



Dear Parents,

After a very difficult year, it is truly wonderful to welcome everyone back to school. Seeing the children arrive on Thursday morning looking super smart and ready to learn made all of the planning and risk assessing worth it. We have that lovely buzz back in school! Our new to Nursery and Reception children arrived at school and settled extremely quickly. Thank you to all the parents for your patience with our arrival procedures.

As always, the staff started the academic year with two intensive inset days. We started by welcoming our new members of staff. We have three new Teaching Assistants: Mrs Armitage, Mrs Rowell and Miss Chesworth. They are going to bring a wealth of skills to the Leasowes Team and we look forward to their impact with the children. This was followed with Safeguarding and Health and Safety as this reminds us that keeping children safe is the most important job that we have. In the afternoon we took part in external online safety training. As the digital world continues to develop at an immense rate, it is really important that teachers know about the dangers and how to teach these safely and sensitively to the children. On day two, our EYFS department took part in Makaton training to support the development of speech, language and communication. Staff will use Makaton alongside the spoken word and this will develop over time. The rest of the teachers had Design and Technology training. This updated teachers on new and exciting ideas for teaching the children progressive skills across the year groups. I look forward to seeing these skills in action.

Over the summer we have made further improvements to our school surroundings. After our building project was completed in Spring, we were able to move Year 2 into their new classrooms. Mr Locke, Miss Ross and the Year 2 team are thrilled with their new space. The area outside the Year 2 classrooms, that used to be part of our walkway, now houses our school library. This is an amazing provision that is 'Rooted in Reading', supporting our commitment to placing reading at the heart of all that we do. Thank you to the PTFA for tirelessly fund raising; this valuable resource and stimulating environment will impact on every child's learning. Please read about 'Rooted in Reading' on our website. [Rooted in Reading](#)

The building development has enabled us to move Reception and Year 1 into new classrooms, making additional space for our Nursery children. As part of this move we wanted to create a space where the whole of EYFS would benefit from a stimulating and inviting outdoor learning area. For those of you that have already seen it, I am sure that you will agree it is so inviting and will allow for outdoor learning to be exciting, creative and help to develop that life-long love of learning. Please see the photographs overleaf.

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 are Mrs Bromley (EYFS), Mr Locke (KS1), Mrs Till (Lower KS2) and Mrs Davies (Upper KS2). Whilst Mrs Bromley is on maternity, please contact Miss Ashton. The phase leaders know their departments well and share information at Senior Leadership Meetings with Mr Coombs and myself.

We look forward to working collaboratively with parents over this academic year.

Mrs Bettany
Headteacher

Together we learn. Together we grow.

Our School Values

At Leasowes everything we do at school is underpinned by our vision and values. We pride ourselves on using these values in our everyday language and actions. Children have a clear understanding of what they are, what they mean and how to put them into practice, both individually and collectively as a school. This half term we will especially be thinking about **RESPECT.**

Twitter

At Leasowes we love Twitter. This is a great way for us to showcase what we have been learning about or experiences we have provided the children. Please follow us @LeasowesPrimary



Health & Safety

Please ensure that younger siblings are kept away from the Forest Schools Area and play equipment whilst waiting for children to be collected from school.



We endeavour to be a nut free school. Please be extra careful when providing packed lunches. We have several children in school with severe nut allergies. Thank you for your ongoing support with the care of our children.

Snack Money

We are offering snacks to Year 3 – 6 from Monday 7th September during breaktime. Please find the break sales flyer attached. We are asking that if children want to buy snacks the correct money must be sent in. Thank you for your understanding.

