

The Owl - November 2023

What makes us proud?

I was asked by a prospective parent recently, what I am most proud of about the school. My instant and honest answer was, “The children.” They really do put 100% effort into all that they do. They are my *regulation station* - regardless of what is being dealt with behind the scenes, as soon as I am with the children, my sense of wellbeing instantly improves!

I thoroughly enjoy showing visitors our school because there is so much to say and celebrate and the children have so much to contribute!

One visitor in November was our Herts Improvement partner who supports the school by carrying out monitoring visits over the year.



This visit, focused on the teaching and learning in history across the school. Feedback included observations of;

- A range of resources such as artefacts and photos used to inspire pupils and challenge them to think critically.
- Pupils enjoy learning about history. They explained that ‘each lesson has a main question’ and that they ‘enjoyed finding out about things from the past.’
- Teachers present subject matter clearly, used skilful questioning and made links to previous learning, eliciting appropriate and enthusiastic discussion from pupils.
- Pupils spoken to thrived on explaining what they had learnt and were accurate and articulate with their knowledge and vocabulary. They knew that history was ‘something that happened a long time ago, but still history if it happened yesterday because it is in the past.’
- A range of high-quality interactive displays were seen in communal areas across the school. These displays celebrated key moments in living history, such as the coronation of the King, and pupils were proud to explain that ‘the King has written to us, and before that we had two letters from the Queen.’

We are very lucky to have such an excellent team of teachers who have been deservedly recognised for ensuring high quality teaching. They also deeply care about the children in their care and the experiences they have. Remember you are welcome to visit your child’s class and enjoy them sharing their learning with you.

Jackson Class joy!

What wonderful memories of exploration and enjoyment Jackson Class are already experiencing in their first years of school! A combination of a love of hedgehogs, stories and hot chocolate has been established!

Early Years became a place of even more wonder, as the children and their grown-ups came back for a bedtime story. We have a class of children who love stories and reading to each other and we can see why!

A visit from Shepreth Hedgehog Hospital added to the children's fascination in the animal.



It is no surprise to always see the children busy and focused when you visit their class!



Positive behaviour workshop

Many thanks to those parents who attended the workshop this month helping them to gain a clear understanding of our therapeutic approach to helping the children to understand behaviours.

Feedback from parents included:

- Plans to set up Regulation stations at home.
- Clear understanding that the approach involves finding the root cause with the child and adults at home and school.
- Working at home to focus on understanding behaviours rather than reacting to them.

We look forward to offering our next workshop soon!

DIARY DATES



December 2023

4th – Layton Class parents Kingswood information meeting

6th – FoRS Christmas movie night



7th – Christmas jumper day for Save the Children

8th – Christmas play costumes in today please.

11th – FoRS Present Wrap, non-uniform bring an item for the chocolate tombola.

14th – Winter play performance 2pm

15th – Make and wear a Christmas hat for Brain Tumour Research

15th – Winter play performance 2pm

15th – FoRS Christmas disco

20th – Christmas lunch

20th – FoRS Christmas drinks and chocolate tombola at 1.15pm

20th – term ends at 2.00pm

January 2024

4th and 5th INSET days - school closed to pupils

8th Term begins for pupils

8th Pantomime at school – Jack and the Beanstalk

16th FoRS on Google Meet 8.00pm

31st –Drama for All workshops for all classes

February 2024

9th Steve Clifford author visit for all classes

13th Pancake Races

15th Reception pupil health checks

19th Half term

Please remember all dates are available on our website: <https://reed.herts.sch.uk/news-dates/diary-dates/>



We will remember them



The children demonstrated their **respect** for others by remembering those in conflicts around the world.

Thank you to Layton Class for selling items on behalf of the Royal British Legion. We raised a fantastic £89.47.

Layton Class spent time at St Mary's church where the village war memorial is located. They placed a wreath made by Jackson Class children by the plaque including the names of Bysouth and Layton that mean so much to us.



Make a noise about bullying

Thank you for wearing your odd socks to start anti-bullying week.

The children yet again, demonstrated a strong understanding of what bullying is and what they would do about it when they or someone they knew experienced it.

The use of our trusted 5 has such an impact on the children knowing they always have an adult to talk to about any difficulties at home and school.



And finally...



If your child would like to write Christmas cards to their friends or staff, our post box will be out for collections through December.

If possible, please write:

J for Jackson,
B for Bysouth
or L for Layton

for the classes on the envelope to make the job quicker in the sorting room by the elves!

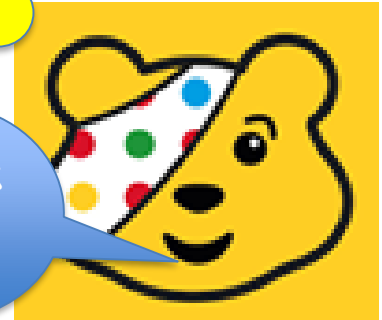
A spotacular day!

Many thanks for supporting our fundraising for **Children in Need**.

The children really enjoyed getting spotty while raising money.

We totalled an amazing **£135.00** through our online giving page.

Thank you!



School admissions

Parents wishing to take up a Reception place for their child here must apply by 15th January 2024 **regardless of whether they are already attending our Nursery**. Please make sure you complete the online application in good time. Similarly, parents of children in Year 4 need to apply for a place at their chosen Middle School by the same date. Apply online at:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions