



Leicester Grammar Junior School

The Review 2018-2019





Introduction

Welcome to the Leicester Grammar Junior School Review. This is always a chance for us to reflect back on the year and think about all the wonderful events that have taken place in our school. Our lives seem to become increasingly busy, and this is also true of the children in our school. I sincerely hope that it is a productive and happy busy though, where we feel a great sense of achievement for the all the children do. When a recent visitor came to the school, he asked me: "What do you see as your biggest challenge for Leicester Grammar Junior School?" A very good question! I reflected for a moment, thoughts of the current economic uncertainty went through my head, but essentially there is one thing that I constantly strive for. I replied, "Keeping children as children for as long as possible, so their creativity and imagination can flow into their play, their work and all they do". Ultimately our children of today are going to have to be creative and adaptable employees of the future where they can conceive and work on new ideas.

The introduction of the Creative Curriculum at Key Stage 1 has been a huge success to capture the imagination of the children and, therefore, enhance and develop their learning. They have certainly been buzzing with excitement at the topics they have covered and we have really seen a great improvement in the work that has been produced. What makes it

even better is the children have been so engaged and excited by it all, they have not felt pressured because they have been so happy. This perfectly illustrates my mantra: "Happy children learn best".

Collaboration and communication in their work lies at the heart of how we teach the children. "Problem solving", "reasoning" and "investigation" are often words you hear when you visit the classrooms. Developing these skills is essential to our children, but it also makes their learning an exciting adventure. One which we are all very proud to be part of.

Throughout The Review you will see what another exciting year we have had. The introduction of The Tuesday Morning mile in the Sports' Department has been a great success. Not only to increase their fitness levels (parents and children alike!) but also to help build their resilience, and it is lovely to see how they support each other in this. Drama continues to feature in our learning across the curriculum and I am always delighted by the musical talents of our children. Children don't have the same inhibitions to try new things that we develop as adults, so that is why we have to give them the opportunity to give things a go and see just what they can achieve. The new "Toy Story 4" film has just been released and in the words of Woody, I have one message for the children: "Reach for the sky".

Please do enjoy our magazine

Harriet Firth and Joseph Khalid, Year 6, talk about their roles as Head Girl and Head Boy at Leicester Grammar Juniors School 2018-2019

How did the selection take place?

H: We were selected by the teachers out of everyone in Y6. We sat next to each other on Speech Day, and we suddenly realised when all of the other positions were taken, the only ones left were Head Boy and Head Girl.

How did you feel when you were selected?

J: It was kind of weird. My brother was also Head Boy – I didn't know if I was going to get an award because there were three boys from my house up for an award. It happened right at the end of Speech Day. I thought I would be able to tell from my parents in the audience, as our names were already in the programme, but I couldn't.

What are your responsibilities? Are they time-consuming?

H & J: The Job Description! Well, showing visitors around, we read

at services and we read the EYFS Nativity, we had to take quite a lot of time out of class to help with that. We helped organise House Music and it helps that we go to choir and play instruments. We also hand out 'The Review' and sometimes we have to do extra things with the other House Captains.

What has been your biggest challenge so far?

H: Probably showing around visitors because you don't know what they are thinking about the school, or how they will react and we want to show it in the best possible way.

J: I also think that because we are representing the whole school, not just us, it's a lot of pressure!

What do you like best about being HB/HG?

H: I like interacting with the younger children.

J: I think that's really good too, but I think I quite like showing people around. I think it's quite scary but I still enjoy it.

Do you receive any special privileges?

H: No, we are just proud to be Head Boy and Head Girl.

J: The Y6 pupils get a lot compared the other years anyway, so

considering the gap is so big it might be slightly unfair to give us more! The whole of Y6 get a lot of lunch offers, and we do different things in PE and Games.

What do you hope to achieve in your role as HB/HG?

H: Just to be a good example to the other pupils, and sometimes it quite hard because you don't know if you are being one.

J: After being Head Boy I want the teachers and younger pupils to think of me as someone good.

What advice would you give to anyone who is thinking of giving it a go?

H: You've got to be kind and nice to everyone.

J: I think I would say, although it's difficult to understand unless you are Head Boy or Head Girl, that even though you get all the new responsibilities to do, you have to keep in mind the ones that you did have to do anyway.

H: Yes, you have to do the responsibilities that you are supposed to do anyway as well as the extra ones – you've got to balance it all out.

What do you like best about LGS?

H: I love to show visitors the swimming pool and the facilities we have here.

J: I like to tell visitors about the science labs. They are new, so it feels like they have been put there for us.



Harriet and Joseph Year 6



Our Wonderful World

There are two things they say you should never work with – children and animals.

Well, this year the Kinders team have successfully combined both as they allowed the children to explore our wonderful world.



In May a special delivery arrived in the form of 10 tiny baby caterpillars. With careful nurturing, the caterpillars grew and grew, pupated and eventually 10 beautiful butterflies emerged. During their weekly walk in the wonderful extended School grounds Kinders found a suitable site for a butterfly release. The hope is that the butterfly will continue their life cycle and add to the already thriving ecosystem.

The minibeast theme continued with a class assembly. The children's classic 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' was adapted and the children performed songs and dances about minibeasts as they bravely led parents and the rest of the school on a bug hunt which concluded at the Ugly Bug Ball.

Some larger animals were encountered during a trip to a local farm. The children met goats, sheep,

pigs and learned the names of some farm animal babies. The favourite babies were undoubtedly the piglets. Counting skills were put to good use as the children tried to count them. We think there were twelve, but the piglets kept on moving which made it a challenge to count accurately.

The children were given the opportunity to pet some smaller animals in cuddle corner, where they encountered guinea pigs and rabbits. The caring and nurturing side of the children came to the fore as they gently stroked and cuddled animals and found tasty grass to tempt them with.



The children are part of an amazing world and, in the words of the first Prime Minister of India, 'We live in a wonderful world that is full of beauty, charm and adventure. There is no end to the adventures we can have if we only seek them with our eyes open.'

RECEPTION



What a busy and exciting year Reception have had!

We started the year thinking about our families, ourselves and what makes us all special. We had a new arrival in our classes as a baby was delivered... we enjoyed looking after the baby and taking good care of it, although sometimes it got a bit noisy!



Then we began thinking about special days and different festivals that we enjoyed. This included Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas. We enjoyed a visit to the science labs to see how fireworks were made and we also had a visitor who came to share their experiences of Diwali with us.

Wales and they learnt some Welsh words and a song.

Later on in the Lent term, we thought about the people who help us and we were lucky enough to have some special visitors including a doctor from A&E and a pilot. We also thought about the people who help us in school and how they make our lives better. Reception O performed a lovely assembly featuring lots of the people who help us in school every day and they showed us how we can help each other by working together.



Reception G's turn to perform their assembly. They enjoyed telling the story of Farmer Duck, singing a song about farmers and performing a line dance.

Christmas was a very exciting time and we especially enjoyed preparing for the nativity which was called Christmas Counts. This gave us an opportunity to show everyone how wonderful we are at counting. We looked amazing in our costumes and we had so much fun singing and dancing.

Before we knew it we were thinking about Easter. Mother Liz came to see us and shared the Easter story with us. We enjoyed sharing a chocolate Easter Egg and going on an Easter Egg hunt.

Throughout the year, there were lots of other things going on too! We had regular trips to forest school where we learnt to make dens, hunt for bugs and make our own instruments. We also enjoyed some more hot chocolate around the forest school fire.

We started the Trinity term with some farmers arriving on their tractor to tell us about life on their farm. We loved looking at the tractor and had lots of

Our families also joined us for craft afternoons and together we built a cardboard city and a structure to reach to the stars. We were all amazingly creative. We would like to thank the parents for their support this year. The children and staff have had a wonderful time together and it has been a joy to watch the children grow and develop.



We began the New Year by thinking about winter and what things we enjoy doing at this time of year, like drinking hot chocolate and playing in the snow. We then began to think about other parts of the world and the weather and animals that live there. We learnt about the desert, the Arctic and Antarctic and China. We also learnt about Chinese New Year, ate lots of noodles and listened to Chinese music. Finally, we came back closer to home and learnt about St David's Day and Wales. Reception C entertained us with a fantastic assembly about



questions to ask. This launched our new topic "Do Cows Drink Milk?" We had our own farm shops in our classes and loved learning about how we use money to pay for things and give change. We were lucky enough to visit a real farm too! In this term, it was



DINOSAUR

STOMP! CRASH!
ARRGGGHHHHH! BANG!



PLANET



WATCH OUT EVERYBODY...

this year, dinosaurs have been on the prowl in Year 1!

The Lent Term saw dinosaurs rampaging across the dusty Earth, swishing their enormous tails and baring their fearsome teeth.

BUT DON'T WORRY...

YEAR 1 (otherwise known as palaeontologists in training) explored and discovered the wonders of a planet filled with dinosaurs. They dug deep, discovered amazing dinosaur facts and learned all about Mary Anning; an inspiring fossil hunter from the past. Travelling back even further in time, the children investigated prehistoric landscapes and compared them to the world we live in today. Through reading and research, they discovered the features and skills of terrifying carnivores and facts about huge lumbering herbivores that could be up to 26 metres long!

Our young time travellers wrote and produced prehistoric songs with percussion, created inspiring paintings and models, baked dinosaur cookies and acted as these creatures; who ruled the Earth long before people lived!

If you need to know more about these amazing creatures our young experts are on hand to answer all your questions.

Everyone has their favourite dinosaur. Whether it is the terrifying T-Rex, the tiny but dangerous Compsognathus or the humongous Brachiosaurus. Which is yours?

HEY, STOP READING AND LOOK BEHIND YOU..

DO YOU THINK HE SAURUS?

YES! HE DID





We be telling ye all about Year 2's pirate adventures

To start our exciting Pirate Day, Year 2 went to Beaumanor Hall to pretend we had changed into scary, ferocious pirates. To help us get into character, we dressed as blood thirsty swashbucklers of the Seven Seas. Once we had been put into groups, we set off on our first adventure. One of the activities was to play a game of "Pirate Snap" by matching tiles to win golden treasure as a reward. On the playground, we fired "stink pots" from our pirate ship at a rather strange target, Mr Jones! Luckily, he wasn't injured too badly.

Another activity was to carry tankards of "grog" weaving our way across a tricky obstacle course without spilling a drop. Some of us got a bit wet!

Later, we followed maps with clues to discover a secret pirate hide-out. It was deep in the dark cellars of Beaumanor Hall. It was full of treasure including silk, salt, gold, goblets, a ringing bell and even ginger biscuits which were very tasty indeed.

Finally we had to solve a range of questions that were scattered around the beautiful grounds.

We had an excellent time and found our sea-legs were exhausted after a very busy and exciting day.

Now we be off to sharpen our cutlasses, bury the treasure and slug some grog!

By Thom Baines, Caelan Beveridge, Sylvia Vaughan-Smith and Arya Rayt

Ahoy ye land-lubbers and shiver me timbers!

"Believe in yourself, as you are unique"



With the importance of Mental Wellness being at the forefront of today's society, Year 3 have now included this in their weekly curriculum. We hope by introducing this at an early age, the children will be able to develop the coping strategies and resilience that will equip them with the skills needed to deal with challenges that lie ahead.

In order to heighten our awareness of our surroundings we have been on many 'wellbeing walks'. This has allowed the children to use their senses and appreciate the smells and sounds of the world around them.

Through the use of essential oils, we learnt that the different scents triggered inner feelings and emotions such as calmness, relaxation, and in some cases even raised our levels of alertness. As we explored the wide range of scents, it was very apparent that the children had firm favourites and there were certainly ones that were quickly put back in their boxes!

Stretch like a giraffe reaching up to the highest leaf



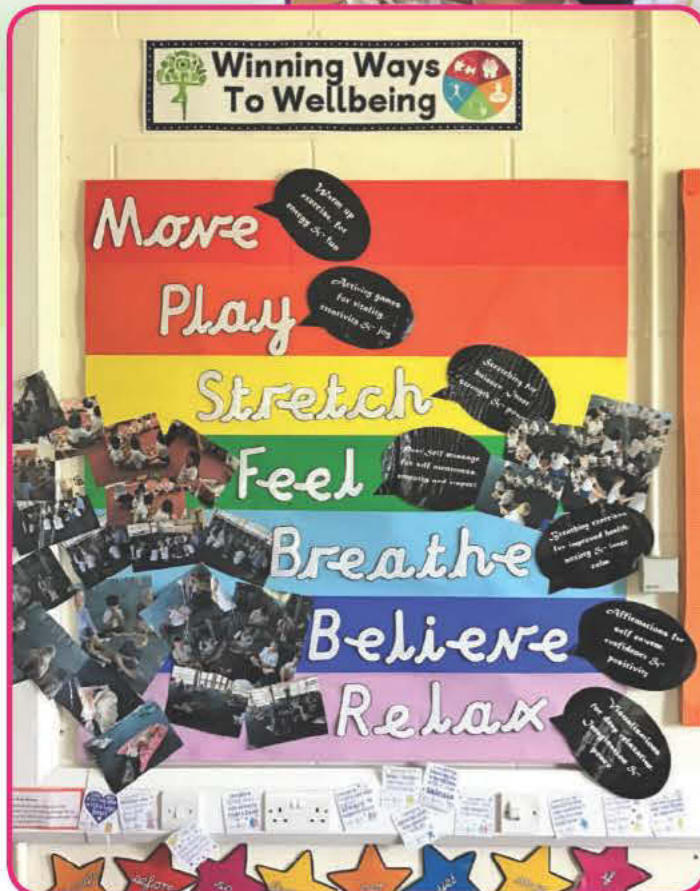
Feel the soft wet sand slipping through wriggling toes



As many of us know, happiness and cooking go hand in hand, so with this in mind, we used one of our essential oils as an ingredient when creating our invigorating peppermint creams. A wonderful wellbeing picnic was enjoyed by all after designing and preparing their own healthy sandwiches.

Whilst on our recent residential, the teachers were especially grateful for the powers of meditation which enabled everyone to enjoy a good night's sleep!

At many points during the year, it has become more and more apparent that the benefit of all these exercises have had a profound effect on the children's mental, emotional and physical wellbeing.



Move like a majestic owl swooping through the inky sky

Throughout the year the children have enjoyed several different types of wellbeing activities, such as a Relax Kids programme. This enabled the children to develop confidence, imagination, creativity and self-awareness. Whilst following a specifically designed structure, they all benefitted from the 7 steps to wellbeing; Move, Play, Stretch, Feel, Breathe, Believe, Relax. It was lovely see the children engaging in peer/ self-massage techniques which encouraged empathy respect and co-operation.

Play like a monkey swinging from tree to tree in a magical forest



Breathe in the wonderful scent of the bright blooming flowers

Relax like a sleeping sloth in the warm bright canopy



BEWARE!

THE ANGLO SAXONS ARE COMING

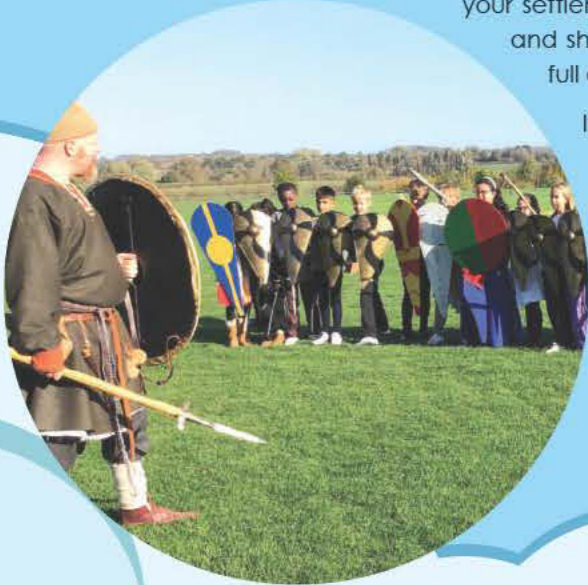
Our Advent Term began with visitors from a bygone age. Queen Edith of Wessex and John, a Saxon Thane, joined Year 4 to whisk us back to a time when life was very different. It soon became apparent that we would struggle to survive the harsh life of a Saxon churl or thrall. Even the thanes, or nobles, might be struck down by terrible diseases such as leprosy, typhoid or cholera.

On the bright side, if you were fit and healthy, you may be required to go to battle whenever your settlement was threatened. The Anglo Saxons used chain mail, axes, swords and shields. We really enjoyed the battle re-enactment when we marched in full armour!

If the Anglo Saxons had spare time in the day, it may have been used in the pursuit of dice and board games such as Nine-Men-Morris, chess and draughts. Children also had wooden toys such as boats and carts and even dolls known as 'poppets'.

No Anglo Saxon get together would be complete without a banquet, complete with boar's head and oyster pie.

We were relieved to find ourselves back in the twenty-first century at the end of the day, but with a very real sense of how it felt to be an Anglo Saxon!





Outdoor Adventurers

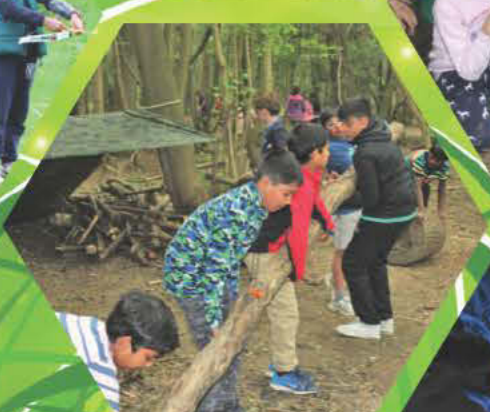
SPENDING A WEEK WITH FRIENDS IN A TENT HAS DEFINITELY BEEN A HIGHLIGHT FOR MANY OF OUR YEAR 5 CHILDREN AND CREATED SOME LASTING MEMORIES FOR THEM

The residential in June at Boughton Woods, near Kettering, gave the children the chance to apply some of the skills that they had built up during the year and indeed over many years. All of the visits they had experienced to our own LGJS Forest School undoubtedly helped, but now they were living in a forest for 5 days and 4 whole nights! This time, they had to keep the fire burning, especially as many of their meals during the week were cooked on the open fire and they needed the fire for warmth! There was also the challenge of being away from home for quite a while, but the children rose up to it!

An action packed week ensued filled with the excitement of building shelters in the forest, creating their own traps (which were tested on the poor teachers!), carving wood to make a tent peg, pottery activities, archery and axe throwing, tracking animals in the forest and so many songs and games being played throughout each day.

Earlier on in the year, the children had benefited from an informative first aid training day from St John Ambulance. A first aid session was included as part of the residential and a scenario set up for the children to apply their skills. It was fantastic to see the children remembering how to assess the situation and remember what steps they need to follow to help a casualty. Some natural leaders shone through, but the children all pulled together as a team to deal with the problem.

Year 5 certainly came back a little dirtier from Boughton Woods, but the outdoor experiences, the teamwork challenges and fun time with friends have ultimately been enriching experiences and given them more independence as they move into Year 6.



THE TRACKS OF OUR YEAR



THE LAST POST

2018 marked the Centenary of the end of World War One. We reflected on both World Wars in History and Art, and gained a new perspective from a viewing of 'Private Peaceful.' For Lucy, the visit to Étaples Cemetery, as part of our French trip, was particularly poignant as it was the final resting place for a family member.



CRAZY LITTLE THING CALLED LOVE

'The course of true love never did run smooth' but thankfully our performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' ran perfectly to plan! After an inspiring workshop in Stratford, we brought Shakespeare's tale of magic, mystery, mischief and mayhem to life in original Year 6 style!



SHOTGUN

The rather wet weather did not dampen our spirits (or our singing voices) as this became the song of our French trip in May. Snails, croissants, the beach, baguettes, market shopping, pain au chocolat, a visit to La Coupole and even more baguettes give you a taste of the week.



RAT IN MY KITCHEN...

...rat in the Town Hall, rat in the Market Place!



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS

Through our time at LGJS we have strived to be determined, hardworking

HARRY POTTER THEME TUNE

Becoming a Year 6 brings lots of new choices, opportunities and responsibilities. One of the highlights being the long awaited salad bar! Even better, of course, is the chance to help as a school librarian, a playground helper and a House Captain. New for this year was 'The Sorting Ceremony' where we welcomed very excited Year 1 children into their new Houses.



Music

Once again, the excellent performances from our talented musicians have provided audiences with a wide variety of musical entertainment throughout the year

Our musical celebrations of praise and thanksgiving for Harvest, Christmas and Easter, held at St. Cuthbert's, Great Glen and Leicester Cathedral are always a highlight for pupils, parents and staff.

The Year 6 musicians gave a lovely Christmas presentation to the elderly residents at 'The Knoll', Kibworth. This was a rewarding and valuable experience for young and old alike.

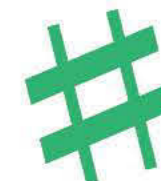


The school's pianists, from years 2-6, prepared and auditioned to participate in January's 'Piano Recital'.

'The Choir and Instrumental Soloist Concert' featured a wide variety of musical genres. The 70 strong choir are a dedicated team who rehearse weekly. Our fine instrumentalists featured this year's music scholars, Arnav Rai (violinist) and Jack Strong (trumpeter).

Our youngest performers, instrumentalists from Years 1 and 2, presented a musical story in their end of year 'Infant Strings Concert'.

IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF LOVE...



Over 70 pupils entered the School's House Music Competition. After a semi-final, acts were selected for the final. The winning soloist was Prakash Easwar for his piano performance of 'Valse Lente'. The winning house was St Mary's for their choral and instrumental performance of 'A Whole New World'.



This year's concerts demonstrated a wealth of musical skills and diversity. The Choir, ensembles and soloists performed in 'St. Peter's Church', Tilton On-The-Hill, to a packed audience and raised over £300 to help raise funds for their Church roof appeal.



The 'Orchestra and Ensembles Concert' featured our largest orchestra ever with 54 members. They gave an excellent performance. It is good to see such dedication and enjoyment amongst our young musicians. The range of ensembles grows each year and we are fortunate to have professional music tuition from our visiting instrumental teachers. The Orchestra attended 'Wallace and Gromit: Musical Monsters' at the De Montfort Hall...



SCIENCE

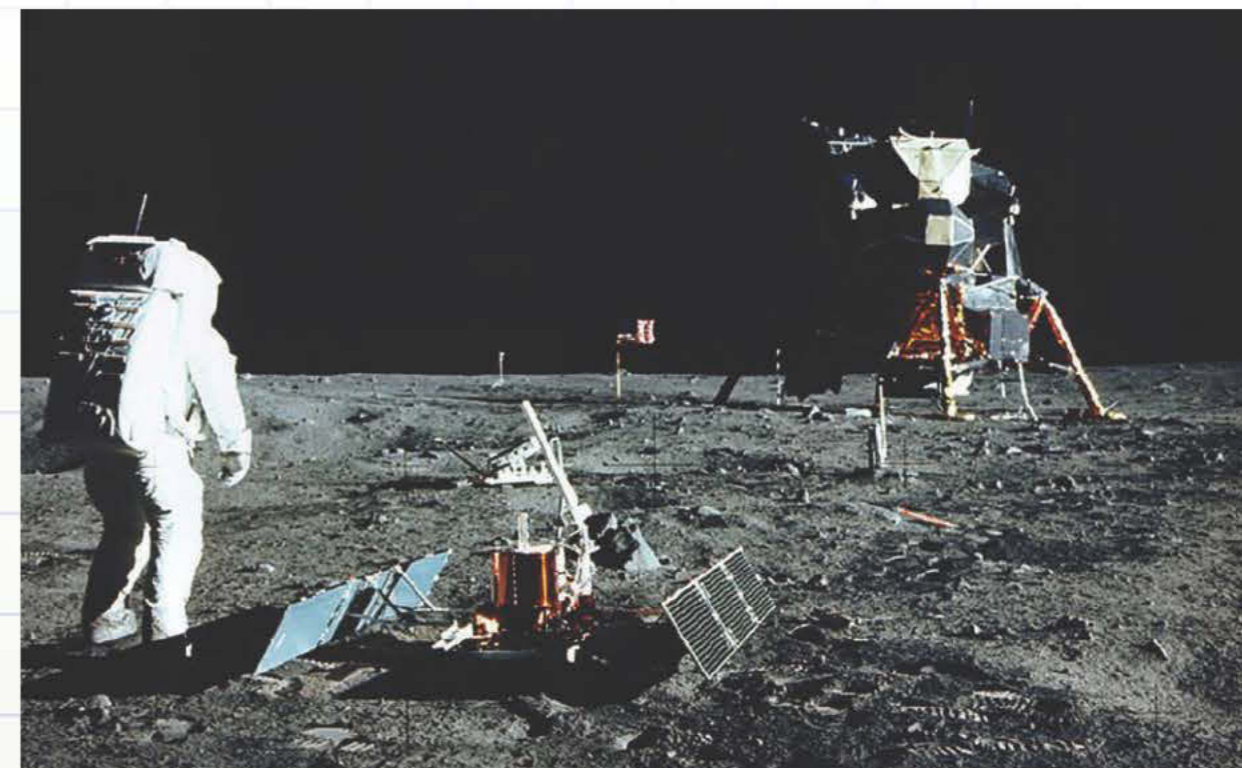
This year we took one small step for LGJS, one giant leap for mankind!

Science Week celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing and we completed a number of out of this world activities.

We were star struck by Matt, the Science Magician, and his supernova magic.



A Space Pirate visited Early Years to ask for help returning to space!



Neil Armstrong left his footprints all around the school so we could complete a learning space walk!

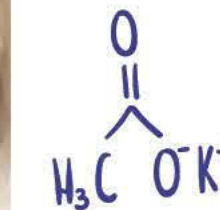
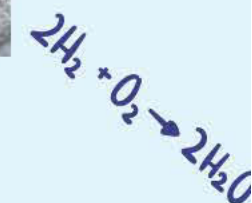
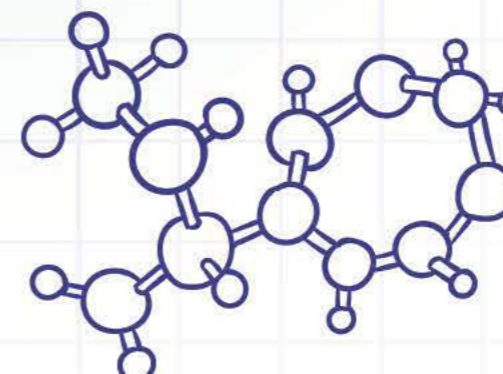
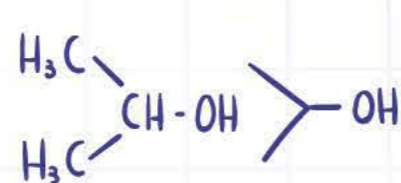
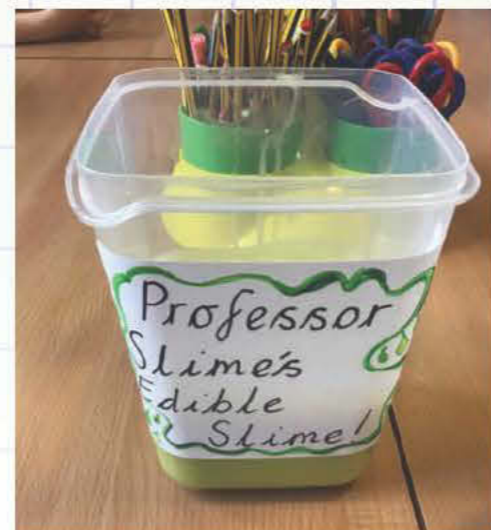
We studied space rocks – and then ate them!



And, of course, the chicks made their egg-stremely anticipated entrance – rare breeds making their own small steps on an alien planet.



Key Stage 1 have been science-tastic this year, studying an alien crash site, edible slime and bouncing animals.



SPORT

We enjoyed a jam-packed year of sport here at LGJS

This year the PE Department introduced the Morning Mile! It has been a huge success with many pupils, staff and parents meeting up on Tuesday morning before the school day begins, to take part in the run together around the school grounds. It is a great way to start the day, taking in views of the local countryside, and leaves all who participate invigorated and inspired for the day ahead.

The children have been extremely successful in all of the major games. The year 6 teams had some exciting games in the IAPS Netball, Hockey and Cricket. The boys were also entered into the ISFA Football tournament narrowly missing out at a place at the National Finals.

Our younger children continue to come to their PE lessons with energy and excitement.

The Year 1 pupils have once again been swimming this term to prepare for Swimming in Year 2. It was great to see so many children confidently swimming and enjoying themselves in the pool.

Alongside the competitions, all the Junior children have had friendly matches against more

local Independent schools. We are very proud to be able to give every child the opportunity to compete for their school in all of our major games.



Sports Week continues to be the highlight of the year. A week full of sporting activities for the whole school, even the teachers! Triathlons, Sports Days, Soft Play, morning work out, whole school daily mile, tennis

masterclasses – we even had a special visit from Charlie Fox, the Leicestershire cricket mascot. The weather was kind to us and the whole week went to plan. The photos tell the very exciting story!



french



We have had another exciting and inspiring year in the French Department with children and staff, from Reception to Year 6, joining in with a wide range of fun activities. We celebrated the European Day of Languages with Joan of Arc, Blaise Pascal, Marie Antoinette, Napoléon, Marie Curie and Claude Monet to name but a few. It was great to see so many children and staff dressed up and to hear about the characters from French culture and history that the children had researched.

Le Café Français, at our annual Open Day, was a huge success. The 'serveurs et serveuses' from Year 5 were excellent at looking after the 'customers' and maintaining a 'French only' speaking code; it was a very cheerful event.

For the first time in the Junior School, we hosted the Onattli Theatre Group for a bilingual production of 'Ticket pour l'espace'. With plenty of drama and audience participation, the children were gripped and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The Residential Trip to the Pas de Calais region of France is a massive highlight of Year 6. With a little trepidation but much excitement, the Year 6 embraced every opportunity to engage with the language and the culture. They shone in their enthusiasm for practising their knowledge and skills and their desire to learn more. They did not even seem to notice the lashing rain at Boulogne market in their quest to find out the cost of a kilo of tomatoes! 'Bonne chance' to the Year 6 pupils on the next step of their educational journeys; you are all talented linguists.

A big thank you to the Parents who have supported our events and we look forward to seeing you next year!





KIYAN RAJA

Which School tradition are you most proud of and why?

I like the Year 6 production because it was fun and enjoyable.

How has being House Captain challenged you? Did you enjoy the role?

The biggest challenge was sorting House Music because it was difficult to pick people... I enjoyed the role a lot.

If you could gift one book to a friend, which book would it be?

The Harry Potter Book

Favourite Quote:

'Wakanda Forever' – Black Panther

'Eat y'all vegetables, kids' – Anaya Raja

Which of your peers is most likely to become Prime Minister?

Navin Bhat would be a good PM because he'd make politics fun. Also Anaya Raja would be good because then everyone would eat their vegetables!



JONNY SOBEK

Which School tradition are you most proud of and why?

The school tradition that I'm most proud of is House Sports as everyone can enjoy this day even if you aren't sporty! Everyone gets included and has fun. The older children looking after the younger ones on their first Sports Day and everyone supporting each other no matter what House you are in.

How has being House Captain challenged you? Did you enjoy the role?

Being a House Captain has challenged me as it's taught me new skills like leadership, which I demonstrated in the House Music Competition, and responsibility – making sure every Friday House badges are given out. I really enjoyed the role of House Captain of St Giles. Also on School Open Day, I showed families around which I really enjoyed and I liked talking about the school.

If you could gift one book to a friend, which book would it be?

'The Wizard of Once: Twice Magic' by Cressida Cowell. Because it is a really interesting story about warriors, witches and wizards!

Favourite Quote:

'Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference' – Albert Einstein

What is the coolest project you have worked on this year?

The coolest project I have worked on this year is making a suspension bridge in the LGS D&T department. The whole of Year 6 was involved. We were put into groups and told to make a bridge out of materials we were given. My whole team really enjoyed it and I think we did a great job.



ARNAV BHAVSAR

How has being House Captain challenged you? Did you enjoy the role?

Being a House Captain has challenged me because I had to organise the practices for House Music, and I had to change the timings if people were busy, and once that happened I had to tell everyone in the practice, and once I forgot to go to one of the auditions!

If you could gift one book to a friend, which book would it be?

Running on the Roof of the World, Jess Butterworth – because it is a mix between fiction and non-fiction and it's a very interesting book.

Favourite Quote:

Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery.

Today is a gift, that is why we call it 'The Present' – Eleanor Roosevelt

Which event did you look forward to the most this year and did it live up to your expectations?

The event I looked forward to the most this year was our residential trip to France. It definitely lived up to expectations! It was really fun, the food was amazing, the hotel was good, our instructors were nice, we had really fun activities like orienteering (unluckily it was all in French), football, going to the market, table tennis, the snail farm, going to the beach, table football and lots more.



AMIRAH DADABHAI

Which School tradition are you most proud of and why?

I love it when we sing the sport song at sports week and when we get Christingles when we get to Year 6.

How has being House Captain challenged you? Did you enjoy the role?

It has made me more mature and responsible but at first I was very nervous.

Favourite Quote:

Reach for the Stars

Favourite lunch?

I love the cheese and tomato Paninis.

What was the coolest project that you worked on this year?

The coolest project I have done this year is the Year 6 summer Fair and the Year 6 Production. We worked really hard on both of these things and it was definitely worth it.

FRIENDS LGJS

This academic year seems to have gone by in a flash and the Friends have enjoyed a busy year both organising and supporting events, raising around £6000 in the process. We have been glad to support the school with purchasing lighting for the Junior School Hall, funding a very important resource for the benefit of all of the children in the form of a Wellbeing Library, making a sizeable contribution towards the new Forest School Shelter, as well as paying for First Aid Training for Year 5 and the annual Disco for all of the children. In addition the Friends give a donation towards the Year 6 Leavers Party and pay for entertainment at the Foundation Stage Welcome Event in September. Your support at our events enables all of that to happen.

We enjoyed assisting the school in running the first Forest School Event in the form of a Tree Party. It was lovely to see the children enjoying lots of creative activities in Badger Field, having scavenged their way up there. The weather was kind to us and the children had a wonderful time playing, whilst listening to music and stories. The total amount raised towards the new

Forest School Shelter was £2000 and we thank you for your generosity. At the time of writing we are all eagerly anticipating seeing Mr Fulton dodge wet sponges at the end of term Charity Day as one of the rewards for the children's fundraising efforts.

Another highlight of this year had to be the changes to the Christmas Fayre. The Refectory was busier than ever with a huge variety of stallholders and the event was enhanced greatly by seeing the children perform dance and drama in the Hall. The teachers did a wonderful job of creating a Christmas Tree display in aid of the Children's Air Ambulance and it all paid off with your support on the day with our highest attendance figures for many years.

The annual Quiz and Curry Night in March was a fabulous event thanks to the talents of our Quiz Host Deborah Edmonds. A staff team won again but we remain hopeful that at some point a parents team will regain the Cup!

Our more low-key activities have included ensuring the staff are kept fed and watered at Open Morning and organising the recording of school productions. Under the expert eye of Mrs Tutt we have run several Glass Fusion evenings for parents and marvelled in the beautiful creations we've seen as a result.

Some time ago a parent commented that she thought the Friends would be a formal meeting in the School Hall with me stood speaking at the front! That is not how the Friends work – our very informal meetings take place in the Junior School Library and involve laughter, nibbles and the occasional glass of wine. It doesn't require any formal commitment – the majority of parents who get involved with the Friends do so as and when they can. I do encourage you to go along to a meeting or speak to anyone who is involved.

Chairing the Friends for the past two years has been a privilege and I have thoroughly enjoyed it, particularly the chance to meet and work with lots of wonderful people. I offer a very grateful thank you to everyone who has attended our events, given me words of encouragement on the playground and especially those who have helped. Whilst I still intend to be involved I am passing the Chair role into the safe hands of Mira Gadhia and Ruby Anwar. I look forward to supporting them over the coming year and I hope you will too.

Jessica Horton



STAFF LEAVERS

GRAHAM JONES

How long have you been working at LGJS?

I have just completed my eleventh happy year at LGJS. I started at LGJS when the school moved to Great Glen so it was exciting to be in a brand new building even if I am one of the very few to remain in the same room for eleven years! I've accumulated far too much clutter and I will get a shock when I finally see the wood on my desk!

What will you remember most about LGJS?

All of the pupils that I have taught here have their own idiosyncrasies. No two pupils (or staff for that matter) are ever exactly alike and that is one of the things that keeps the job of teaching interesting. I've been very lucky to teach children who are interested and interesting as individuals. I've particularly enjoyed learning how to be an "infant teacher" and after 37 years in a wide variety of schools, I think I've almost cracked it.

Coming to LGJS has opened many musical doors for me personally. I have always thoroughly enjoyed being part of the musical team here from playing for infant assemblies, Harvests and Nativities to major productions throughout the Junior School. My time with the Senior School folk group has also been a great pleasure and has certainly kept me on



my toes trying to keep up with all the musical talent from students. It has always been particularly rewarding to see old pupils from Year 2 progress right through to Sixth Form.

Do you have any words of wisdom for pupils?

My main advice would be to really try to "enjoy the moment" and try not rush ahead too quickly to the next thing. Whatever you are genuinely interested in, pursue and nurture it until you become passionate about it.

You never know where it may take you!

CAROLE KIDD

I haven't always been a teacher!

I started my working life as a social worker, first with children in care, next with young offenders and finally with school refusers. This is what started my interest in education and ultimately what led to my career change. I commenced my teaching career in the State Sector where I gained invaluable experience. Then an opportunity arose to take up the role of Learning Support Co-ordinator, and Year 3 teacher, at LGJS and that was over twenty years ago. I am very proud of the provision made for SEND and of what was achieved during that time.

I have made many life-long friendships with members of staff and I have enjoyed tremendously the camaraderie. I shall miss teaching the wonderful children and my equally wonderful close friends but, it's time to do something different!

So, children, make the most of every day; find a book that you just can't put down, and make sure the footprints you leave in life are as carbon-free as possible.





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