

The Cayley Chronicle

2025-2026

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Cayley Primary families,

Thank you to our children, parents and staff for all your hard work this year. Your care, patience and energy have made 2025-26 a really strong year for our school community and I am grateful for every contribution, big and small.

We have been through a lot of change this year in our curriculum and pedagogy and I am proud of the progress we have made. There is still plenty to do, and the improvements I have seen in classrooms and in the children's confidence give me real optimism.



I want to say a special thank you to everyone who has supported us in different ways: our Year 6 children who move onto secondary school ready for the next phase in their life and we have some staff to say goodbye to. Rajeka, who is one of our fantastic HLTAs, and has been with us since January 2009 has decided to leave to train to be a teacher with LETTA. Luckily, Rajeka will be completing her training with us and will be working in Year 5 with Andrew and Carob class. Seeme, is a wonderful member of the team, who has supported all the families behind the scene and sometimes, in front of the scenes in a positive and diligent manner- we will really miss her. Carmen has such a positive impact with our Year 3 children is also leaving at the end of the year. She will be missed by children and colleagues alike. Sarah, who has been covering in Oak class since February is moving to work at a school closer to home. All these staff have stepped in and made a real difference to children's learning and wellbeing.

The end of term has been full of lovely moments. Our Year 6 graduation and play were brilliant send offs and felt very special for the children and families. It was a joy to watch the nursery celebration and Reception graduation too—proud smiles all round. We also had our new art and design technology celebrations this term and they were fantastic. Some classrooms felt like an art gallery, and it was wonderful to share that learning with families. We will do more of this next year.

Thank you for your practical help and understanding during the extreme heat. Your sun hats, timely collections and the many kind messages made managing some tricky days much easier for staff and children alike. Those small acts of support and all the warm wishes you have sent have been noticed and appreciated.

Thank you again to every child, family member, member of staff and volunteer for everything you have done this year. Enjoy a safe, restful summer. We look forward to seeing you in September ready to continue this important work together. We will see you back on Thursday 3rd September for Years 1-6, Friday 4th September for Oak and Acorn and later in September for our EYFS children.

Calendar and Term Dates

Please note from September, the school office opening hours will change to 8.00 to 17.30

Tuesday 1st September & Wednesday 2nd September
INSET days. School closed to pupils.

Thursday 3rd September
Pupils in Y1—Y6 return

Friday 4th September
Children in Oak and Acorn classes return

Friday 23rd October
Last day of half term
3.20pm finish

Monday 26th October—Friday 30th October
Half term. School closed.

Monday 2nd November
First day of term

Friday 18th December
Last day of term
1.15pm finish



Nursery: Sports Day



Nursery had a fantastic time taking part in our Sports Day this half term. We welcomed parents and carers to join us and celebrate the children's achievements across two sessions, with a morning and afternoon event. The children loved taking part in the races and activities, showing lots of confidence, excitement and team spirit. It was wonderful to see them cheering on their friends and sharing these special moments with their families. A lovely day full of smiles, laughter and memories to treasure!



Reception: Sports Day

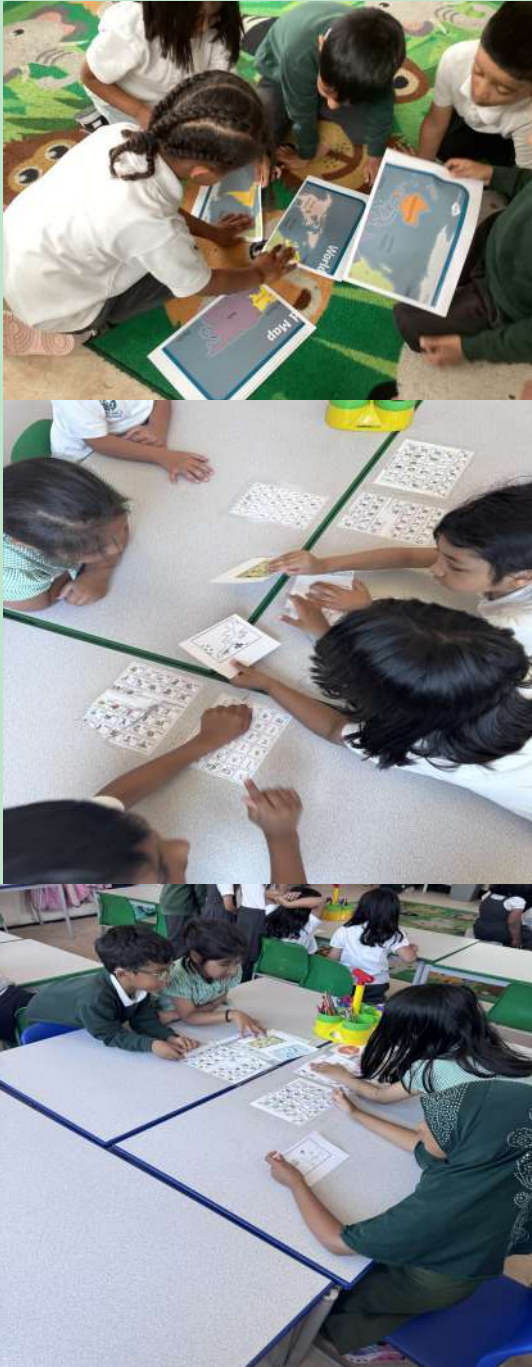


Reception Sports Day was a wonderful celebration of teamwork, perseverance and community spirit - a fantastic highlight of our year together. The children enjoyed taking part in a range of sporting activities, supported by their families throughout the morning. We were also delighted to share food from a variety of cultures, generously contributed by our families. A particular highlight was the parents' relay race, which brought plenty of excitement and laughter. Thank you to all our families for their support and contributions in making the morning such a memorable event for everyone involved.



Year 1 Geographers

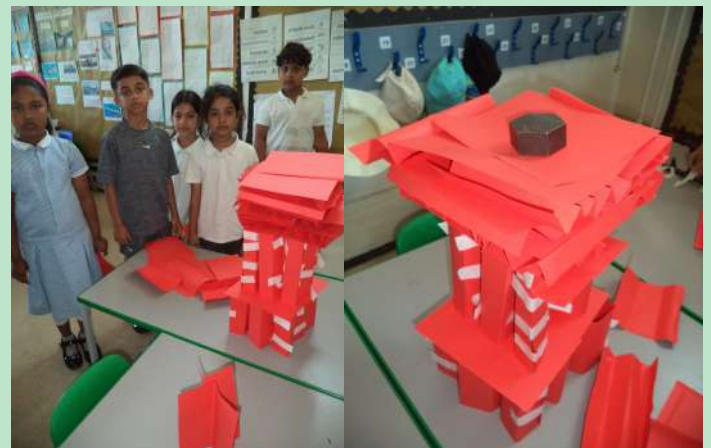
Year 1 have been fantastic geographers this term and have loved expanding their knowledge and understanding of maps! They have confidently explored world maps to locate different continents, discovered where their school is on a local area map, and even become map-makers themselves by creating their very own maps. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity and teamwork!



Year 2: Building Structures



The children built tall structures by arranging folded paper in various ways, competing to see who could build the tallest before it fell. Later, the children were challenged to build a stable structure that needed to be 50cms tall with storeys. It had to hold a load of 1kg. The children worked in groups to build the structures using previous knowledge of how to strengthen paper. They then tested the structures with weights, modified the structures and then tried again to see if it would hold the load. We had a successful group!



Year 3: Local Area Visit



Year 3 recently enjoyed a fantastic local trip, exploring a range of landmarks around Mile End, including Mile End Park, Regent's Canal and Tower Hamlets Cemetery. The children discovered many fascinating facts along the way—did you know that Tower Hamlets Cemetery has around 350,000 people buried there? It was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about our local area, and everyone had a great time!



Year 4: Making Healthy Homemade pizzas



We had great fun making our own healthy pizzas from scratch! First, we mixed the flour to make the dough, then we rolled it out and added our favourite fresh toppings, including tomato sauce and cheese.

By making our own pizzas, we learnt that fresh, homemade food is often healthier than highly processed foods because it usually contains less added sugar, salt and unhealthy fats. Best of all, our pizzas were delicious, and we loved eating the tasty creations we had made ourselves!



Year 5 Historians

Year 5 enjoyed an unforgettable educational visit to the British Museum, where they stepped into the shoes of real historians. Throughout the day, the children took part in an engaging workshop exploring life in Britain in AD 900, learning about the Anglo-Saxons and the fascinating Maya civilisation. They also discovered the beauty and significance of Islamic art, exploring its rich history and lasting influence on cultures around the world.

By examining authentic artefacts and using evidence to answer historical questions, the children developed their enquiry skills and gained a deeper understanding of how historians uncover and interpret the past. It was a fantastic hands-on learning experience that brought history to life, inspiring curiosity and helping the children make meaningful connections with the topics they have been studying in class.



Year 6: End of Year performance



Our Year 6 pupils delivered a fantastic performance of their Modern Day Macbeth, showcasing their incredible acting, confidence and teamwork. They worked tirelessly over many weeks, learning lines, rehearsing scenes and bringing Shakespeare's famous tragedy to life with a contemporary twist.



Despite the exceptionally hot weather during rehearsals and performance week, the children showed remarkable perseverance, resilience and determination, never giving up and always striving to do their very best. Their hard work and dedication were evident in every scene, and they should be extremely proud of what they achieved.

A huge thank you to all the families who came to support the performance. We are incredibly proud of our talented Year 6 pupils for making the production such a memorable success and giving themselves a wonderful final performance before moving on to secondary school.

Year 5 First Aid Workshop

Our Year 5 pupils took part in an informative first aid workshop delivered by the British Red Cross.

During the session, they learnt how to respond calmly in an emergency, including how to assess a situation, who to contact for help, and when to call emergency services.

The children also had the opportunity to practise putting someone into the recovery position,

developing practical skills that could help them support others in a real-life situation.

It was a valuable and engaging workshop that equipped our pupils with important knowledge, confidence, and the skills needed to know what to do in an emergency.



Year 6 Leavers' Disco

Our Year 6 pupils had a fantastic time celebrating at their Leavers' Disco! The evening was filled with laughter, music and plenty of dancing as everyone came together to mark the end of their primary school journey.

The dance floor was never empty, with pupils showing off some amazing moves and enjoying every song. It was wonderful to see everyone having so much fun, making special memories with their friends before they move on to the next exciting chapter.

Thank you to all the staff who helped organise such a memorable event. It was a brilliant way to celebrate our wonderful Year 6 pupils and wish them all the very best for the future.



Cayley's Sporting Achievements

This academic year children in Years 4-6 have competed in local and borough wide competitions in Netball and Football.

A huge congratulations goes out to our Year 6 Netball team who achieved joint 3rd in the Tower Hamlets Under-11's High 5 Netball competition.

Going a step further in the Stepney Schools Partnership Sports League (SSPSL), were the Year 4 boys and girls football teams who finished 1st in their respective competitions. This helped Cayley Primary achieve a remarkable finish joint second in the SSPSL behind Stepney Park.

Next year we will aim to be involved in more events as a host site for borough events for the Stepney district and, hopefully, more success.



Celebrating our Bronze Oracy Award

We are delighted to announce that our school has achieved the Bronze Oracy Award. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the commitment and hard work of our whole school community.

Throughout our oracy journey, pupils have developed their speaking and listening skills through dedicated oracy assemblies, classroom activities across the curriculum, and the consistent use of oracy vocabulary and sentence stems to support high-quality discussions. Children have also enjoyed our daily lunchtime oracy questions, giving them valuable opportunities to talk, listen, share ideas, and build confidence in speaking with others.

This award recognises the importance we place on helping every child find their voice, express their ideas respectfully, and become confident communicators.

A huge thank you to all our staff and pupils for embracing oracy and working so hard to make speaking and listening an integral part of everyday learning. We are incredibly proud of this achievement and look forward to continuing our oracy journey together.

The Oracy Team



Online Safety Over the Summer Holidays

Dear parents/Carers

With six weeks away from school, many children will be spending more time online- playing games, watching videos, chatting with friends and exploring new apps. Technology can be a fantastic way to learn, create and stay connected, but it's important to help children use it safely and responsibly.

Top Tips for Parents and Carers

Set clear expectations

Agree on when, where and how devices can be used. Having simple family rules around screen time, bedtime and online behaviour can help children develop healthy digital habits.

Keep talking

Take an interest in what your child enjoys doing online. Ask them about the games they play, the videos they watch and who they chat to. Regular, open conversations make it more likely they will come to you if something worries them.

Check privacy and safety settings

Spend a few minutes reviewing the privacy settings on apps, games and devices. Make sure accounts are set to private where appropriate and that parental controls are enabled if needed.

Know the age ratings

Many popular apps, games and social media platforms have minimum age requirements. These are there to help protect children from content that may not be suitable for them.

Encourage kindness online

Remind children that the same rules of kindness and respect apply online as they do in real life. They should never share unkind messages or post anything they wouldn't want others to see.



Think before you share

Talk about protecting personal information. Children should never share their full name, address, school, passwords or other personal details online, and they should always ask permission before sharing photos or videos.

What should children do if something goes wrong?

Encourage your child to:

- Stop and don't respond if something makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Block the person if necessary.
- Tell a trusted adult straight away.
- Report inappropriate content or behaviour using the app or game's reporting tools.

Helpful Resources

For trusted advice, guides and the latest information, visit:

Thinkuknow – Advice for parents and children on staying safe online.

NSPCC – Online safety guidance, including support with apps, games and social media.

Internet Matters – Practical advice, parental control guides and age-specific resources.

We hope you all have a wonderful, safe and relaxing summer break. Thank you for your continued support in helping our children become safe, respectful and responsible digital citizens.

Ruksana Khanom
Computing Lead



Oracy at Home

Let's talk about...the brain

Stimulus- Look After Your Brain. It's just like the rest of the body – it needs your help to stay healthy.

<https://youtu.be/12pbrkcfRDI>



Talking Points:

Why do you think sleep is so important for your brain?
What kind of foods do you think would be healthy for your brain?
What other things could you do to look after your brain?

Activity:

Learning something new can change the structure of the brain in just seven days. Try learning a new skill like juggling, or playing a musical instrument.

Watch The Brain Dictionary: <https://youtu.be/k61nJkx5aDQ>

Thinking about the brain

Caring talking- How can we look after our brains? Do our brains feel things?

Collaborative talking- Can many minds make light work? Can we connect our brains?

Creative talking- How do we use our brains when we build? Or play? Or make?

Critical talking- How does your brain decide what to notice and what to ignore?

Quotes about the brain

Children develop their brains as well as their bodies through movement.

Dr Montessori, physician and educator.

Play is our brain's favourite way of learning. Diane Ackerman, writer.

Use these sentence stems to encourage your child to speak confidently and develop their oracy skills.

Agree / Build on someone else's idea

I agree with ___ because ...

Building on what ___ said ...

I would like to add ...

Challenging / Disagreeing

I disagree with you because ...

That's a good point, but ...

Clarifying / Questioning

Can you explain more about ...?

Could you give an example of ...?

Explaining reasoning / Justifying

I think / feel / believe ... because ...

One reason is ...

This shows ...

Summarising / Concluding

The main idea is ...

To sum up ...

In conclusion ...

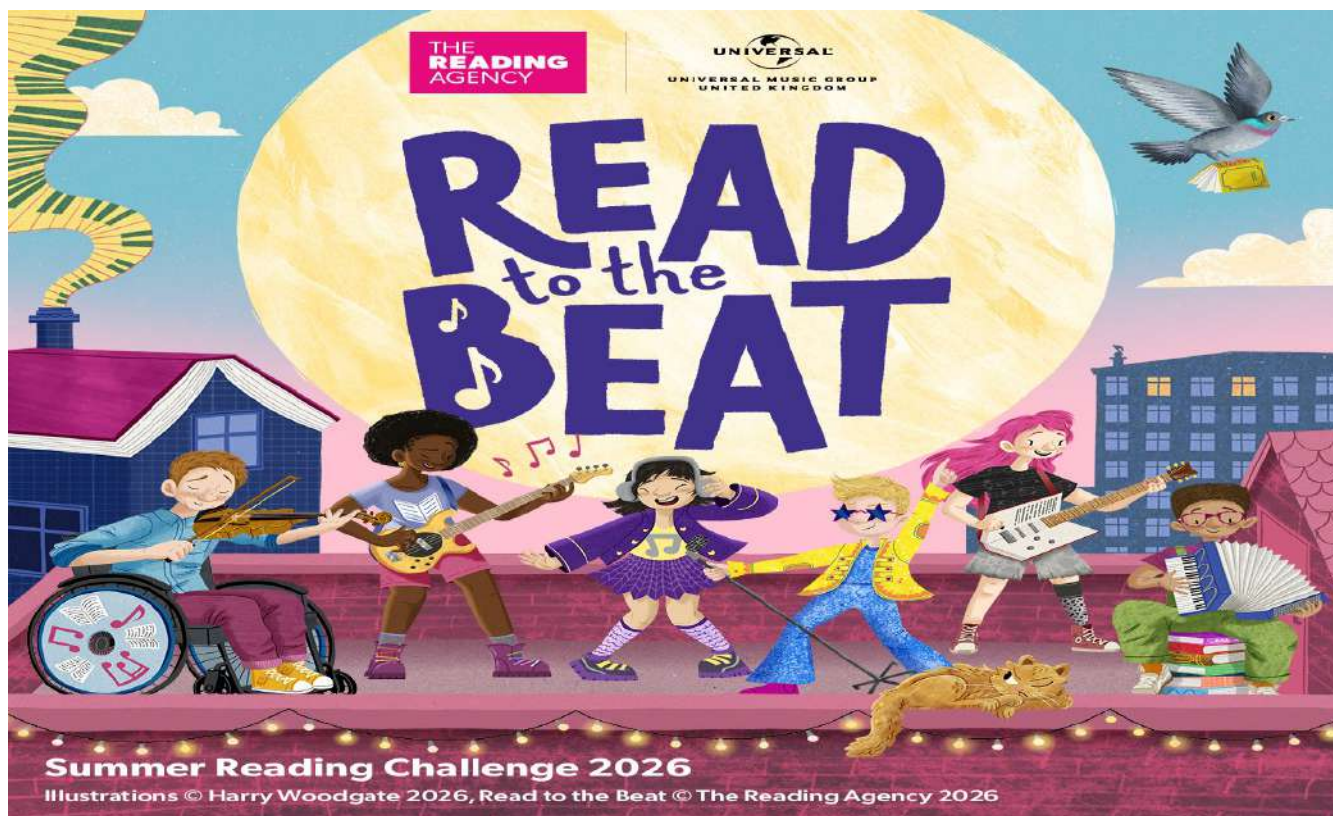


Summer Reading Challenge 2026

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to keep reading during the summer holidays, ensuring they are ready for a great start to the new term in the autumn. Children set a reading goal and collect rewards for reading anything they enjoy. It's **free** to take part.

This year's challenge, Read to the Beat, will inspire children to explore the rhythm and melody of reading. Read to the Beat will celebrate music and sound – exploring how music and storytelling unite.

The Summer Reading Challenge will run from Saturday 4 July to Saturday 12 September 2026.



Who is it for?

The Summer Reading Challenge is aimed at children from 4-11 years old. It supports this age group and their families by:

- Preparing children to get back to the classroom in the autumn.
- Supporting the move into a new year group or key stage.
- Boosting children's confidence and self-esteem by supporting independent reading.
- Providing free access to books and fun family activities during the summer.

Get Involved

Visit your local library and sign up. Your child will set a reading goal, choose anything they like to read, and collect special stickers and rewards for their reading. Libraries offer lots of free activities and events throughout the summer.



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