



Together we learn. Together we grow.

Dear Parents,

It has been an absolutely lovely week at Leasowes with performances galore. On Monday, Nursery started our festive fun with the most wonderful Carol Concert. The children sang so beautifully and performed like true professionals. One of the firm favourites had to be 'One Night, One Moment' which saw a few teary eyes. This followed with Reception performing 'Whoops a Daisy Angel'. Throughout, I had to remind myself how old these children are as their performance was worthy of any West End Show! Year 1 continued the celebrations with the bespoke, 'A Night Before Christmas' written by Mrs Dodd and Miss Ross. Every single child had the opportunity to perform on stage and perform they did! Finally, Year 2 performed 'Prickly Hay', what a show stopper! Many children had speaking parts, as well as the wonderful acting and glorious singing. A huge thank you to all the parents for your support during this time and for providing costumes. It was lovely to see you all.

As a little added extra, there will be one of the songs from each of the performances uploaded to our secure website for other family members to see. The fun doesn't stop here, please remember Year 3 & 4 and 5 & 6 will be partaking in a Carol Concert that will also be uploaded to the secure website on Wednesday 15th December.

Continuing with the festivities, we had our annual Christmas dinner on Wednesday which was just delicious. Our catering staff do an amazing job and teachers sat with their children to eat Christmas dinner. Today we supported Christmas jumper day and thank you to all who joined in. PTFA sold previously owned jumpers to ensure we continue to look after our environment. The staff at Leasowes always like to support different charities. Some of you may remember that over previous years we have supported a local charity, 'Make Some Noise'. This year we will be taking part in a 'Song to Belong 2021'. Yes, the staff will be 'Rocking Around the Christmas Tree' and this will be uploaded for you all to see. This year's Christmas appeal will enable 'Make Some Noise' to produce their beautiful and unique 'Songwriting for Wellbeing' Journal, bursting with tips and opportunities to combine song-writing with achieving positive wellbeing. They launched their 'Songwriting for Wellbeing' campaign to support the local children that they unable to work with over the pandemic and who have been suffering to find joy again. The intent is to help them recover from the impact of multiple lockdowns and celebrate their talent through giving them opportunities to express their feelings through music. I hope you will agree, a very worthy cause.

Over the last few weeks, many of the children have been part of experience days or on educational visits. Year 3 and Year 4 discuss their days overleaf. Twitter is a great way for school to communicate with our parents, whether it is photographs of the day or showcasing our super learning. Please give us a follow [@LeasowesPrimary](#).

Finally, this will be the last newsletter for this year – the last day in school will be Thursday 16th December. Therefore, from all of the staff and Governors at Leasowes, we wish you a very Merry Christmas.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Bettany
Headteacher

We are Readers!

Here at Leasowes we are 'Rooted in Reading' and love to share our passion for books. Miss Reeves has created a Christmas Reading Newsletter to continue to inspire our children to read over Christmas. Santa might even think about them as Christmas presents.

Happy Reading!



Start of 2022

The first day back for children will be Wednesday 5th January 2022. We look forward to a year full of learning opportunities.

**Merry
Christmas**

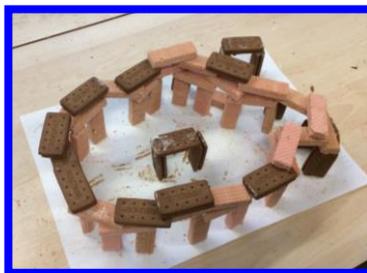


Together we learn. Together we grow.

Year 3 - Stone Age Day

On Friday the 3rd December, Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic 'Stone Age' day. The children came into school dressed in clothing appropriate to the time and were greeted by their teachers in similar garb (although we aren't quite that old to have original stone age clothes). The teachers had a host of activities planned for the children to celebrate all of their brilliant learning that they have shown throughout the Stone Age topic. We began the day by creating clay pots using a coil technique retrieved from our past DT learning and the children added Stone Age patterns to their bowls to make them suitable for the time. They then used natural resources to dye some cloth fabric, using blueberries, tomato and spinach to make effective colours. After break we delved into our own caves to do cave drawings, the lights went down and we stuck paper to the underside of a table with a cloth over it to recreate the same environment that our stone age ancestors would have had. We had lunch (fortunately we didn't have to hunt our own) and then created hand paintings found in some of the earliest recorded stone age caves. Our final activity linked to our learning about Stonehenge - the mystery surrounding Stonehenge is something we have investigated in detail and the children were tasked with building a replica out of biscuits. Being encouraged to think of the difficulty of doing it with biscuits helped them to imagine how challenging it would have been to build the actual Stonehenge at the time. The children all had a lovely day with Ben commenting that it was 'the best day ever' which was then echoed around the class. Luckily, we all got to go home to our own warm homes and not spend the night outside in the winter. Thank you to all our Y3 parents for your continued support in helping us make Stone Age day what it was.

Mr Locke and Mrs Keen



Year 4 Dragon Invaders

On Friday, Year 4 travelled back in time to the 9th Century to experience 'a day in the life of an Anglo-Saxon/Viking'. The children blew us away with the application of their knowledge from the classroom. The children began the day by watching a tour around a Norwegian village and were tasked with replicating this in the Forest Schools area. We borrowed some farm animals from Reception to keep within the village and carved a fort into the floor to add water which replicated the villages water source. After that, we had some chores to complete! The children had some muddy rags to clean with their hands, a bucket full of water and some soap. The children were exhausted after retrieving the water from the river and heating it up before they even began to wash the rags. Next, we used some barley and wheat flour to make a ball of dough. Year 4 weren't best pleased with the restricted diet of home-grown vegetables, meat that had been reared on the farm and bread, especially when this all had to be cooked around a fire. We then returned to the classroom to warm up and make bracelets, look at the Norse Alphabet and make bookmarks using Runes. It was fantastic to see the year group so engaged with the activities that we had planned for them. All children showed our school values in action and in particular, developed a mutual feeling of **respect** for the hardship that village life entailed. The whole year group thoroughly enjoyed their memorable moment of our 'Dragon Invaders' topic and a fantastic day was had by all!

Miss Matthew and Miss Thelwell

