



Dear Parents,

As we reach the end of the first half term, we have had an extremely busy and exciting time in school. Last week, we celebrated our Harvest festivals. Although we were unable to invite parents in to join us, the celebrations continued. Children came together in their phases to think about the food we grow on our lands and how it is important to share this with people less fortunate than ourselves. We were all encouraged to say thank you through singing, poetry and then Mr Bales entertained us with one of his amazing stories that of course has a really important message. This fits beautifully with our Rights Respecting Schools, and in particular, Article 24: Children have the right to clean water to drink, healthy food and a clean and safe environment to live in. The celebrations did not stop there as we were overwhelmed with the support from our community for our foodbank donations for Rising Brook Community Church. Your generosity will make a huge difference to many families in Stafford. Thank you!

Communication with parents and carers is extremely important to us as a school. We believe that parental support is fundamental to the success of our children. This week we have had our first face to face parents evening for quite a long time. I hope that many of you managed to get a glimpse of some of the physical changes to our school environment. The uptake from parents has been great and it is lovely for you to have time with the class teacher and to have a look at the children's work so far this term. The teachers will have discussed how your child has settled in to school, how well they are engaging with the learning and targets for them to work hard to achieve. We are so proud of our children and the Leasowes curriculum. Please encourage your child to talk about their learning at home. Thank you for the many kind comments we received, this is really appreciated.

Whilst talking about how passionate we are about our curriculum, one of our curriculum concepts is 'Rooted in Reading'. We as a school firmly believe that children who learn to read, read to learn and the more breadth and depth children are exposed to, the more accessible opportunities and experiences become. Part of our drive is to encourage children to be readers for life and reading for pleasure at home is a key factor in achieving this. As you are all aware we have a plethora of resources to support this, we love to provide ideas where you can support your child as well, hence the new feature in our newsletter, 'We are Readers'. This week Miss Reeves, who is an avid reader, has gone one step further. She has written a seasonal reading newsletter that will be a new half termly feature and will replace our 'We are Readers' for that week only. This reading newsletter will provide text recommendations for different ages and is based around a theme. We have attached this along with the newsletter. If your child chooses to take up the challenge and read one of the books, please let Miss Reeves know as she will be absolutely thrilled!

As a school we pride ourselves on the safeguarding of all pupils, which incorporates supporting children with medical needs. Type 1 diabetes in children is a life changing condition that needs careful management and it is extremely important that a child feels confident and safe in school and does not miss out on their education. Here at Leasowes we have a team of dedicated staff to ensure inclusion for all and as a result we have been recently awarded the 'Good Diabetes Care in School' award. We have a certificate and trophy on the way. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for their ongoing commitment and care of our children – 'Together we Learn. Together we Grow'. Please watch our congratulations video from Diabetes UK [Good Care in School Award - Diabetes UK](#)

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. Mr Coombs is covering the phase leader role in KS1 for Mrs Till. 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.

Pupil Leaders

At Leasowes, we pride ourselves in creating experiences for children and staff to flourish and reach their full potential. Leadership is an area that provides opportunities to shape the future. Pupil leaders play a key role in shaping Leasowes' future. We offer so many different roles from Digital Leaders to Playground Leaders, Eco Committee to the Safety First Team, House Captains to our Junior Leadership Team (JLT). JLT is a pivotal role led by our Head Girl and Boy and Deputy Head Girl and Boy. They were instrumental last year in evolving our school charter by including 'protect today to preserve tomorrow' and supporting our eco committee with their drive to help save our environment. This year other children will be given the opportunity to fulfil these roles and after a rigorous recruitment process it gives me great pleasure to announce that Emmy and Harry have been successful in achieving the roles of Head Girl and Head Boy and Mariam and Ben have been successful in achieving the role of Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy. Please see image below. I am so looking forward to working alongside them to bring about change within Leasowes. This week they have joined me during our New to Reception Parents Meetings and will be supporting Mrs Bennett in recruiting the full Junior Leadership Team. Watch this space!



Condover Residential 2021

An eagerly-anticipated event in the Leasowes' enrichment calendar, this year's Y6 finally got their chance to head out for an exciting week at Condover Hall JCA. This week is always a fantastic opportunity for children to bond with one another and their teachers while pushing themselves out of their comfort zones and trying something new. Whether that 'something new' is jumping off a platform 30ft in the air to grab onto a suspended trapeze, or simply staying the night for the first time away from home, children develop deep resilience and show all of our Leasowes values in action. With activities ranging from Mrs Bettany's favourite Archery Tag to tunnelling, climbing, abseiling and laser conquest, children had to dig deep to show their courage - with their teachers shouting from the ground! As a staff, we were beyond proud of the Year 6s - the staff room conversation each night focused on those mini-wins such as no one getting the staff up in the night, to the gold-standard moments of 'WOW, that child really pushed themselves and got to the top of the climbing wall despite their fear of heights.' Luckily, the sun shone for us for most of the week and the children came back tired, proud and bolstered by all of the benefits spending a week away on residential can bring. As for the current Y5s, we have one thing to say: "We were born ready... are you?"