



25th October 2024

Dear Parent / Carers,

As we reach the end of this half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress we have made and express my appreciation for your ongoing support.

Our new Year 7 students have settled into Leasowes with dedication and enthusiasm, demonstrating a strong commitment to both their learning and our community. This term has been filled with a range of exciting experiences, and it has been heartening to see our pupils engaging fully—whether in the classroom, during extracurricular activities, or in their interactions with one another. It's wonderful to witness their willingness to embrace challenges and extend kindness to their peers.

This first half term has been packed with enriching trips, sporting fixtures, and wider opportunities for all of our students. Year 10 and 11 students enjoyed a Business and iMedia trip to Cadbury World, which offered valuable insights and hands-on learning experiences. Meanwhile, Year 9 students participated in a Synergy Dance trip to the Walsall Arts Arena, where they were able to showcase their creativity and enthusiasm.

Our wonderful Year 11 committee also hosted a Year 7 Halloween disco on the penultimate evening of the term. The turnout was fantastic, and it was delightful to see our Year 7 students fully embracing the spooky spirit with their creative costumes. Additionally, the Year 7 students took part in their very first MFL Spelling Bee Challenge during this final week, demonstrating their enthusiasm for new challenges.

Our Year 10 netball team continues to impress, remaining undefeated after recent victories against Hagley and Earls. In a particularly exciting match, the Year 10 team also played against Earls' Year 11 squad, securing an impressive 12-6 win.

In football, our Year 7 team made it to the 1st/2nd play-offs but, despite dominating the game, narrowly lost to Earls, finishing in an excellent 2nd place overall in the Halesowen and Stourbridge Schools League. Meanwhile, our Year 8 football team faced Thorns in a 5th/6th place play-off. After drawing 2-2, they held their nerve and emerged victorious, winning 8-7 on penalties.

Looking ahead, we are excited to welcome students from Lapal Primary School after half term for their first PE session with our dedicated PE ambassadors. This will be a great opportunity to foster new connections and share our passion for sport.

Earlier this month, our Ethos Team hosted a successful Macmillan Coffee Morning, and it was wonderful to welcome members of our community to join us for this event. Together, we raised over £75 to support this important charity. A big thank you to everyone who contributed—your generosity and support are greatly appreciated.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to all of you for your patience during the recent lockdown. While it was undoubtedly a difficult situation, I am incredibly proud of the resilience and cooperation shown by both our students and staff. We are continuously reviewing and refining our safety protocols to ensure that our community remains secure. Your understanding and support during this time have been invaluable, and I am grateful for the trust you place in us as we navigate these challenges together.





Uniform

I would like to thank you for your support with our new skirt design, which has been received positively by both students and staff. Uniforms play an important role in fostering a sense of community and belonging among our students. They help eliminate distractions and promote equality. That said, I would like to address some confusion that has arisen regarding our trousers policy.

To ensure everyone is on the same page, I have provided pictures of the approved trousers that meet our school's uniform guidelines (at the end of this letter). These images are intended to clarify the expectations for fit and style. I would also like to emphasise that this is not a new policy; rather, we have reached a point where we can more firmly reinforce our existing guidelines

Required branded uniform items:

- Leasowes branded school blazer
- Leasowes branded clip-on school tie

Required generic uniform items available from the high street

- Pale blue collared shirt / pale blue collared blouse
- Plain black ankle or knee length socks (no trainer socks or over the knee socks) OR plain black opaque or nude tights. Please note that socks over tights is not permissible but can be worn under the tights for extra comfort/warmth in winter
- Plain black 'polishable' leather shoes (see guidance images of acceptable styles and non-permitted styles)
- Plain black trousers or plain black knee length pleated skirt
 - Trousers must:
 - Be full-length (below the ankle / to the edge of the shoe)
 - Be plain, straight leg (not tapered to the ankle) and of a tailored, smart style with no decorative buttons or zips.
 - Leggings, jogging bottoms, cuffed ankles, denim, or cord type or figure-hugging trousers are not permitted.
- Suitable school bag

School jumper

As you will be aware, Ms Wills conducted a survey to all parent/carers regarding the reintroduction of our branded Leasowes jumper. Overwhelmingly you voted to bring them back. I am pleased to say that our three main uniform suppliers have stock now to sell:

- Price & Buckland
- Dancers
- Somal uniform

Please note: this is an **optional** uniform item

- Leasowes branded V neck jumper which can be worn underneath a student's blazer. This jumper remains non-compulsory and the blazer compulsory. **This means that that the blazer must be worn at all times and cannot be substituted for the jumper.** No other type of jumper/hoodie will be allowed.

We understand that finding the right fit can sometimes be challenging, and we appreciate your support in adhering to these guidelines. Your cooperation helps us maintain a respectful and focused school environment.





Arbor

Unfortunately, there was a recent glitch within our new MIS system, Arbor. To address this issue, we temporarily disabled communication with parents regarding behaviour incidents. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. I am pleased to inform you that all behaviour workflows are now functioning correctly, and the system will be re-enabled on Monday, 4th November. Going forward, you will receive email notifications for all positive praise incidents your child receives, whether it's a P3, P4, P5, or the prestigious "Leasowes Golden Ticket." Should your child receive a detention for poor behaviour, you will receive an automatic email detailing the reason for the sanction, when it was issued, and by whom, allowing you to have informed discussions with your child at home.

In addition, we are actively working with the Trust to utilise Arbor as a mechanism to provide updates through the parent app, including your child's current and target grades. We appreciate your patience and will keep you informed as we make further progress.

Key dates

NOVEMBER	
Monday 4 th	All students return to school Years 7 – 11 Vaccinations
Wednesday 6 th	Year 11 Geography Trip 1 - Birmingham
Thursday 7 th	Year 7 Drop Down Day – Values
Monday 11 th	Anti-bullying Week Year 13 Parents Evening
Tuesday 12 th	Year 11 Geography Trip 2 - Birmingham
Wednesday 13 th	Year 10 Unit One Musical Theatre Examination
Wednesday 20 th	Year 11 Geography Trip 3 - Birmingham
Monday 25 th	Vaccination Catch-Up Sessions
Tuesday 26 th	Year 11 Geography Trip 4 - Birmingham
Wednesday 27 th	Year 8 Drop Down Day – Integrity
DECEMBER	
Monday 2 nd	Year 11 Mocks Examination Subjects begin
Thursday 5 th	Year 9 Loudmouth Performance 'Calling it Out'
Monday 9 th	Ethos Christmas Campaign Week
Thursday 12 th	Christmas Jumper and Lunch Day
Friday 13 th	Year 11 Mocks Examination Subjects end
Monday 16 th	Year 11 Mocks Practical Assessments/Coursework begin
Tuesday 17 th	Year 10 Christmas Carol Theatre Trip
Wednesday 18 th	Year 11 Mocks Practical Assessments/Coursework end
Thursday 19 th	Years 7 -11 Rewards
Friday 20 th	Early Finish – 12:15pm
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY: Mon 23rd December – Friday 3rd Jan	

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for the exciting opportunities ahead.

Wishing you a safe and happy half-term.

Miss C. Papadopoulos
Headteacher



Acceptable Skirt / Trouser Styles at Leasowes High School



Acceptable straight leg style and length



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Member of the Invictus Education Trust, Company Registration Number: 09284368, www.invictus.education

Unacceptable Skirt / Trouser Styles at Leasowes High School



Not straight leg tailored style.
Are tapered at the ankle or cropped style

Not straight tailored style.
Are tight, skinny figure hugging trouser.

Not straight tailored style.
Are jegging / legging style

Not straight tailored style.
Are cargo style.

No straight skirts of any material

