

# LGJS

## The Review

2016 ~ 2017





# Introduction from the Head

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**F**rom September 2016 we knew we were due an Independent School Inspection, so it was no surprise when the inspectors came in March. We were delighted to pass all areas of the compliance inspection without any problems and the feedback given was extremely positive.

We have had many great accomplishments this year including sporting triumphs in Cross Country, Orienteering, Hockey, Cricket and Swimming. Our Musicians have played in a concert at St Peter's in Oadby and we continue to be entertained by them in School too. Drama has been a key focus for us and you will see later in The Review just how this has become embedded in the curriculum.

Our children continue to grow and flourish with the many opportunities they encounter throughout the year, and I hope you will discover a flavour of this throughout The Review.

Please take time to flick through the pages and enjoy the moments which make our children thrive and be happy in school.

**Mrs. Rigby**





# School Council 2016-17



It has been another busy year for the LGJS School Councillors following our elections back in September. The Junior children have been ably represented by: Alex and Lailaa in Year 3, Georgia and Arvind in Year 4, Mattie and Madeleine in Year 5 and Raquel and Aryan in Year 6.

Charity events have included our, now traditional, November Welly Walk for Children in Need, which raised an amazing £1296.52 to help children who are less fortunate than ourselves. Comic Relief's Red Nose Day followed in March and our hilarious Joke-a-thon helped to raise over £700 for the charity. In case you missed it, here is Daniel Gratton's winning Red Nose Day Joke:

***"In Crispland, where everything is made of crisps - the planes, the houses, the helicopters, the lamp posts and even the animals and humans - two crisps decided to go for a walk. As they were walking along, a crisp dude turned up in his crisp car and asked them, "Hey guys, do you want a lift in my fabulous crisp Lamborghini?"***

***And they said, "No thanks, we're Walkers!"***

Boom, boom!

Well, it made us laugh, anyway!

Our Councillors have also been involved in



selling school watches to help fund the installation of the artificial grass area on the playground.

Watches are still available in school for £3.50 each. We are thrilled with our new astro, and love playing on it with all the construction equipment. Well done to school council for all their fundraising. We also owe the Friends a big thank you for their substantial contribution.

A more recent request was for School Council to chat with candidates for the new teaching posts and they did this with enthusiasm, good manners, and some interesting questions!

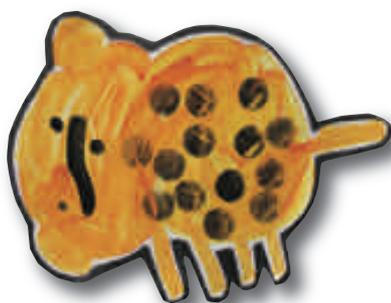
A big thank you to all our 2016-2017 School Councillors.





# Kinders: Animals

*Not all animals come from eggs  
Some have fins  
And some have legs  
Some animals chatter  
And some even cheep  
Some like to fly  
And some prefer to creep  
Some can slither  
And some can run  
Some have feathers  
But some have none*

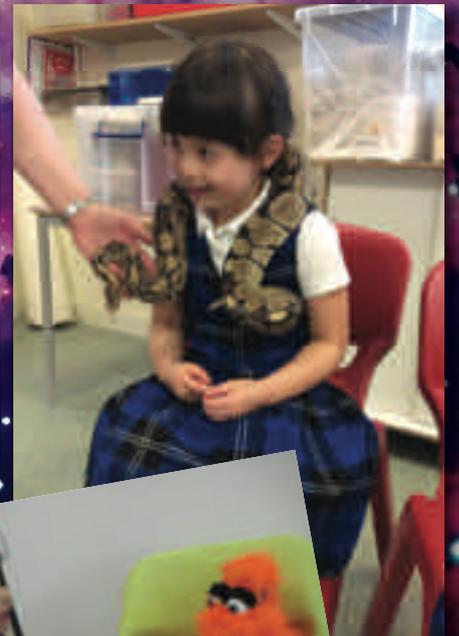


**T**his year Kinders have studied lots of different animals and dressed up as lots of different animals! There have been plenty of opportunities to come face to face with some cuddly, and not so cuddly, creatures. In January, during Science Week, we were very brave and met some extremely large reptiles. In June, we had a fantastic outing to West Lodge Rural centre, where we were treated to a tour of the farm and enjoyed feeding the animals. Throughout the year we have been out and about in our extended school grounds and, amongst other things, have enjoyed hunting for minibeasts and making nests for our pet chicks.





# RECEPTION: SPACE





Dear Reception,

Thank you for looking after me when I visited Planet Earth. I was so excited to teach you how to double using my special doubling washing machine. I can't believe you thought that my socks were smelly! I use space dust to wash them.

It was interesting to see you design your own planets. There was some amazing writing describing all of your ideas. Some of them were very similar to where I live. You also showed me your own alien designs using the computer. I think I'm much better looking than many of those aliens!

I wasn't so sure about meeting the lizards and snakes that came into your school. Some of them were huge! You were all very brave holding them. You even held snakes round your neck!

It was great exploring the moon phases by eating chocolate biscuits. Do you think the real moon is made out of biscuits? I will have to visit it and let you know.

If it wasn't for you helping me weigh all of my moon rocks, I could never have taken off in my rocket. Thank you for weighing all of the rocks and finding out which ones were light enough to go into my rocket ready for take-off. You also taught me all about star constellations, which enable me to navigate my way home to Planet Zig.

Thank you, Reception. I hope you have learnt as much as I did in at your school.

You are all amazing!

Love Zog



# Drama



Drama is so important to us at LGJS, both in day-to-day lessons and in preparation for larger productions. As Mrs Rigby put it on Speech Day,

“...the importance we give to drama helps to develop the children’s self-confidence and our drama workshops from Years 3-6 which, happened in the Lent Term, really showed this.

Drama is now used throughout the curriculum to enhance the learning and bring it to life. Once pupils have used the drama it often inspires their written work and is inclusive to all. It also helps them to express their thoughts and feelings by using techniques such as ‘thought tapping’ and ‘conscience alley.’

Here is a flavour of our drama throughout the year...”



# Year One: Antarctica

Dear Year 1,

Happy New Year! I am very excited to hear that you are going to be finding out about Antarctica at school. Your teachers have been telling me all about what you will be learning.

My name is Doctor Tom Hart. I am a research scientist here in Antarctica. I am from the UK like you, but I live here for most of the year. I live with other scientists from all over the world in a huge building. My job is to look after and find out more about the 7 types of penguins that live here in Antarctica. Do you know what they are called? Could you find out?

I am sending you my friend Percy for a while. Be careful! He is very mischievous and often gets up to all sorts of things during the night! I was hoping that when you send him back you could send back some of the work you have been doing in class so that I can show the other scientists what you have found out.

I am looking forward to hearing back from you soon and finding out what you have been learning about at school.

Remember to put Percy somewhere cold!

Best Wishes



Dr Tom Hart (Antarctica Research Scientist)



**Found**



I have found a penguin called  
 Anan. She is a Macaroni Penguin  
 but she doesn't like macaroni  
 pasta. She is 89cm-97cm tall.  
 She came from Antarctica. Anan has  
 white and black feathers. She likes  
 to eat fish, krill and squid. She likes  
 to eat penguin and seal. She likes  
 to eat penguin on her tongue. She  
 has black and white feathers. Killie  
 whale and leopard seals eat her  
 but not her.







# Year Two: ANCIENT EGYPT

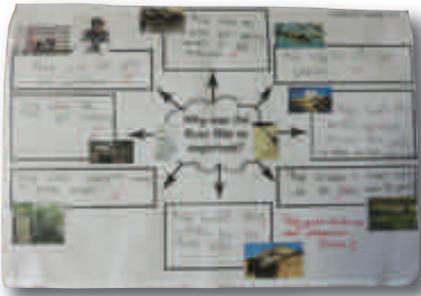


The Red and Black Land of the Nile, Egyptian Jewellery, The Game of Senet and the contents of four Canopic jars were just some of the fascinating themes the Year 2 children had the opportunity to discover this year in our History Topic. We journeyed with the children into the Ancient world of Egypt with wonder and curiosity. There were some hieroglyphic clues along the way and a few gory tales to unfold!

Our Egyptian Day saw Pharaohs, Cleopatras and Mummies come to life with songs, craft activities and drama based on Egyptian life. Indiana Jones' archaeologist brother, "Impetigo" assisted the children in solving some riddles using hieroglyphics and ancient objects. The

gruesome story of Osiris and Isis was brought to life during a fantastic Class Assembly. Our topic was wonderfully concluded with a museum trip where the children were able to see real mummies and handle genuine artefacts dating back over 3000 years.







# MUSIC



Our musicians have had another busy and exciting year performing in Church services, concerts and competitions.

St. Cuthbert's Church, Great Glen and Leicester Cathedral continued to provide wonderful settings for our end of term services as we celebrated Harvest, Christmas and Easter through music.

The House Music Competition was once again a great success as all competitors displayed their range of musical talents. Tabitha Walker was awarded 'Best Soloist' for her beautiful piano performance of 'Jack is Sad' and the 'Best Group' was awarded to St. Andrews for their excellent instrumental performance of 'In the hall of the Mountain King'.

The choir and various ensembles were invited to perform at St. Peter's Church, Oadby, during the Lent term. With the Church full to capacity, our musicians presented a wonderful evening of musical entertainment.

Three concerts were presented during the Trinity term. The Junior Orchestra and numerous instrumental ensembles played a wide and varied repertoire in the May concert. At the beginning of June, following

on from an outdoor picnic, the choir and soloists staged a fabulous Summer Concert. The choir sang songs from the shows in two part harmony and the soloists impressed us with their fine musicianship.

Instrumentalists from Year 1 and 2 performed in the Infant Strings concert, displaying a wealth of up and coming talent.

Speech Day featured our musical scholar, Jacob Inchley, music from the choir and songs from the whole school.







Year Three:

# Stone Age, Romans and the Vikings



This year has been an adventure through time as we have embraced our new History Curriculum.

Way, way back, at the beginning of man's time on earth (otherwise known as September) the year began with an influx of new Neanderthals brandishing spears and a wide variety of implements fresh from the shelves of stationery shops into our classrooms! During the year we were amazed how the children evolved and adapted to the expectations of the Juniors, just like Early Man learnt to fine tune his skills in tool-making and hunter-gathering. Luckily, in most cases, our little cave dwellers were more advanced in their habits and manners than the typical bone crunching, drooling characters of the Stone Age!

Moving rapidly along the timeline into the Lent term, our Neanderthals progressed into civilized Roman soldiers and wowed everyone with their dramatic interpretation of life in Pompeii and the eruption of Vesuvius. The children learnt to expand their writing through use of an ever-growing vocabulary, just as the Romans used their knowledge and skills to expand their mighty empire.

Another giant leap for Year 3 took them further along the timeline into the Trinity term where the Romans had fled and they were left to defend themselves as the vicious Vikings invaded lessons. An exciting night camping under the stars and a day foraging in Badger Field enabled the children to act like true Vikings, strong, independent and resourceful, showing the progression that they have made during the year.



I woke up one morning with the beautiful sun streaming down on my face. I gazed up into the dreamy, blue August sky and watched the birds flying overhead. It really was a dazzling sight! I scrambled out of bed and opened the huge, white shutters of our villa.

Below me in the bustling streets I could hear the busy tradesmen haggling their prices and I could see the actors practicing their pantomimes in the theatre across the dusty street. I could taste the sea salt from far off the Bay of Naples but what really caught my eye was the distant image of Mount Vesuvius.

Everyone said it protected us and they called it the Gentle Mountain. It was the most amazing sight!

**Lottie Burton.**



# Year Four:

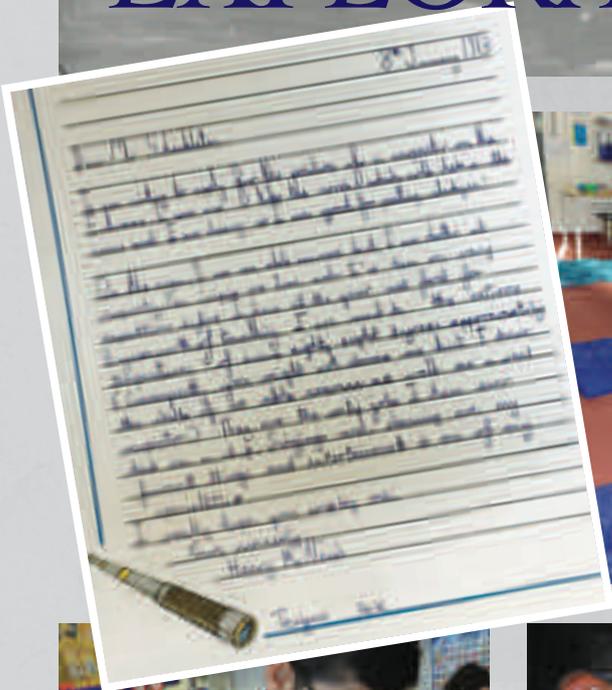


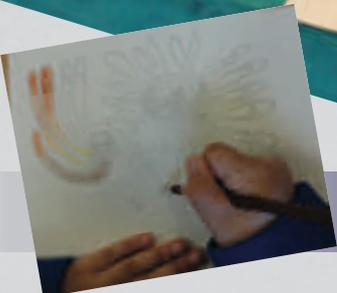
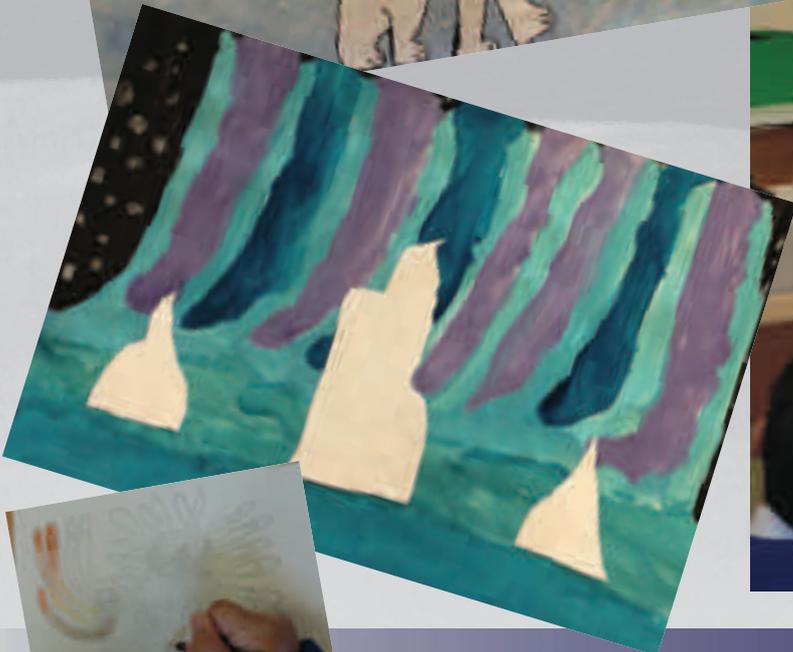
**E**rnest Shackleton, the famous Polar explorer, captured the children's imaginations as they applied for a position on the 1914-17 Endurance Expedition to the South Pole. They came up with lots of persuasive language in their letters of application and as part of their research, they investigated the kind of preparations they would have to make.

This was reinforced further when a 'real' polar explorer led a fascinating interactive workshop, bringing with him some authentic early twentieth century equipment such as leather boots, wooden skis and cooking equipment. We were also privileged to have a talk from a parent who had recently returned from Antarctica.

Within the topic, pupils looked into global warming and the effects of this on the polar ice caps. The children carried out research and investigations into temperature and sea currents. Teamwork skills were developed in a fun sleeping bag challenge which tested their speed and communication in extreme conditions!

The Arctic regions inspired many cross-curricular opportunities including creating a fictional polar animal, polar landscape watercolours, pencil sketching and block printing in the style of Kenjuak Ashevak, an Inuit artist. Pupils also learned about the life within the Arctic Circle and the homes and traditions of the Inuit people. This was an exciting, wide-ranging and thoroughly enjoyable topic.





# Sport



Seeing every pupil in the school participate in so many activities and trying their best with a huge smile on their face, makes the hard work all worthwhile. Well done, everyone! It has been a very memorable year in the PE Department, with exceptional achievements in many areas. We are very proud of all the hard work the children have put into making this another year to remember.

Our Foundation Stage children have enjoyed participating in all the different activities over the year with energy and enthusiasm. The year was rounded off perfectly during Sports Week, with soft play in the hall, and sports afternoon, giving the children a chance to show off their skills to all the Mums and Dads.

The Year 1 and 2 pupils continue to enjoy their Friday Games sessions where they have made brilliant progress. They had a fantastic morning of tennis during Sports Week, improving their tennis skills and having fun playing lots of games. We are very pleased to say that all children in the Junior School have represented the school in a sports fixture against another school, continuing with our Department ethos of "Sport for All".

The Cross Country Team remain Leicestershire Primary Schools Champions for the 8th year running. The team and teachers remain dedicated to this sport and it continues to go from strength to strength with well over 100 pupils representing the school at each race.

The Swimming Team won the district competition and went onto to compete at the Leicestershire school Games representing Blaby and Harborough. We are delighted to announce that the Team won and are now County Champions!

Sports Week has to remain our most favourite week of this year! It was a week full of energy, fun, competition and mass participation including Sports afternoons, Foundation Stage soft play, Tennis mornings, Triathlons and the new addition of the Junior School morning work-out, including pupils and staff! A week jammed packed with exciting events for ALL the pupils, topped off with glorious sunshine, certainly made it a week to remember.





Year Five:

# Water

**W**ater – where does it come from? How do we use it? What happens if you have no water? How can we save water? How do rivers form? These are just some of the questions Year 5 have been finding the answers to in Geography this year. We started with a visit from Severn Trent, and an interactive workshop. From this the children went on to design posters showing how we can save water. One class presented their findings in Assembly – also teaching the rest of the school about the water cycle and what life is like for children with no access to clean water. After learning about this, Year 5 decided to collect small change to help victims of the drought in East Africa - raising £369 - which was sent to UNICEF.

In the Trinity term, we carried out a practical river study at Everdon in Northamptonshire. The favourite part of the day was definitely fishing for creatures in the river and there were all sorts of exciting finds - including a newt, a bullhead fish and lots of mayfly nymphs.

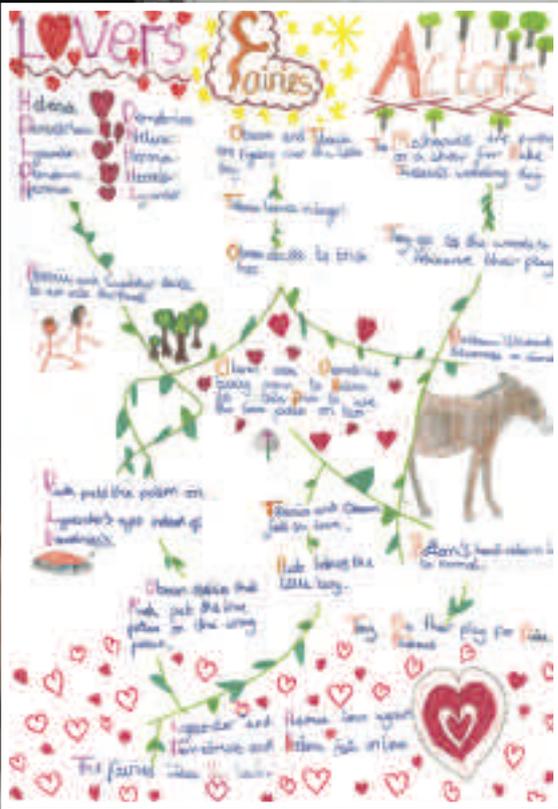
We finished off with a Class Assembly on rivers and some very persuasive travel brochures for major world rivers. Maybe our next class trip could be to the Amazon....!!





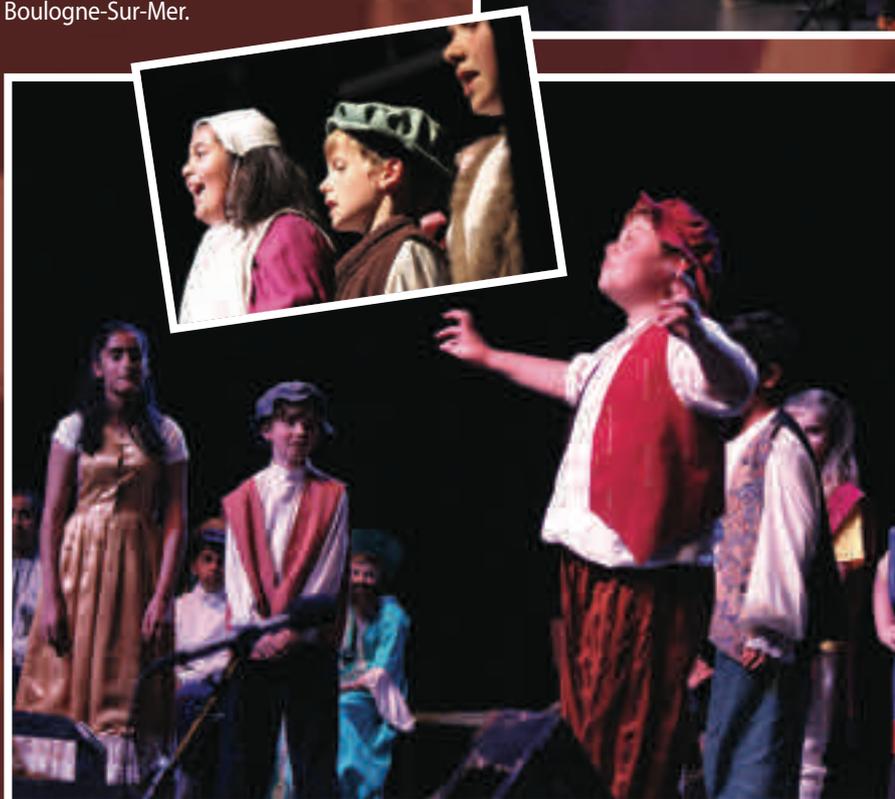
Year Six:

# Shakespeare



In our end of term production of 'Shakespeare Rocks', William promised that, "Years from now, every school child in England will be forced to study my work!" He was right, we have, though it wasn't the dry, boring Shakespeare we might have been expecting. It all began in Stratford when we visited Shakespeare's birthplace for a drama workshop, concluding with an open-air performance in the Bard's back garden. Back at school, we put our drama skills to good use, in our own adaptation of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. It may have erred from the original script slightly, but in two weeks, we created 60 parts, wrote lines, explored physical theatre and performed to parents. Our enjoyment of Shakespeare continued with Shakespeare Rocks – a tongue-in-cheek look at Shakespeare's life and works. Pupils dressing up as women-dressed-as-a-man-dressed-as-a-woman caused great hilarity. A wonderful way to round off our look at one of Britain's finest!

All of this happened alongside all our other responsibilities and activities. Many of us volunteered to help with younger children – refereeing on the ball court, reading stories and playing on the Foundation Stage playground. One of the many highlights of the year was our week on the Opal Coast, France. We met our pen pals, visited a snail farm, explored a WWII rocket base and enjoyed the local town of Boulogne-Sur-Mer.



# Science: Roald Dahl Week

*"The rule would be this: whatever he saw, if it was runny or powdery or gooey, in it went."*

From **George's Marvellous Medicine**

Roald Dahl's 'George's Marvellous Medicine' was just one of the books that inspired this year's Science Week. We thought we would celebrate 100 Years of Roald Dahl by theming the week around his wonderful books.

We had the totally fantastic 'Ministry of Science' come in to school to wow us all in assembly. With 'electrical wigs' and homemade hover craft it really was a brilliant launch to a fun-filled week. This was followed by workshops with our Year 5 and 6 students who made smoothies with a bicycle and played tug-o-war with a phone book!

Kinders and Reception had a visit from their very own 'Enormous Crocodile' and his friends, whilst Year 1 worked with a structural engineer to build the best houses for the Three Little Pigs, tested to destruction by the 'Big Bad ... Hair dryer'.

Year 2 had their own Chocolate Factory going on in the science lab, making chocolate slime, amazing sweets, and sugary rainbows.

Finally, Year 3 and 4 children met with the creatures you may find floating around on a Giant Peach! There were scorpions and lizards, and a really friendly snake called Geoff, who liked to smell you with his tongue!

**This was only one week in a whole year of excitement and opportunities in Science this year – we can't wait to see what next year brings!**





# FRENCH

**F**rench has been exciting for the infants who have tried Numeracy, Literacy, Music and PE in French as part of our integrated languages curriculum. French club is thriving with children keen to extend their French knowledge. Role plays have been performed by pupils and their written work has been displayed in the Learning Zone. From role play to reality - Year 6 in France ordered ice cream in French asked for items 'au marché' and ate snails. As they ran across Boulogne beach they could reflect on a really positive experience of learning French that will take them on to Year 7.



# Goodbye Mr Rennie



***Mr Rennie, can you tell us how long you've been teaching at LGJS and when you started teaching here?***

I started teaching here in 1997 – I was 27 years old – so I've been here for 20 years. In 2002, I left and taught in a secondary school for 1 year, then in a primary school for a year and a half, before coming back to LGJS as a Year 3 class teacher.

***What event that you have been involved with has been the best?***

There have been so many great events at LGJS. The one I enjoyed the most was when we went to the British Schools Orienteering Championships in 2015, at Sandringham, and we won. We were not expecting to win! It was a lovely day in a beautiful forest. I love the buzz of a big event, the excitement and anticipation, with lots of people milling about in a field somewhere in the countryside. I've loved all the big events – the services, the sports days, the speech days and the plays.

***What will you remember the most about the school?***

There's so many memories I will remember. The children are all special and wonderful, and all the staff as they're my friends. My favourite thing to do is Forest School. My happiest memory will be the children playing in the forest.

If you put being outside and being with your friends together, they equal a good time!

***What would you say has been your most memorable moment at LGJS?***

Definitely the cross country and the first time we won the trophy. In the 1st year we won by 2 points, in 2007. It was a real surprise and so unexpected – it was the best moment and we've never looked back.

***What was your favourite bit of Cornbury Park and why?***

Cornbury Park is brilliant from start to finish but the best bit has to be the lake jump. So adventurous – jumping into a freezing cold, wild lake. It feels like the best adventure. We always have so much fun as it's adventurous and you're with your friends.

***And finally, who is the funniest member of staff?***

You might be surprised by this but Mr Needham makes me laugh every day. But overall, Mrs Wilkinson has to be the funniest member of staff. We have so much fun. Because we're good friends we have such a laugh.

***So my final advice to you is: get yourself outside with your mates and you'll be sorted!***

*Interview by Thomas Bailey, Aashi Shah, Sohnum Banning, Olivia Glover, Paul Cunningham and Harley Tew.*

# Friends of LGJS



**W**e at the Friends of LGJS welcome all. It's been a busy year for 'The Friends', but our ethos remains the same: for parents to support the school, various charities and to meet and have fun.

This year has seen the Friends organise many events with the continued aim of fundraising to enhance the school community. We have held a family Diwali Night which was a great success, the Christmas Fayre is as popular as ever with all year groups taking part and helping on the various stalls!

We also continue to support the Year 5 First Aid training, which is carried out by St John Ambulance, and the Year 6 Leavers' party. This year also sees the return of the Year 6



children love playing on. The best part is they can use the whole area all year, whatever the weather.

Sanjay and I will be stepping down from our term as co-chairs this year and we thank our committee and all of the parents who have helped and supported the events we have run this year. We welcome the new chair, Jessica Horton, and hope you all will support her and the school in all the future events.

Thank you to all from Nina Laurenti and Sanjay Gadha.



performance being filmed so all can enjoy watching it again with family. Plans are also in place to video all the Infant Nativities this coming Christmas. Our parents only Quiz Night is always a great success, and the Comic Relief magic show and disco was a great hit with the children.

We were pleased to help the Junior School Council raise funds for the Junior school playground by helping to run a Raffle where the first prize was a signed Leicester City Football Shirt. It raised over £1000 with the Friends then adding a further £1000 to help to cover the amount School Council needed for the artificial grass.

The Friends' main expenditure this year was helping with the new Infant playground and layout which all the Foundation





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