



Dear Parents,

After a lovely and restful October holiday, it is always wonderful to welcome the children back into school. This half term we are thinking about our value of courage. We always encourage our children to show courage by trying new things, grasping every opportunity offered to us, taking risks and using mistakes as learning opportunities. Through courage we develop our resilience and are able to speak out if something worries us. During assemblies and the curriculum, we will think about our own actions and the actions of others. Only yesterday, coupled with our value of respect, we took time to remember the courageous soldiers that lost their lives in the first World War. On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the of the 11th month, the Leasowes community joined together to observe one-minute silence whilst we remembered and paid our respect to the fallen. Miss Quimby played 'The Last Post' and Harry and Emmy (Head Boy and Girl) recited 'Flanders Fields'. This time is always so moving seeing all of the children together to mark such an important occasion. Our values in action!

Here at Leasowes we are always so proud of our curriculum and use courage to take every opportunity to learn. This week, myself, Mr Coombs and other members of the senior leadership team have had the pleasure of seeing children active in their learning during our Learning Conferences for EYFS, LKS2 and UKS2 (we will get to KS1 next week). We have observed learning, looked at books and talked to children about their work. Seeing the journey children make from Nursery to Year 6 is just incredible and such a privilege to be part of. Our Learning Conferences are a celebration of the learning that takes place at Leasowes. This is possible as our staff are aspirational in their teaching and really drive children to the best they can possibly be. The children speak with passion and enthusiasm and I could not be prouder of our school.

Safeguarding of children is always the highest priority at Leasowes. This coming week is Road Safety Awareness Week and Anti-Bullying Week. Make sure you wear [odd socks on Monday](#) in support of Anti-Bullying week. The staff will be teaching children in school through a variety of ways on how to remain safe. As a school we encourage children to walk, bike, scoot and some even skateboard to school. However, we always want our children to be safe whilst doing this. It would be lovely if you could also discuss road safety at home to reinforce the learning at school.

Between the 31st October and 12th November, the United Nations Climate Change Conference (also known as Cop26) is taking place in Glasgow. The COP26 summit, brings countries and world leaders together to tackle climate change and stop the temperature of the earth rising. Here at Leasowes we have an active Eco-committee that work hard to make sure that we are doing our part to save our planet. The team encourage all to turn off lights, recycle our paper and look after our healthy forest areas. You may remember that last year our JLT brought in a new action on our charter, 'Protect Today to Preserve Tomorrow'. As a result, we have stopped using single use plastics, moved to paperless systems, took part in 'Earth Hour' and are always looking for ways to improve. Last week I was approached by Oliver from Year 4 who has been thinking about single use plastics and the devastation it can cause to our oceans and sea life. Having the courage to be proactive, Oliver has designed and 'Eco-Lunchbox' to support and persuade parents to use less plastic. His design was accompanied by a handwritten letter reminding me that, 'One truck load of plastic is thrown into the sea every minute'. I think you may agree, a compelling reason to change. Please see overleaf Oliver's design. You are changing the world Oliver, one sandwich box at a time. Thank you!

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.

We are Readers!

My favourite book is 'Matilda' by Roald Dahl for many different reasons. The main character, Matilda, is a courageous and intelligent young girl and she inspired me when I was young to read many books and work hard in school. The whole book is magical and shows that if you work hard, you will reach your goals. As Matilda says in the book, 'Never do anything by halves if you want to get away with it. Be outrageous. Go the whole hog'. This book is funny, exciting and shares a really important message that even if you're little, you can achieve a lot and make a difference. Come and let me know if you read it!

Miss Roe

School Photographs

On Monday 15th November, Tempest will be in school to take the children's individual photographs. Look Smart, Act Smart!

Anti-Bullying

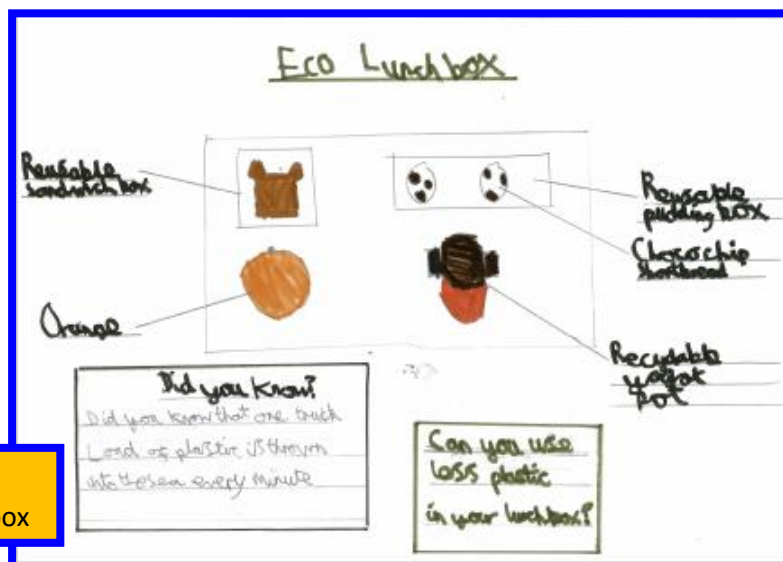
Wear odd socks on Monday 15th November

Year 5 - Victorian Day

Monday's return to school marked a journey back in time for Year 5 as they entered a Victorian classroom.

The children planned and created costumes over half term which they wore to school, giving the classroom an authentic Victorian feel. The day began with girls and boys having their hands and fingernails inspected for dirt and grime by a frighteningly strict Mrs Thomas and Mr Rock. After the inspection the children completed some drill exercises in the hall before returning to the classroom. Once seated in rows of boys and girls, Year 5 began learning the three Rs (Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic) by handwriting on a slate followed by an arithmetic session. When asked, children were told to stand and answer the teacher in full sentences always using sir/ma'am. Anyone slouching or sitting with elbows on the table would be reprimanded. A science lesson came next, followed by deportment and vocal gymnastics. Later in the morning, we sang 'All things bright and beautiful' and learned about the money system used in Victorian England; comparing farthings, shillings, pounds, guineas and pennies.

A fantastic day, jam packed with learning, was had by all!



Oliver's Eco-Lunchbox