



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all managed to take advantage of the beautiful weather and spend some quality time with your families. This term we are driving our value of Aspiration. This is an essential value and here at Leasowes we aim high and try to be the very best that we can be. In the launch assembly on Monday, we discussed taking responsibility for our own learning and ensuring that we always have a positive attitude. Thinking about how we could support each other and evolve our mindset, we changed negative learning statements into positive outcomes. Here are a few:

I can't do this. **I can't do this yet.**
I made a mistake. **This is a learning opportunity to get it right next time.**
I am just going to give up. **I need to use a different strategy.**
It's good enough. **Is this really the best I can do?**

We decided that children need to take responsibility for their own learning; the school staff, friends and family could help this by encouraging a positive attitude towards all that we do. I really look forward to our 'Aspire to Be, Future Me' event on Thursday 11th April. Aim high children!

At Leasowes, safeguarding is always our top priority. In our ever-changing society, social media has continued to gain momentum. This is more accessible to children due to the availability of smart phones and tablets. I would like to bring parents attention to the use of the WhatsApp mobile messaging app. WhatsApp allows people to message each other and has a group chat function. In May 2018, WhatsApp changed their minimum age of use from 13 to 16 years of age. We do have many pupils at Leasowes using WhatsApp out of school, in particular the group chat function. We would like to bring this to parents' attention and discourage the use.

Communication with parents is an essential part of your child's learning journey. To support communication, this half term we have Parents' Evenings planned for Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th April. A letter will be sent out in due course, but I wanted to highlight the date so that you have time to make any arrangements to enable you to attend.

In the meantime, 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

School Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Monday 11th March. All children will have their photograph taken and there will be an opportunity for you to purchase copies if you wish.

Leasowes Extra

Just a quick reminder that the closing date for all September Nursery admissions is the 31st March 2019. If you would like to apply for a place, please email Mrs Caven at extra@leasowes.staffs.sch.uk for an application form. Thank you.

PTFA

Our PTFA continue to work hard to raise funds for the school and the Spring term is no exception. On Friday 5th April we have EYFS/KS1 chocolate bingo & the KS2 disco.

Together we learn. Together we grow.

Polite Parking Notice

School is extremely busy at morning drop off and afternoon collection. Please do not park on the grass verges as this can be dangerous and continue to be mindful of residents. Thank you for your support.



wellbeing wonder

Do some gardening – how mucky can you get?

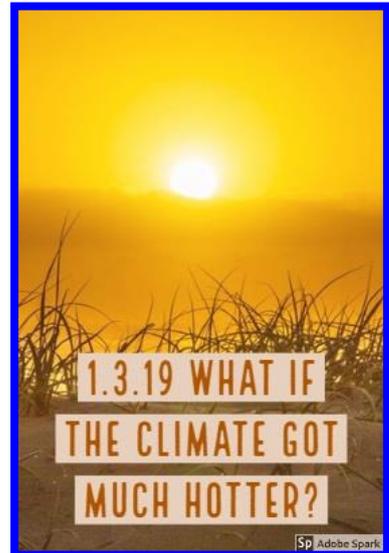
Lost Property & Second Hand Uniform

We have many unnamed items of uniform in our lost property box. Please pop in and have a look if your child has misplaced an item of clothing.

Second hand uniform can be purchased from the PTFA. Please contact via leasowes2ndhanduniform@gmail.com

JLT

Our Junior Leadership Team is really busy this Spring term making a difference to the children at Leasowes. They have been tasked with looking at the KS2 playground to create quiet areas where children are able to sit and complete table-top activities if they choose to. They have come up with some fantastic ideas and Governors have allocated some funds for them to provide the right resources. We have leaders of the future. Watch this space to see how the KS2 playground develops!



Sporting Competitions

This half term is a busy time for all our budding athletes. In the last week, we will be holding our annual 6-a-side football competition for years 4, 5 and 6. Last year, over 500 children from across Stafford competed in this, and we were finalists in all three events! In the meantime, we have entered into cross-country, skittleball and handball competitions. Mrs Moores will also organise our annual gymnastics display. Good luck to all competing.

Leasowes Extra

There are lots of exciting activities taking place in the after school provision during the second half of the Spring term.

Activities in the Early Years setting will be based around the topic of 'Our Favourite Books'. This is linked to the national theme of 'Share a Story' on World Book Day, which is on Thursday 7th of March.

Discussions have already taken place with the children about the books they love to read. Each week the focus will be on one of these books with activities being linked to the story. They will also be decorating pancakes to celebrate Pancake Day. Towards the end of term we will celebrate Easter, making chocolate nest cakes and completing a range of lovely art and craft activities.

Over in KS1/2 their 'Space and the Universe' topic has been so popular that this will continue to run until the Easter break. Alongside this, they will also be thinking about Pancake Day, Mother's Day, Spring and Easter. Their activities will include; designing and decorating their favourite pancakes, making cotton wool lambs, pipe cleaner daffodils and sponge painting for our Spring display board. They will be making bird feeders and Spring themed head bands as well as taking part in an Easter treasure hunt and 'Don't Drop the Egg' challenge.

We currently have limited availability in both of the after school settings. If you wish to make an enquiry please contact Mrs Caven by emailing extra@leasowes.staffs.sch.uk or calling 01785 337375.