

The Owl - May 2025

Life Skills building year on year



May has been a month of skills and experiences for the children to add more memories to their pupil passports.

All of our children continue to enjoy and learn in Forest School and having visited Layton Class in a lesson where they were building shelters, it is clear to see the skills which have been built on over the years through Miss Wilson's expertise. Perhaps we won't need to provide tents for our camp out!

Keep a Beat visited us again as one of our annual life skill events. All of the children in Bysouth and Layton either learnt or refreshed their first aid and life-saving skills.

KeepaBeat
Safe in your hands



VE Day 80th anniversary



Many thanks to those of you who shared precious items relating to family members who were involved in WWII or lived through VE Day. It was so meaningful to hear stories of family members to help the children understand the significance of the day.

The children clearly enjoyed dressing in red, white and blue; but also showed such respect for the reasons they were doing so.



Anti Bullying Charter

Well done to our School Council members who represented our school brilliantly at a Royston Schools Council meeting to write an Anti-Bullying charter which reflects a common understanding of what bullying is and what can be done to solve and prevent it.

Very important conversations were had between children from Y3 up to Y10 and our children certainly made sure their voices were heard and so our school voice too. The charter is being put together to be checked by the council members and will then be shared in the schools.



DIARY DATES

26th Half term

June 2025

2nd INSET Day (school closed to pupils)

3rd Pupils back to school

6th Y2 Athletics event at St Eds

6th Inter school cross country at Anstey (Layton Class)

8th FoRS Summer fair

11th School photo

11th Coffee and Catch up 2.30pm

20th KS2 community safety event hosted by Reed

25th Residential trip meeting for Layton 2026 3.15pm

27th Inter school Rounders event at Reed (Layton Class)

July 2025

3rd and 4th Summer Performance at 2.00pm (whole school)

9th Community tea party hosted by Layton Class

10th Herts Transition Day (new school / class visits)

11th Layton Class campout 6.00pm – 8.00am at school

15th Sports Day 11am

16th Singing and piano concert 2.15pm (for parents of musicians)

17th Reception, Year One and Two toy museum trip

18th Open Afternoon 1.30pm

21st Layton Class trip to Whipsnade Zoo

22nd Final celebrations and Layton Leavers assembly at 12.45pm

22nd term ends at 2pm for children

September 2025

1st and 2nd INSET days

3rd Term starts for children

Please remember all dates are available on our website:

<https://reed.herts.sch.uk/news-dates/diary-dates/>



Please do come along and support the school. If you can help out on the day, please let FoRS know. Let friends and family know too and sell some raffle tickets.

Please let us know too if you would like to become actively involved in Friends of Reed School. The fundraising really does make a difference to the school and to the opportunities we offer the children. Did you know, that FoRS heavily subsidise events like our annual pantomime and the Y3 and 4 residential trip? Some of the wonderful resources we have at school are also thanks to fundraising, for example, parts of our wonderful trim trail.

Without them, the cost of such opportunities would be unrealistic in asking parents and carers to pay.

Members of FoRS can be involved as much or as little as they like depending on the time they can spare. All help is welcomed by the school warmly.

Sporting Events



May's sporting diary began with a multi-skills event for Years 3 and 4 with two other small schools. Layton Class as ever, put every effort into the activities and represented Reed brilliantly; Miss Haydon and I were very impressed. What was really lovely, was that the teams were made up of children from all of the three schools so there was no competition between schools; but a great opportunity to compete along side new faces and make new friends. The children in Year 4 were all encouraged to find other children who are moving on to the same middle school. They will get the chance to meet again at our cross country and rounders events after half term.

All of the children in Key Stage One and Two have been delighted by the arrival of our ActivAll fitness walls. They have been used in PE lessons and the children are using them with great responsibility at playtimes. The children are challenging themselves to beat their own schools and many have commented that the games are hard work but that they are improving already. Some of the staff have had a go and they agree, it is a very good work out!

We all enjoyed our annual maypole dancing too. A lovely tradition to put into our calendar but also a great reminder that dance is indeed part of physical education and a great way to increase fitness, work collaboratively and follow patterns.



A wild time with Jackson Class



What a wonderful day we had at Shepreth Wildlife Park with Jackson Class. We were very lucky with the animals we saw and the children were delighted to spot so many! Thank you, Mrs Cottenden, for organising Jackson Class trip this time and the whole Jackson team for being brilliant!



We achieved a goal we've had for a while now, to ensure our children explore the local area and do so using public transport. It sounds simple, but it is so important to let the children explore what is near to them while learning life skills like catching a bus!

Exploring our local area

The trip also enabled the children to develop their knowledge and understanding in history, geography and Religious Education while meeting local people. Bringing knowledge to life and building on prior knowledge is so important in embedding what we want the children to know.

Thank you, Miss Wilson, for planning such a successful trip and the support staff for helping the children to engage so skilfully. The happy faces say it all!



Beyond Europe Day



Callaloo soup from Dominica including Scotch Bonnet peppers!



After the success of Europe Day last year, to recognise and celebrate the links of some of our families to places beyond the UK, passports ready, we ventured further to go beyond Europe.

We enjoyed finding out more about Australia, Malawi, China, Dominica and India.

Huge thanks to the volunteers who shared their knowledge both adults and children!

One of our parent experts said: ***This was such a lovely day and it was SO nice to see all the children get involved in absolutely everything from trying food, to dancing and learning a new language. They had such great questions and were so respectful too.***



Beautiful saris from India



Indigenous Australian art

Getting away from it all...



I have had such a lovely time at lunchtime going for walks around the village with children who sign up for a walk to get out of school for a bit!

We enjoy the nature around us, chats and a chance to listen to and get to know friends from other classes. We also enjoy the chance to clear our heads and start the afternoon feeling fresh and ready to learn.

Thank you for coming with me children!

And finally...



Well done Key Stage One and Two children for taking part so well in our NSPCC assemblies and workshops.

Speak out. Stay safe. is a programme for children aged 5-11 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 safe adult or Childline.