

Leasowes Summer School 2021

Leasowes summer school ran from 9th – 13th August from 09.00 to 15.00 each day. Our new year 7 students were invited to spend a week with us, getting to know the school, each other and their staff. The aim of the week was to allay the fears of both students and their parents prior to September and for students to gain confidence and build friendships and relationships. The previous eighteen months had been very difficult for students, many had missed out on trips and the fun activities that the end of year 6 usually brings and so the summer school was designed to provide some of these missed opportunities. Without having had the usual programme of transition the week was also designed to support transition.

Students participated in a range of activities based around the theme of Japan and the Tokyo Olympics as this was very topical. Students developed their artistic skills through origami and Manga lessons where students created origami animals and Manga comic books. Their music, co-ordination and team building skills were put to the test in a Taiko drumming workshop with a professional Taiko instructor who shared her passion and expertise with staff and students. All students had the opportunity to join in with an exciting drum routine, and a number of teachers including Mr Mynott the Headteacher. The students excelled and showed a real talent and proved to be budding musicians.

Continuing the theme of Japan students took part in a Japanese language lesson where they learnt to introduce themselves, count to 10 and order food and drinks, they also had a go at writing Japanese characters.

All students enjoyed a team building day at Bartley Green Reservoir where learning to kayak, raft build and paddle board; they made a real splash! Some of our less confident and non-swimmers overcame their fears and had a great day.

Students and staff had fun creating time capsules to be opened sometime in the distant future. Fond memories of their primary schools, friends, teachers favourite subjects, trip etc were recorded and written up and students shared photos of their primary schools with their new friends and staff. This was a great way of remembering the past and preparing for the future. The focus was on literacy and oracy and on building new friendships and relationships.

On the final day an awards ceremony was held in the school theatre, where students' achievements were recognised. All participants of summer school received a certificate and a number of students were rewarded for their work, creativity, kindness, friendliness, determination etc, these students were able to choose from a selection of prizes.

Our funds were used as follows:

Summary	£
Staff costs	19487
Catering	1840
Activities	3563
Resources	4897
	29,787