



Newsletter 10th May 2019

Together we learn. Together we grow.

Dear Parents,

We are already half way through this extremely short half term, which means it is important that we have impact on learning. I started last week by launching our value of Enjoyment in assembly. We often think about enjoying learning and life, therefore I decided to take a slightly different approach. We used Quality Streets as our focus and thought about how appealing they looked and tasted with a variety of colours and flavours. Inviting the children to think about how they could liken a person's personality to a given flavour, we soon started to think creatively. Remembering that there is no right or wrong answer, one child stated that the coconut éclair could describe someone as adventurous, who liked to travel and try new things. Another child felt that the strawberry cream demonstrated strength, but also having a sensitive side to them. I then asked everyone to decide which chocolate best described them and to stand up when I showed the image. It soon became very clear that many people have different opinions, views, likes and dislikes. We concluded that this is what we love about Leasowes, our community and the world around us. We challenged each other to observe differences and diversity in people and enjoy how it creates unique individuals, continually adding to our wonderfully diverse community.

May is a busy time in the academic year, and particularly important for Year 6. As with the rest of the country, next week they prepare to sit their end of KS2 SATs. The children have arrived back to school refreshed and ready to do their very best. Please ensure that the children get plenty of rest over this period and that they attend every day. We want every child to reach their full potential.

This week we welcome Mrs Dodd back to school after her maternity leave. Mrs Dodd has enjoyed her time with her family and is ready to get back into life at Leasowes. She will be teaching in Reception for a couple of weeks before resuming her teaching role in Year 4 alongside Mrs Thomas.

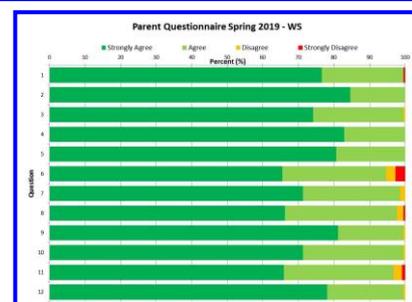
In our drive to communicate as efficiently as possible, I have displayed the responses as promised to the parental questionnaires from the Spring Parents' Evening. We are extremely pleased with the overwhelming positive comments. Over the next term we have many planned activities. Please check the school calendar on our website for up and coming dates.

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

WHOLE SCHOOL		Strongly Agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total Responses
		Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	
1	My child is happy at this school	170	77	51	23	0	0	1	0	222
2	My child feels safe at this school	187	85	34	15	0	0	0	0	221
3	My child makes good progress at this school	163	74	56	25	1	0	0	0	220
4	My child is well looked after at this school	184	83	38	17	0	0	0	0	222
5	My child is taught well at this school	175	81	42	19	0	0	0	0	217
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	146	65	65	29	6	3	6	3	223
7	The school ensures the pupils are well behaved	156	71	60	27	3	1	0	0	219
8	The school deals effectively with bullying	141	66	67	31	4	2	1	0	213
9	The school is well led and managed	181	81	41	18	1	0	0	0	223
10	The school responds well to any concerns I raise	154	71	61	28	1	0	0	0	216
11	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	145	66	68	31	5	2	2	1	220
12	I would recommend the school to another parent	171	78	47	21	1	0	0	0	219



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Mountain Bike Mayhem!

As we are thinking about wellbeing and enjoyment, it is lovely from time to time to celebrate our children's pastimes and achievements. Isabelle Strachan is a keen Mountain Biker and she recently took part in the Midland Cross Country Mountain Bike Event in Sheffield. After a gruelling race, Isabelle pedalled hard to overcome difficult terrain and her continued pace saw her take 2nd place on the pedestal. An absolutely brilliant achievement Isabelle; we wish you all the best for future events.



Fish and Quiz

We have our ever-popular Fish n Quiz for adults on Friday 10th May. This is a fun Quiz night with a Fish and Chip Supper. Teams are a maximum of 6 people. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

All Welcome!

School Uniform

Just a quick reminder, the only optional changes to the summer uniform are: blue gingham summer dresses and white socks for the girls and black shorts for girls or boys. See website for full details.
Thank you for your support.

Curiosity Corner Friday 10th May

Competition: Design a Lunar Hotel!

This week's Curiosity Corner is to draw your attention to a nationwide competition for young scientists run by Nexus Education: can you design a hotel fit for visitors to the moon? Open to primary school pupils aged 7-11 years (KS2), the competition invites children to create a poster or pamphlet which advertises their Moon hotel and explains the science around it. Thinking about food, water, air and gravity, they will be encouraged to come up with innovative designs which meet the challenges of lunar life and showcase their space science knowledge.

If you would like more details, these can be found at <https://www.nexus-education.com/design-a-hotel-on-the-moon-primary-school-competition-to-celebrate-apollo-50/>

If you decide to take part, I'd love to see your entry!



wellbeing wonder

Do some easy exercise before leaving for school

Extra, Extra!

As we enter the Summer term, the children are very busy in the after school provision. In Early Years this half term, they are thinking about space! They will be making moon sand, exploring alien slime, with art and craft activities including marble print planets and symmetrical alien paintings. For their tasty treats session the children are going to decorate biscuits with a galaxy theme. Yummy!

Over in KS1/2 they are already busy outdoors, planting and potting to create a mini garden. Carrying on with this theme, they are making ribbon and hoop wind catchers and butterfly mobiles to hang in their mini garden. Craft activities include making raindrop sun catchers, paper bag butterflies, thumb print dandelions and paper plate caterpillars. They are also experimenting with colour changing flowerpots and taking part in a 'nature' themed team scavenger hunt. We are currently taking bookings for September and only have limited availability. If you require any before or after school provision for the next school year and you haven't already done so, please contact me by emailing extra@leasowes.staffs.sch.uk or calling 01785 337375.

Mrs Caven