



Dear Parents,

As we hurtle towards the summer holidays, we ensure that children are ready and prepared for next steps within their learning journey. Year 6 are well and truly thriving in their transition activities. Only last week they were visited by some 'Dragons' (in the form of PTFA members) where children pitched their business ideas for the enterprise projects. I hear the process was a brutal one, but all of our groups were able to convince the panel to invest in their projects – which they have to pay back of course. I have had a glimpse at the creative process and really look forward to seeing the finished products and the impact of their hard work. Across the rest of the year groups a plethora of activities and learning takes place preparing children for transition. This week you will have received information about your child's new class teacher and staff are busy preparing for transition morning on Thursday 8th July. You may have noticed that there has been a change of leaders within two of the phases. Mrs Till will be leading KS1 and Mr Locke will be leading Lower KS2 (Year 3 and 4). Miss Ashton will continue to lead Early Years and Miss Reeves will continue to lead Upper KS2 (Year 5 and 6). All the staff are looking forward to meeting their classes, but of course we still have a couple of weeks left to enjoy.

As with other year groups, last week Mr Coombs and I had the pleasure of spending the day with Year 4 and 5 whilst immersed in learning, we were able to talk to children and browse through their books. As I always say, it is such a privilege. The children talk with passion and confidence and really want to demonstrate their knowledge and skills. The children in Year 5 were busy building prototypes of 'cam' mechanisms. Their technical vocabulary and knowledge of the processes was impressive, whilst the children in Year 4 blew us away with their varied fluency of decimals. The children were engaged in peer mentoring; where one child takes the role of the mentor and the other the mentee. The learning conversations taking place were so powerful that the children were not only embedding key learning but developing communication skills that will support them throughout life. At Leasowes, we love to learn!

The last 18 months has been a challenge. Facing a global pandemic has been difficult at times. However, we must practise what we preach and use every experience as a learning opportunity. There are lots of things that we have learnt and we will adopt some of the processes in the future to help us streamline our practice. During every challenge the human spirit never ceases to amaze me. Whilst in the realms of remote learning, which was a challenge for staff as well as families, Pearson National Teaching Awards set out to recognise teachers that have made an outstanding contribution during such a difficult time. Parents, carers and professionals were all asked to nominate teachers that have made a difference. I am so proud to announce that Miss Ross was nominated and rightfully awarded with, 'The 2021 Lockdown Hero Award for Learning and Community Support'. Miss Ross has been awarded with a certificate and handwritten thank you letter by esteemed author Michael Morpurgo. This award is so deserved and she is an absolute natural on the camera. Thank you Miss Ross, you have made us so proud of you: what a wonderful accolade to have achieved.

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

Together we learn. Together we grow.

Library Books

At Leasowes we are 'Rooted in Reading'. We have spent much time and resources in ensuring that all our children have full access to a wide variety of rich and inviting text and as you are fully aware, our library is our pride and joy. Mrs Bailey and Mrs Williams manage our library area to ensure that books are returned to school to allow other children access to them. At present there are several outstanding library books and reading books. Please can you ensure that these are returned to school so that we can prepare the library for the new academic year. Teachers will be contacting parents of children with outstanding books over the coming weeks.

Please make every effort to return them to school as soon as possible. Lost library and reading books may incur a cost.

Thank you for your support: every child deserves the opportunity to read.

Fire Safety

Safety is our top priority at Leasowes and this includes fire safety. Every half term, we have an unannounced fire drill to practise our safe routes out of school. Children immediately stop their learning and walk out to designated areas in a calm and timely manner. All children are accounted for, with dedicated Fire Marshals ensuring that all areas have been checked. All fire drills are timed to ensure that we remain efficient and safe. Today, we had one of our fire drills where I unexpectedly blocked one of the fire exit routes. This was done to test our risk assessments and demonstrate to children and staff that if a fire was to break out, it could happen anywhere and alternative routes would need to be taken. Well done to Year 5, I completely blocked your exit without anyone knowing and you all followed instructions, exited via a different route and arrived at your designated space safely within the same time. Just brilliant! Remember: **Safety First!**

Well done Miss Ross, we are super proud of you!



PTFA

Our PTFA work tirelessly to provide additional funds for school and this year has been a huge challenge. To the left are images of a Year 6 leavers book mark and whole school pin badge that can be purchased from 'Drawn to You'. For each item purchased, a donation is made to the PTFA, which is donated back into Leasowes. If you wish to purchase, here is the link below.

[Drawn to You](#)

RIGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

ARTICLE: 42 - KNOWLEDGE OF RIGHTS

WHY? TO CELEBRATE ALL OUR PROGRESS AS A RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL AND RECOGNISE HOW MANY OF OUR RIGHTS THAT WE ARE NOW AWARE OF.



Leasowes Cricket Team

This week we were able to compete in our first live competition since 2019. I am extremely proud to announce that Leasowes won the Stafford KS2 cricket tournament. They won every match that they played, showing amazing courage and collaboration. Well done!

Leasowes Extra Recruitment Opportunity

Leasowes Extra are currently looking for a Play Worker to join their team in September. The position is for 6.5 hours per week, term time only, however more hours may be available on an ad-hoc basis. The successful candidate **must be able to** work between 3.00 and 5.30pm on a Tuesday and 3.00 to 5.00pm on a Wednesday and Thursday. No qualifications are required for this role, however experience of working in a childcare setting would be an advantage. If you are interested, please email Mrs Caven for an application form and job description no later than the 12th July 2021; extra@leasowes.staffs.sch.uk – **Candidates must be Over 18.**