



Dear Parents,

School has been a buzz of excitement since welcoming the children back. New routines have become embedded practice and the children always amaze me at how quickly they adapt. After many months at home and many children accessing home learning, the teachers have been working hard assessing each and every child. On Monday, Years 2-6 had progress reports sent home. These reports share the areas of learning that each child needs to work on. One of our priorities is to support the rapid recovery of concepts and address any gaps that may have emerged, to ensure that the children can continue to build on their learning. Together, with the support of parents, this can be achieved. All staff are working hard to instil good learning behaviours and ensure that the children's well-being and resilience is also supported. In addition to progress reports, 'Meet the Teacher' slides were posted on our year group pages providing you with vital information about school and your child's class. Please make sure that you browse the website.

Leasowes prides itself on providing the children with a balanced and exciting curriculum. During recovery learning it is even more essential that all subjects are given the same importance. Over the past few years we have worked extremely hard on our curriculum and each subject leader leads their subject through proven research, planning, training, monitoring and analysing. As part of this we often embark on processes that challenge the work that we do. Last academic year, Mrs Croton applied for the 'Primary Geography Quality Mark'. This involved lots of work, training and rewriting of our curriculum ensuring we remain faithful to the discipline. Staff and children have grown in confidence with Geography and now we are really pushing boundaries. I have the pleasure of announcing that Leasowes has been awarded the Bronze Primary Geography Mark. We are very proud of our achievements and would like to thank Mrs Croton for leading us through this process. We will be driving towards the silver award, which will see our new practice become embedded.

Continuing the theme of our developing curriculum, it is really important that we provide the children with rich experiences that can develop their learning and interests. We endlessly invest in our curriculum and the opportunity to provide different experiences. I want to share with you the planned experiences that we have for music. There are many advantages to learning how to play a musical instrument; it requires tremendous skill and dedication. It can be immense fun and can be hugely satisfying. We feel at Leasowes that we would like to give children the opportunity to try different musical instruments in the hope that some children will choose to continue learning an instrument. Therefore, this year we are introducing the opportunity to learn to play the following instruments in the following year groups: Year 1 – glockenspiel, Year 2 – recorder, Year 3 – ukulele, Year 4 – violin and Year 5 – brass instrument. The violins and brass instruments will be taught by external experts whereas the glockenspiels, recorder and ukulele will be taught by teachers. This is really exciting and I look forward to seeing the progress of the children and teachers throughout the year.

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

Mrs Bettany  
Headteacher

Together we learn. Together we grow.

### Money Raiser!

Over the summer holidays, our very own Georgia Burge has been busy raising funds to support our PTFA. Georgia, along with her mum, helped to design facemasks with the wording 'Keeping Stafford Safe'. Together they made, packaged and sold masks all over Stafford. Georgia personally delivered the majority of masks and thanked the customers for supporting Leasowes. She raised a huge £305! This is absolutely brilliant. She has not only raised significant funds for the school but also supported the safety and wellbeing of our community. We are so proud of Georgia and how she demonstrates the Leasowes values in all that she does. Thank you Georgia, you are an absolute ambassador for the school.



### Supporting our Staff

The staff have been delighted to receive a donation of antimicrobial/antiviral pouch bags from Addmaster. This kind donation was organised by Linzi and Shenyi's mum and supports our wellbeing of staff. Thank you!

### For Every Child – Writing Celebration

As part of our commitment to understanding the CRC (Convention on the Rights of the Child) Leasowes children have explored the text 'For Every Child' for the first 2 weeks of the academic year. 'For Every Child' was written in the year 1999, ahead of the millennium, with a view to children being the key to our future. Every page within the text depicts an article from the CRC illustrated by a different artist. Each class studied a page in detail and produced a piece of writing rooted in an article. Following their writing, children also evaluated and recreated art in the style of the artist depicted on their page. The children thoroughly enjoyed this work and it has helped to make them more aware of their rights as children. We are certain that we will be a Silver 'Rights Aware' school before you know it.

Miss Leonard



Samples of the children's work from each class has been displayed in the KS2 hall for all to celebrate.



### School Improvement Plan

Every year we think carefully about how we would like to further improve. As a result, we have developed our School Improvement Plan (SIP) where we target three key areas that we would like to focus on.

1. Innovative and creative strategies are planned and implemented to promote rapid learning in key areas of the curriculum, so that learning completed prior and during the Covid-19 school closure is consolidated and built upon, with potential gaps in 'lost learning' closed.
2. The quality of education, through our curriculum design, remains faithful to our curriculum concepts, with an emphasis on the 'wider curriculum' and how the teaching and application of knowledge and skills are reflected in our school environment and promotes inclusivity.
3. Opportunities are planned to ensure that children at Leasowes have an inclusive access to a rich and wide range of Cultural Capital, enabling them to experience the best that has been thought and said; helping them to understand and appreciate human creativity and achievement.