LAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Early Years Newsletter

Autumn 2nd Half Term 2026

We are looking forward to a fun filled term full of opportunities to reach high and grow together.

Area of Development	This half term our topic is 'Ourselves and Celebrations'.
Communication, Language, Reading and Writing	The children in Early Years will be taking part in lots of speaking and listening, reading, and writing activities associated with the following books: • Bonfire night & Guy Fawkes • Remembrance • Diwali • The Lion inside • Oliver's Vegetables • Me & my amazing body • Antibullying week: Simon Sock, Have you filled a bucket today? Ravi's Roar! • The Invisible Boy • Christmas We are continuing with the daily phonics activities. The children will develop their speaking, listening and memory skills. The children will take part in lots of writing and activities associated with our topic. If your child does any writing at home, please bring it in as we would love to see it or pop a picture on Tapestry for us to share.
Mathematics	The children will take part in lots of number activities involving number recognition, ordering numbers, 1 more, 1 less, composition of numbers, writing numbers to 10, subitising, counting activities, problem solving and shape and space activities. Children will also use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, positions, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	We continuously encourage the children to develop independence and key skills to help them throughout the rest of their school journey. • Forming friendships with children • Sharing toys • Manners (saying please and thank you) • Managing feelings and behaviour • Listening to children and adults • Developing confidence when talking in front of others • Self-confidence and self-awareness • Regular hand washing • Developing resilience and a 'can do attitude' • Mrs Redhead teaches a whole class session on Personal, Social and Emotional Development per week. • We have circle time activities each week to help support child's social and emotional development.
Understanding the World	During our topics, the children will learn about: • Remembrance • How to stay safe around Bonfires and fireworks • The Fire Service • Diwali – festival of light • What a healthy diet consists of • Know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. • Completing ICT programmes • Children understanding that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. French~will be taught once per week.
Expressive Arts and Design	The children will continue to sing songs, nursery rhymes and have the opportunity to compose pieces of music with instruments related to our topics, be imaginative, play cooperatively to develop and act out narratives. Paints, pastels, crayons, and other mark making materials and art equipment will be available every day for the children to use. We

	will practise our songs for our Christmas Nativity as well as taking on roles for the performance.
Physical Development	The children will use the following pieces of equipment to develop their fine motor and gross motor skills: • Play dough and other malleable materials • Scissors and glue • Mark making materials • Play various playground games • Climbing Frame and tunnel • Scooters and bikes • Obstacle courses • Bats and balls • Hoops and beanbags • Wooden and plastic blocks They will also learn about self-care: • Washing their hands regularly and how germs are spread • Learn to use tissues- catch it, kill it, bin it • Using the toilet with increasing independence • Getting dressed and undressed independently • Road safety and how to keep safe as we walk around our local area

Outdoor Play

As the weather begins to get colder, we would like to remind parents/carers to ensure children bring appropriate clothing to school for outdoor play. Coats, hats, and gloves should all have names in them. It is a good idea to send a spare set of clothes in for your child in case they get wet or dirty. We do have some spare clothes, but our supply is extremely low! If you have any old clothes which your child has grown out of, we would be very grateful for trousers, tops, wellies, pants, or socks. Thank you!

Home Learning & Tapestry

All home learning will be sent out via email on a Monday. Please submit all home learning via the Tapestry app by the following Monday. If you have trouble accessing Tapestry, please speak to a member of staff. It's important that all parents have access to this wonderful app.

Water bottles

Please provide a named bottle with plain tap water for your child to access whenever needed throughout the day.

School uniform

Please ensure your child wears the correct uniform which is clearly labelled with your child's name. Children must wear a tie, a shirt with pointed collar, a school jumper or cardigan with the logo on, grey trousers/skirt/pinafore and plain black school shoes.

P.E.

We have PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Your child must come to school in their PE clothes.

Toys, scooters & bikes

Toys and teddies must not be brought into school. Please can we also remind you that in the interests of safety, if your child comes to school on a bicycle, scooter, or any other child's vehicle they must dismount the item when they arrive at the gate and lock it in the cycle store (located on the main school playground). Please be aware that the main school gates will be locked and won't re-open until 3:25pm. Alternatively, scooters and bikes can be handed to the parent/carer to take home for safe keeping. Unfortunately, we are unable to store scooters and bikes in our nursery playground for safety reasons. Thank you.

Early Years Fund

Thank you for your weekly 50p donations. They really do make a difference! We are continuing to ask Early Years parents for a contribution of 50p per week. We used some of the contributions to buy ingredients for baking cakes, food for the teddy bear's picnic, resources for growing cress and resources for our provision.

Bags of Support

We have resource bags available in Early Years to help support families at home. These are for: bereavement, divorce/separation, potty training, new baby, sleep routines, healthy eating, fine motor skills development, staying in hospital and behaviour. Please speak to a member of staff if you would like more information.

Visits

On Tuesday afternoons we will hopefully be having our weekly 'Welly Walk'. We will basically be walking around the local area and carrying out various activities whilst we are out and about.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the details above, or any other matters, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Here's hoping for an exciting and productive term!

Early Years Team