



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! After a couple of weeks back into school this now feels a distant memory. School is in full swing and the children are powering ahead with their learning. In our first assembly back, as a school we thought about all the additional learning opportunities we have experienced during the Autumn term. The list was phenomenal! In addition, we revisited our School Improvement Plan and discussed with the children our focus for the rest of this academic year. The children, as always, continue to impress me as they could talk with confidence about our whole school focus and how we can achieve it. With a courageous and collaborative approach, we will endeavour to exceed our goals.

Since our return in January, the staff have been extremely busy. In our drive to always put safeguarding and Health & Safety at the heart of everything we do, several training sessions have taken place. All the staff have received basic paediatric first aid and specific members of staff across school have completed the full training. As a result of this training, we are looking to source funding to supply a defibrillator on our school site. Office, lunchtime and premises staff also have undertaken manual handling training. Finally, a cross section of staff (16 in total) have taken part in fire marshal training. We will be assigning new roles to fire marshals, ensuring our procedures are as robust as possible. As I'm sure you will agree, this training continues to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of pupils and staff at Leasowes.

This term we would like to really encourage children to become more independent and organised in and around school. Part of this is ensuring children have the right equipment and resources for school. Please can you support school to ensure that children begin to take responsibility for bringing in the correct equipment e.g. water bottle and Forest School kit. Our office staff spend a considerable amount of time ringing parents or distributing items brought in by parents to children. In a school the size of Leasowes this is a big task. We thank you in advance for your support.

As always, if you have a query about your child, the best person to initially contact is the class teacher or the phase leader. If you feel you need to speak to myself or Mr Coombs, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you for your on-going support,  
Mrs Bettany

### Chess Success!

We are extremely lucky to have the support of Mr Stanley on a regular basis in school. He runs a chess lunchtime club which has always been popular, but continues to grow. Over the year, Mr Stanley arranges chess matches against other schools. On Monday of this week, Leasowes challenged Stafford Prep. We had 17 children compete and based on the initial games we secured 9 wins, 2 draws and 5 losses. An excellent competition and experience. Well done 'Team Chess!'

### Our School Values

This half term we are focusing on our value of collaboration. This is something that is clearly embedded at Leasowes and it is wonderful to see the children working together. 'Alone we are smart, together we are brilliant!'