

## The Owl – May 2026

### Mile stones and life skills

Part of this month included our biennial residential trip for Layton Class. We visited Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire for the first time and the new venue did not disappoint!

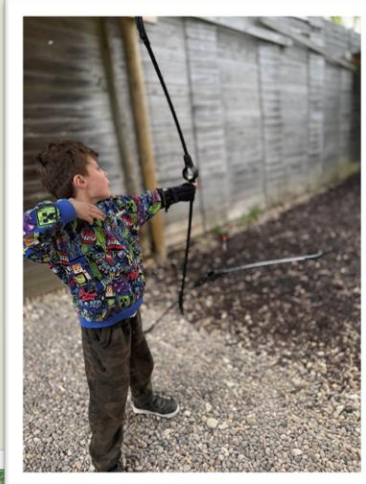
Huge congratulations to the children for showing all of our values while we were away. The **resilience** to get on the coach knowing in many cases that they were staying away from home for the first time was clear. This value continued to be seen over the trip, through the children being determined to push themselves not only to be away from home but also take part in some activities which required fears to be faced!

The children were often seen having a second go on frankly, crazy high climbs, in order to get a bit higher and smash their goals! My vertigo kept me firmly on the ground but that didn't stop me cheering them on. Amazing **aspiration!**

Goals were not just seen high up, but in the team work in scavenger hunts, sensory trails and archery and in being roommates! Well done to our Year 4 boys who honestly shocked us all (including themselves) in being the best sleepers and tidiest! **Independence** from all of the children was increased in the responsibility they had to take for their own belongings particularly as the 'floordrobes' had to be sorted back into the right bags on our last day!

The strongest value I saw from the whole group was our value of **respect**. Every single instructor who worked with us over the three days, commented on the children's manners, engagement and general brilliance! (This was openly done in comparison to experiences with other groups) The children were as we expected, an absolute pleasure to be with. They were all a credit to our school and their families. We pride ourselves on the relationships and trust we build, where the children know the expectations and respect for those around them so fun could be had by all.





## 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:** Know how it feels to win and lose.

**Bysouth Class:** Know how it feels to win and lose and how to cope with this.

**Layton Class:** Know how it feels to win and lose and how to cope with this and help others who find this hard.

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

## Attendance Spotlight

May 2026

Jackson	97%
Bysouth	96%
Layton	95%

### 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 everyone who comes to school as much as they possibly can!**

## Football festival fun

Bysouth Class also represented the school wonderfully when they visited Royston Town Football club to take part in a local school football festival.

It was really great to see such progress in skill from our first football lessons in PE to how confident the children were to dribble, pass and shoot the ball. The children enjoyed as ever, seeing other schools and working with some of the students from King James who help run these sports partnership events.

As I mentioned in my letter about our up-coming athlete in school visit, the children all really value being active and place great importance on our PE lessons. You may have also seen in other publications, the news the government funding for sports is coming to an end. Sports Premium has ensured that we have ample and good quality equipment to teach PE to a high standard and that we have had funding to take part in activities beyond national curriculum expectations, such as subsidising some of the cost of Bikeability, transport to sporting events and fixtures and having fully funded access to events like these. The new government model looks to have a focus on engaging in partnerships and sharing effective and impactful physical education and events. We will continue to give physical activities the high importance they require and instil a love for staying active while at Reed and beyond.



## DIARY DATES

### June 2026

- 1<sup>st</sup> Pupils back to school
- 1<sup>st</sup> Coffee and catch up 2.30pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Megson concert
- 5<sup>th</sup> 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)
- 19<sup>th</sup> KS2 community safety event hosted by Reed (am)
- 19<sup>th</sup> Bysouth Class farm visit (pm)
- 26<sup>th</sup> Rounders at Reed (small school rounders event for local KS2 children, hosted by Reed)
- 26<sup>th</sup> Costumes for the summer production to be in school today.

### 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> Term ends for pupils at 2.00pm

### September 2026

- 1<sup>st</sup> INSET day (school closed to pupils)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> School term begins including wrap around care

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

## Dance for Diabetes

Despite being very ready for half term after our visit to Caythorpe, Layton Class managed to find the energy to perform a dance they have been learning over the past few weeks in order to raise money for research and support for diabetes.

This was particularly important to Layton Class as Miss Walsh has diabetes and so the children see first hand how it impacts life but at the same time, how developments in technology mean that those with diabetes can stay safe while leading as normal a life as possible. We are truly grateful to the work the charity does to ensure people like Miss Walsh can be part of our community, the children all agree, we are very lucky to have her!



Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation

## Celebration of Europe Day

As we do every year, we spent the day celebrating our links to the world outside the United Kingdom. This event, strengthens the children's knowledge of the world and recognises the diversity amongst our community. We were so grateful for the help and support from our families to ensure we had wonderful resources, facts and information to share with the children as they 'flew' Reed airlines to visit European countries which some of our families have links to.

This year, the children found out about: Poland, The Czech Republic, Slovenia, Lithuania and Gibraltar.

Year on year, I can see great progress in the knowledge the children share in where in the world they are as we travel.

For the children, the highlights as ever, appeared to be the opportunity to get up a dance and taste some traditional cuisine!

Huge thanks go to the Gusejnova, Figueira, Owczarska, Eeles and Grecanyj families for their time, expertise and love for their countries!

Next year, we will be flying beyond Europe, so let us know if you would like a country in another continent visited!



## Speak out, Stay Safe

As part of our commitment to safeguarding all classes are always actively encouraged to speak out and stay safe. Both Layton and Bysouth took part in online assemblies and Bysouth were visited by Buddy to make sure they know how to keep safe.

When emailing me with our participation certificate, Cat, our school's coordinator took the time to say: ***We were impressed with your pupil's engagement with the workshops as well as the support your team provided – thank you! You clearly do a lot in school to support your pupils with your "trusted five".***



### **And finally...**

Congratulations to the Garton Fellows family on the wonderful addition of Rihanna to their family. We have heard all about her from Freya who is an incredibly proud big sister. We can't wait to meet her.

Welcome Rihanna to our community.



*In memory of  
Jamie Bray*

31.07.1990 – 17.04.2026

