



Dear Parents,

After much discussion with parents, Governors and Colleagues about the proposed initiative of community funded crossing patrols, I have welcomed an email to confirm that this will not be going ahead. After listening to public feedback and securing Government funding, Staffordshire County Council have decided that the crossing patrol service will continue. This means we can breathe a sigh of relief for the continued safety of our children.

This week has started our Learning Conference cycle. We have had the pleasure of spending two days in upper key stage 2, talking to the children and looking at the progress they are making in their learning. As part of our collaborative working as SESAT, we welcomed the Headteacher, Mr Ball, and Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Darlington to join us. As always, the children are our pride and joy and never fail to impress. The standard of learning that takes place is extremely high and the vocabulary rich environment is a clear strength. The children are able to talk passionately about their learning and are clear about the intended outcomes. Our teachers are extremely talented and ensure that all learning is purposeful. Once again, it is an absolute pleasure to see such a committed workforce who always have the children's learning at the heart of what they do.

We continually strive to improve our communication with parents. As a result, last week we held a Year 1 Phonics and Year 6 SATs meeting for parents. Year 1 parents were given a short presentation on how we teach phonics and how this will be assessed at the end of Year 1. Parents were then able to browse the classrooms and look at the plethora of resources we use to teach and reinforce phonics. At the other end of the school, a Year 6 SATs meeting was held. This informative session discussed how we approach SATs, the assessments themselves and addressed any questions or queries that parents had. Support resources and examples were prepared for parents and we shared our belief that this is a celebration of all the children's learning. Thank you to all parents who attended.

As always, it is really important that we communicate effectively with you about your children. Therefore, if you have a query about your child, the best person to initially contact is the class teacher. If you feel you need to speak to someone more senior, please contact the phase leaders. The phase leaders know their departments well and share information at Senior Leadership Meetings with Mr Coombs and myself.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Bettany
Headteacher

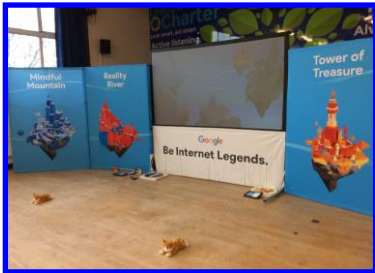
Severe Weather Procedure

Over the last few days we have seen a few flurries of snow in the air. Therefore, this seems to be the perfect time to remind everyone about severe weather procedures. Leasowes Primary will endeavour to keep the school open in the event of poor weather but will have to make evaluations on the safety of the site and ensure that staff are not putting themselves at risk making the journey. In the event of severe weather, this will be posted on the school website, under 'Parent News' and 'Severe Weather', on the Staffordshire County Council School Closure website (link on website), announced on Signal Radio and we will send a text message through our communication system. If it is not signposted on these platforms then please assume that the school is open.

Together we learn. Together we grow.

Keeping Children Safe Online

For those of you that missed this on Twitter. A Google team visited us on Wednesday 16th January to deliver a lively, interactive assembly about online safety. The children thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and were reminded about the skills they need to be safe and confident online. Why not visit 'Interland' and see what it was all about? We will be continuing the message on Safer Internet Day which is coming up on Tuesday 5th February.



Cancer Research Cake Sale
Friday 1st February after school inside the KS2 gates.

DID YOU KNOW?



Art Exhibition

Thursday 31st January at 3.30pm in the KS2 hall.



Curiosity Corner

This week, it is over to you! Choose an area of Science that you are interested in and share some interesting facts. You could create a poster, a series of display cards or something else. We will share these in assembly to increase our school's scientific knowledge. I cannot wait to read all of the fun facts!

Miss Reeves

Year 5 Sleepover!

Year 5 were overcome with excitement last Thursday evening as they spent the night sleeping in school. This was a two day event all themed around the current topic, 'To Infinity and Beyond'. Parents were invited to a family learning event in the afternoon, which was extremely well attended. At the end of the session, parents and grandparents said their goodbyes and left them at school in the capable hands of the staff. The children took part in a range of activities including: Astronaut training – where the children completed a series of challenges, Moon walking and leaping, drinking from ziplock bags, anagrams, wordsearches, passing moon rocks through boxes whilst wearing protective clothing (marigold gloves) and a G-force spin. Together with a chip shop tea, stargazing at night and finishing with a movie and popcorn, this was a night to remember. Thank you to all the staff that volunteered their time and particularly to the Year 5 staff for organising such an exciting event. This is perfect preparation for building up to the residential visit in Year 6.

