, curriculum progress and their sense of belonging to the school community. Talking groups is a great example of this. Earlier this month, the children were asked about their safety in school. We were so impressed with how much they were able to identify that happens at Reed First School to ensure we are all safe. The children were asked not only how we keep them safe, but how they make sure **they** keep everyone safe too. I thought it would be good for all of us to see their responses:

You teach us how to be safe.
Help us with First Aid
Have lots of adults
Keep us healthy
The adults give me confidence
Adults remind me what to do
We have epi-pens, life bags, inhalers
In forest school we have fires safely
Adults help us when we eat
There are adults with us all of the time
We are looked after
We do the register to make sure we are here
We get time outside, that helps us to keep healthy and safe
Stop us running in busy places
We can use the teepee so we have more spaces to be at playtime so there are less bumps
We don't open the gates at school
There are fire exits in case there is a fire
Help me in lessons to understand
The teachers make us feel safe
Our trusted 5
Our buddies
The adults know us
I can trust the adults
I see my friends every day
There are loads of adults I can trust
Everyone is alert, even my friends

I trust my friends and my trusted adults at home and school.
Fire burns wood and not brick our school is brick
I am with my friends
We have fire alarms
Nobody is going to hurt me here
I feel I can go to any adult to help me
Friends are there when I need them.
Tell trusted adults about our friends
Pick up rubbish
Tell a grown up if there is a fire
I look out for lanyards
I help on the playground and make sure everyone is ok
I remind younger children of the rules because they are still learning
I pick things up if they fall on the floor so no one trips
I check my friends are feeling ok
I bring the first aid kit outside at lunch time
I tell the adults if someone is hurt or upset.
I respect the adults
I make sure I am kind

As ever, our children had a lot to say! Thank you to School Council for leading these conversations and making sure all children felt in such a safe space to share!



And finally... I wanted to share this email I received from Finley. As you know, he is a very aspirational footballer and wrote to me to share some news. I was very impressed by the initiative he has shown and his team spirit:

Hello Mrs Wittich

I wanted to let you know about something I have started doing for my football team to raise money. We got invited to PSG in Paris to play a tournament but some of my team do not have enough money to go. I didn't want this to happen because we are a team. I thought about things I could do to help so they could come.

I have chosen to run a marathon 26.2 miles through march to help try and raise money to help them go. If we can't all go, we shouldn't because we are a team.

I'm very excited to see what happens and if I can run all that way.

My mum has started a page to help get all the money together. I am going to make cakes in April to sell to try and make more and maybe some other things.


Help Finley and the
IMI Mambas Get to
Paris 🇫🇷



If you would like to support Finley and his team, please follow the link.