



LGJS
The Review
2014~2015



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Introduction from the Head

Welcome to another edition of 'The Review'. As I reflect on the past academic year, there are so many memorable moments, too many for all to be included here. However, I do hope on reading 'The Review' you will get a flavour of school life at LGJS.

The year 1914 should always be remembered. At LGJS we held a moving, candle-lit service, invited actors into school (to give the pupils literally 'a taste of WW1') and some of our younger pupils sowed poppy seeds. Every year these flowers will serve as a poignant reminder to those brave soldiers who fell one hundred years ago.

So many pupils have achieved much over the course over this academic year. I would, however like to congratulate two: Edith Thrift-Hiley and Hassan Mooncey for their wonderfully creative pieces, both featured in this magazine. Enjoy 'the Review'.



School Council

We began the year, following the very exciting Polling Day Elections, with a new School Council. They lost no time in deciding to organise a Happy Hat Day, which proved fun for all!

This event was followed in November by Children in Need Day which featured cakes, karaoke and Pudsey Bear merchandise, raising a terrific £1005.00. In March we raised a further £1078.58 for Comic Relief which was match-funded by the government giving us a total of £2157.16.

School Council has not just been involved in fundraising. We have had interesting tasks such as choosing a charity for the May Ball, ordering and checking new play equipment for the playground and preparing and asking questions during recent new teacher interviews – congratulations Miss Bright, we hope you enjoy working here!

Our last job of the year will be to meet up, have a chat and a biscuit and order some more playground equipment. We're not sure, but it seems the children must eat the balls and skipping ropes we put out!

Mrs McQuillan



When Cambiasso met Kay;



Mr Cambiasso showing Mr Kay how to take a penalty



Anna showing both of them how to score!

Esteban Cambiasso played for Argentina in a football World Cup; Ben Kay played for England when they won the rugby World Cup.

Two international stars; two dads at LGJS... how would they cope being interviewed by two pupils? Finn Carnduff and Anna Kendall report...

(Finn to Mr Cambiasso)

'Which team did you most enjoy playing against this year and why?'

'Manchester United. The Leicester City fans were so loud it was a great atmosphere.'

(Anna to Mr Kay)

'When you played for Tigers who did you enjoy playing against and why?'

'Wasps. It was always great to play against players such as Lawrence Dallaglio, Josh

Lewsey as off the pitch... we were great friends but on the pitch enemies!'

(Finn to Mr Cambiasso)

'Who is your favourite Argentinian football player of all time?'

'The easiest answer is Messi! My favourite player in my position is Fernando Redondo.'

(Anna to Mr Kay)

'Who do you think was the greatest English rugby player of all time?'

'The most inspirational player was Martin Johnson without a doubt, he never questioned himself or went out of form!

He was the best captain I ever played under. The most exciting player I ever played with was Jason Robinson.'

(Finn to Mr Cambiasso)

'Are you superstitious?'

'How much time have you got?... Yes! I think all sports men have to have a routine. When

when Kay met Cambiasso



you do this routine, you are calm and all ready for play. It gives you security to know that you are ready!

(Anna to Mr Kay)

'Was there a player you were ever afraid of?'

'I was always afraid of the little, tiny fast players, Shane Williams in particular.

What I love about Rugby is it is a game for all shapes and sizes, even right at the top level.'

(Finn to Mr Cambiasso)

'If I was to come round to your house what meal would you cook for us?'

'Lunch is the most important meal for footballers. I would cook pasta with olive oil and parmesan cheese!'

(Anna to both)

'What was your favourite subject at school?'

Mr Kay: 'Sport was my favourite subject, but I also enjoyed Design - making things. I wish I had concentrated harder at French. I speak better French now than I did at school.

If only I had known I was going to be a sports commentator in France when I was 15 years old! I'm thinking about taking a French course now to further improve my French.'

Mr Cambiasso: 'I don't speak much English and wish I had learnt more! My daughter speaks better English than me now!'

(Finn to both)

'Who was your inspiration as a child?'

Mr Kay: 'Mr Dad was my inspiration, he was always my biggest fan but never a pushy Dad. He always told me to enjoy what I was doing. If you enjoy something you will always do them a lot harder. My rugby inspiration was Dean Richards, he was the guy who brought me to Leicester.'

Mr Cambiasso: 'I have two brothers, bigger than me! I can always rely on them for good and bad advice. My footballing inspiration is Fernando Redondo.'

(Anna to both)

'If you couldn't play Rugby or Football what would be your next chosen sport?'

Mr Kay: 'I would have played centre Midfield for Liverpool, tackling this man!' (Pointing to Mr Cambiasso!)

Mr Cambiasso: 'I like Basketball so much. When I was 6 years old I played both sports. Basketball was the family sport.

For 3 or 4 years I continued to play both sports. I played football matches on Saturdays and basketball matches on Sundays!

When I was 11 years old I had to make a choice... I chose football only because I had more friends that played football and not because I preferred it!'



Infant Drama



The year got off to a terrific start with the entire Infant Department performing in the Infant Harvest Assembly. The new Kinders children, who had only been part of the school for 6 weeks, put on a super show for all their very proud parents.

This was quickly followed by two fantastic Nativity performances.

Foundation Stage performed a traditional nativity entitled 'A Little Bird Told Me' and Key Stage 1 put on an all-singing, all-dancing performance entitled 'Gold to Bethlehem'.

Other terms saw the usual flurry of class assemblies, which were well attended by parents and grandparents. The themes were varied and exciting, ranging from a Reception retelling of The Snail and the Whale, a Year 1 class working together to catch Mr Wolf after he had ransacked their classroom, to a Year 2 class revisiting their favourite memories of the busy year.





The new Kinders children who had only been part of the school for 6 weeks put on a super show for all their very proud parents



Life's better with trees!





The children have had fantastic fun in the forest this year. We've been den building, foraging, wildlife spotting, tracking, picnicking, game playing and making woodland works of art. Every time we visit the forest the children are encouraged to unlock its secrets and discover the mystery, fun and adventure that our magical woodland has to offer.



The Animator

Edith Thrift-Hiley

Everyone has a secret. Some people's secrets are happy, some people's secrets are sad. But everyone, everyone... has a secret. There was once a dog, well some people met her as a dog, some people met her as a cat and some people met her when she was a person. This is the story of how she got the power to change her form.

Once, when she was lying in her bed minding her own business, there was a knock on the door. "Rat-a-tat-tat." So she got out of bed and went downstairs to open the door. As soon as she did, this an ugly looking creature with a pointy hat stepped in through the door and said "This is a warning. I have put a curse on your house. I shall make the ground rise just around your house so that your house is a separate island. You have to complete a quest to be free of the curse."

The woman was really shocked, but she didn't have time to waste. She needed to do the quest. But how? What was the quest? The next night she had a bad dream. When she awoke there was a huge portal at the end of the bed. Before she knew it she was sucked into the portal by her feet and she could feel something grabbing her. She found she wasn't scared and thought she'd had this feeling before. Then something struck her, she'd had that feeling when she'd met the creature at the door. She was confused but not scared.

When she landed on the other side of the portal she found that there was a person standing in front of her. The person introduced himself. He said that he was an animator, which meant that he could change his appearance.

She said "Do you have any idea where I am? I have a quest to complete."

He said "I am the guide for your quest. The first task is that you must be able to change into a dog. For this you will need to go on a search for the heart of all dogs. Once you have that you should be able to change into a dog and understand them. For now I must leave you, I will be back when you have completed this task." Then he disappeared in a shower of sparkles...

To read more of this fantastic story, visit the LGJS website.

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Dragon Discovery

Hassan Mooney

On the third day of the war between the French Kingdom, Honduliere and the Spanish kingdom, Bonnero, a little Spanish boy named Adriano was praying. He prayed that his kingdom would not be over taken by the marauding French.

That night it rained with thunder and lightning and the sky was alight with dark and eerie colours. Adriano decided to read a book about magical stories where minute dragons landed on people's hands. They only landed on brave and kind people; these people were then granted three wishes. For most people selfishness and opulence overcame them, as they asked for pots of money or the latest Lamborghini. How Adriano longed for the dragon to land on his fingers! He was not selfish; he always thought of others, especially his own family. His family were not wealthy; the six children shared one room. Adriano's parents had died three years ago, when Adriano was a child.

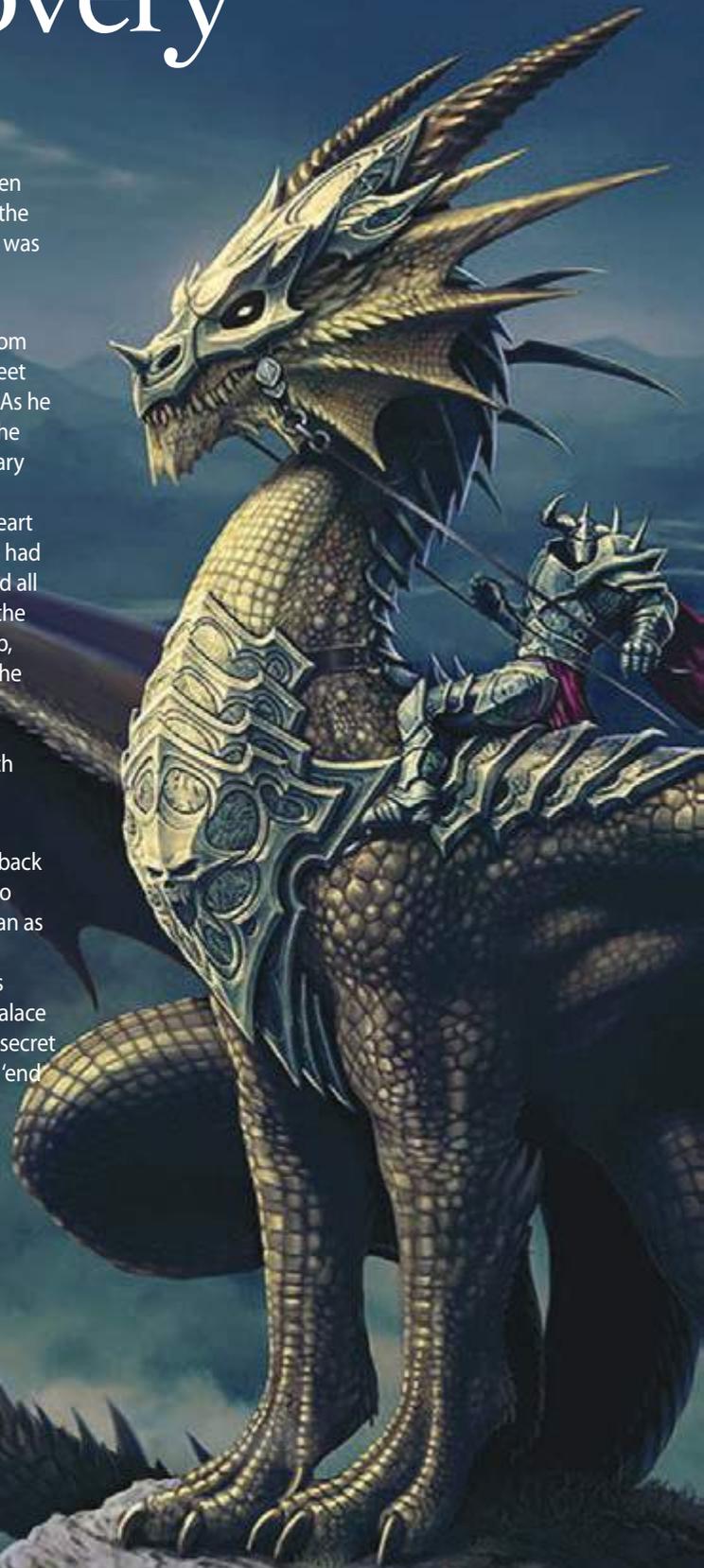
Adriano was always hungry, but never complained to his five sisters. Each of his five sisters worked hard as cleaners, earning a paltry three dollars a day, and sometimes not even that. Bosses

had become cruel and would often snap, "Alice, I can't see my face in the bath! Ten cents off your salary!" It was nonsense.

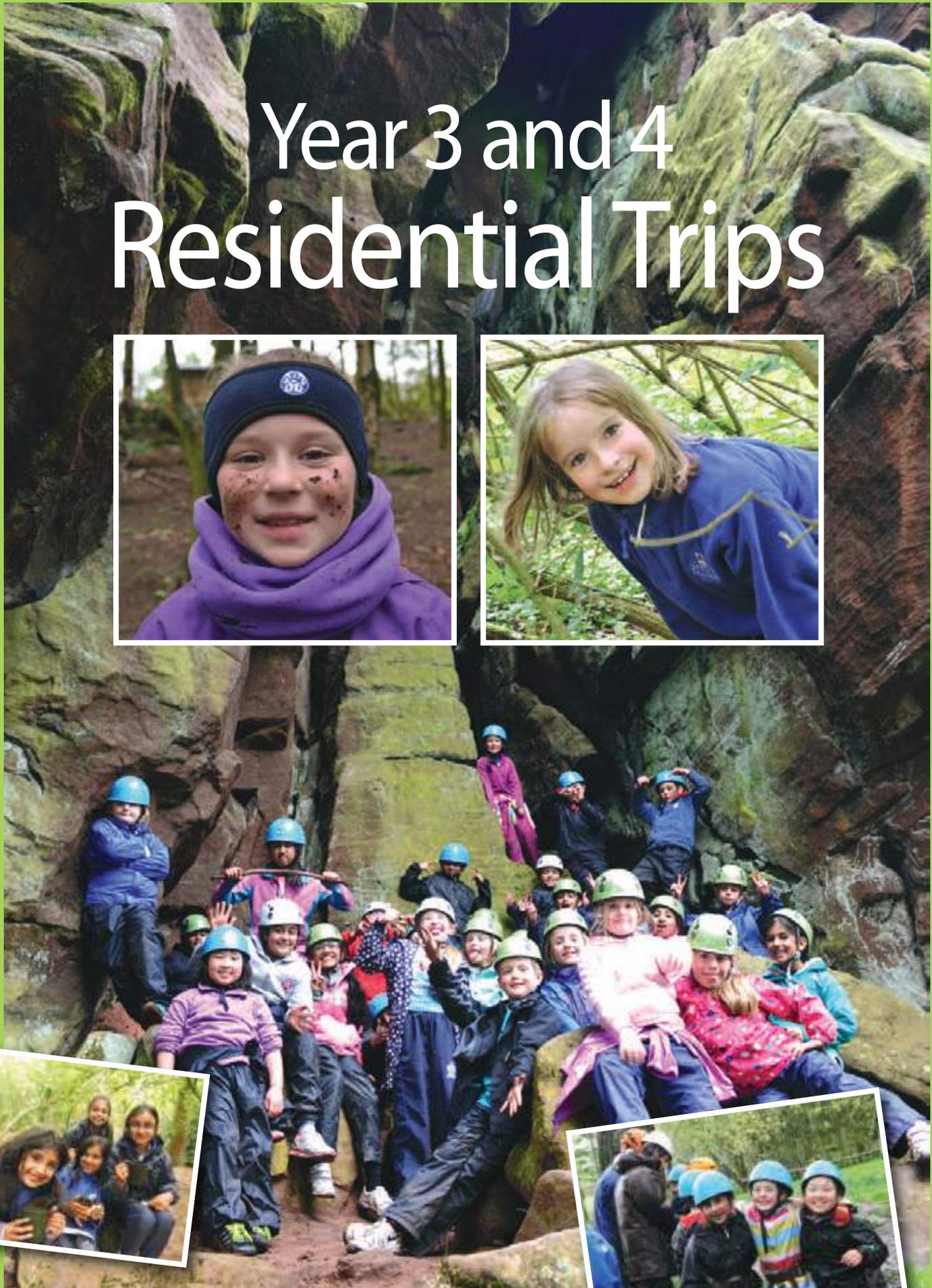
The war continued and the days dragged on. To relieve his boredom Adriano went to look inside a sweet shop. He could afford one sweet. As he came out, feeling even hungrier, he saw a tiny object land on his sugary fingers. It was the size of a small sharpener. Suddenly Adriano's heart began racing....did this mean he had three wishes? He quickly pictured all his current problems, and asked the dragon, "Mr Dragon on my thumb, please end this battle." Instantly he was magically teleported to the Spanish Royal Palace, where he overheard the Spanish and French ambassadors discussing peace treaties.

Seconds later he was teleported back to the sweet shop and was able to make his second wish. He then ran as fast as he could back home to be greeted with the news that all his sisters had be given jobs at the palace as ladies in waiting. He smiled. A secret smile. Adriano's final wish was to 'end world poverty'... that wish is still on-going.

For most people selfishness and opulence overcame them, as they asked for pots of money or the latest Lamborghini



Year 3 and 4 Residential Trips





Year 3 had their first exciting taste of staying away from home when they camped overnight in the school grounds in Badger Field, followed by a day in Forest School.

Some children were slightly nervous but everyone was still very enthusiastic! The children trekked down to the field and made camp, played some games, followed by a delicious supper around the campfire.

The following morning they tramped their way to the forest after yummy bacon butties for breakfast! They had a fantastic time making bows and arrows, climbing trees and generally exploring the beautiful woods.

In May, Year 4 travelled to Staffordshire to go camping for two nights; the destination was Stanley Head, on the edge of the Peak District National Park. They did a variety of different activities based at the Centre, including Crate Stacking, Challenge Wall, indoor climbing and Bushcraft; they also did the nightline trail and orienteering!

On Thursday, the children spent the whole day off site. They were split into groups and went Bouldering, which is scrambling up huge rocks of grit stone, squeezing through little gaps between the boulders and generally having a lot of fun! They also walked to Lud's Church - a beautiful, natural, mythical place. Mr Fox and Mr Redfearn, two of the instructors, told them lots of stories about the area and taught them some survival skills too!

Year 4 said... "We had a fabulous, memorable, magical, adventurous, amazing, epic, awesome, magnificent time! The food was yummy and delicious. The instructors were kind, encouraging and brilliant. Overall it was the best time ever...11/10!"





Art

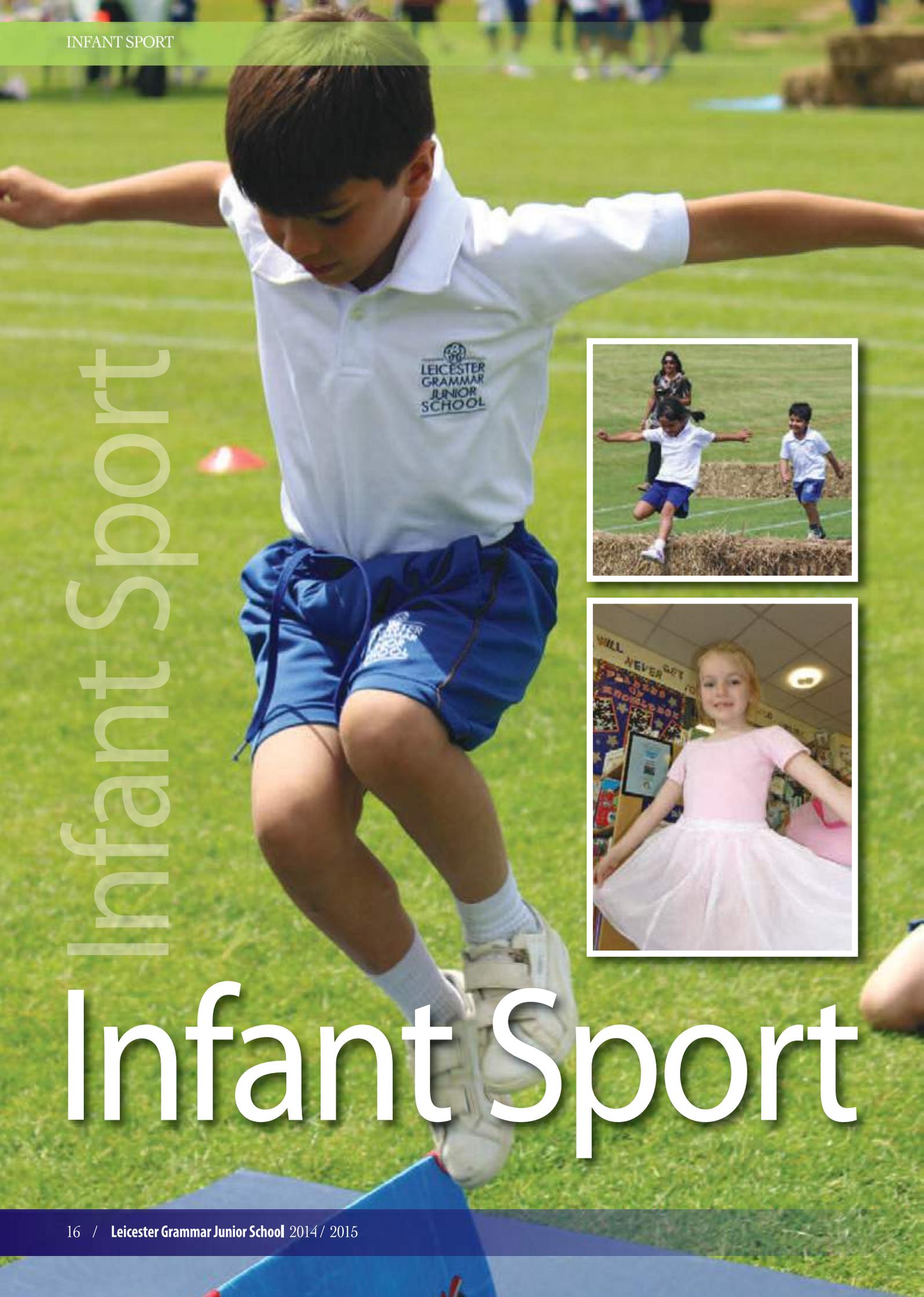


The highlight of 2014-15 has to be the whole school project; this permanent feature is now installed in the hall. Every pupil and member of staff painted their own disk to create this wonderful, colourful display of which we are all very proud. 2015 will also be remembered as the year Richard III was re-interred in Leicester Cathedral and this event was commemorated by the children in a whole school art project depicting the Battle of Bosworth Field. Throughout this year pupils have enjoyed working together on a whole range of art projects (from book characters in Y6 to Roman mosaics in Y3). There have also been so many examples of individual creativity throughout the school where children have been invited to respond in their own creative way to a range of stimuli.



Infant Sport

Infant Sport





The Foundation Stage pupils jumped and rolled their way through ball pits and tunnels, having a great time during the soft play mornings. The Infants even experienced a martial arts session, proving they are fighting fit! Recent highlights for Years 1 and 2 included House relays, House Swimming Gala and a Quad Kid competition. Fun was had by all at the summer Sports Days - the children enjoyed demonstrating their great competitive spirit!





Music Review



This year has seen an exceptionally busy year for the Music Department at Leicester Grammar Junior School.





We were treated to a variety of musical acts in our House Music Competition in the Advent term and our judges, I

and Mr Barker, had a difficult task choosing the winning acts. A huge well done to everyone who participated! Musical celebrations for Harvest and Easter took place at our local Church, St Cuthbert's and our annual Christingle service was held in the historic Leicester Cathedral.

The Leicester Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonic Singers invited the choir to sing in the De Montfort Hall in a spectacular 'Summer Fantasia'. Seventy singers from LGJS presented five specially arranged songs from 'Matilda' with very challenging

two-part harmonies. We were joined by Ratcliffe choir and the evening proved to be a full, unforgettable musical experience!

The first of our two Summer Concerts was the Soloist's and Ensemble Concert. This was a showcase to all those who took part. Once again we were able to hold our Grand Summer Concert within the school grounds.

The Orchestra, Flute and Recorder group, Brass group, String Ensembles, Woodwind Ensembles, Choir and the Ukulele group performed. The Infant Concert concluded the year with a performance from the Infant Strings and the Infant Choir.



Junior Drama

This year we have performed a classic story, Shakespearean plays and the musical 'Scheherazade'. In the Lent term, parents and pupils were thrilled with the Year 4 swashbuckling production of 'Treasure Island'. Shakespeare also dominated in this term, with a visit from 'the Young Shakespeare Company' and pupil performances of 'A Mid-Summer Night's dream', 'Macbeth' and 'Romeo and Juliet'.

In the Trinity term Y6 performed the musical 'Scheherazade'; not only did this highlight our many talented actors, singers and dancers, but the pupils also helped with the music, choreography and stage.





Junior Sports

It's been another amazing year for LGJS sport. It all started with a pre-season cross country training event! Since then it's been a whirlwind of sports throughout the year. Our cross country team successfully retained the county cup, making us the most successful school in its history.

One of the most amazing results of 2014-15 came from the orienteering squad, who came runners up at the British National event.

Rugby successes followed with our U11 team coming second in the school tournament and this year we introduced mixed touch rugby, which has proved hugely popular. Our Year 6 Hockey Team qualified through to the regional finals this year and performed admirably at the IAPS tournament at Repton. The Year 5 Hockey Team won the Witham Hall Tournament... they were obviously inspired by the masterclass given to them by Sam Ward (current Team GB international). In the summer term our Year 6 cricket team won the

county 8 aside competition (the Howe Shield); they went on to represent the county beating Nottinghamshire, and qualifying for the national finals. The team played brilliantly and were thrilled to come third in this prestigious national competition.

Gymnastics has once again featured highly on our curriculum and extra-curricular programme. The extra-curricular club gave the children an opportunity to further their skills and also to compete in an Inter-school competition. Our competitive team won the Blaby and Harborough competition and went to the county finals.

Football fixtures, swimming galas, netball matches and even cycling-cross in sports day... sport continues to be enriching, popular and rewarding at LGJS.





The team played brilliantly and were thrilled to come third in this prestigious national competition



Infant Trips





Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 have been out and about exploring various parts of the county and beyond. Kinders and Reception enjoyed a visit to West Lodge Rural Centre. The sun shone on Year 1 as they visited Warwick Castle in March and the University of Leicester Botanic Garden. Year 2 time travelled back to September 1939, to be evacuated, courtesy of the Great Central Railway.



Year 6 Residential

Whilst Year 5 camped, Year 6 stayed at the luxurious Chateau du Baffy! This was the first time we had stayed here and it proved to be a memorable trip. There were historical excursions to the Bayeux Tapestry and to the American War Cemetery which overlooks Omaha Beach. We also included

cultural and linguistic activities from making crepes in the wonderful 'Petit Chef Academy' to making our own baguettes and marvelling at the dinosaurs at the Paleospace Museum. Being a Year 6 trip to France, we also had time to play on the beach...





Year 5 Residential

Whilst Year 6 lived a life of luxury, Year 5 braved the elements at Cornbury Park. Pupils learnt how to survive in the wild by building shelters, lighting fires and cooking their own food. Other activities such as jumping in the lake and dancing in the forest had no point whatsoever (but were lots of fun)! The children rose to all the challenges, and supported each other really well.



Y6 pupils in reflective mood at Omaha Beach

World War One

Do we want to commemorate with children as young as three and four a long, drawn out and bloody war which resulted in death and destruction on a scale hitherto unknown? That is the question faced by hundreds of schools in this, the one hundredth year since the start of the Great War. For teachers at Leicester Grammar Junior School, the answer was a resounding yes. Such a significant event in twentieth century world history, which changed the lives of millions of people forever, cannot be ignored. Out of respect for those who lost their lives in a period which has now faded from living memory, we have a duty to pass on their stories to our children.

By engaging even our youngest children in a series of reflective activities of remembrance, LGJS have focused on the message that the suffering of war gives us the incentive to avoid it in the future. Key Stage 1 donned their wellies, went out in the mud and planted poppy seeds in the school grounds, they then made their own poppy wreaths to decorate their classroom. Year 2 were inspired by the poppy installation at the Tower of London, and made their own giant wall display with paper poppies, representing the fallen and their thoughts about peace were written on doves.



Key Stage 1 donned their wellies, went out in the mud and planted poppy seeds in the school grounds, they then made their own poppy wreaths to decorate their classroom





Children in Key Stage 2 experienced what life would have been like on the battlefield during a World War I week when 'soldiers' and their life size trench visited the school. A cookery lesson enabled children to make hardtack biscuits, which would have sustained the men fighting in the trenches.

They learned that those same men would have shared the trenches with lice, fleas and rats and often suffered from Trench Foot. Dressing up in uniform, hats and coats and practising drill with muskets and (bean bag) bombs was a highlight for some.



Each child in the school painted a model of a soldier to form part of a 3-D scene from the battlefield.



On 11th November we held a candlelit service to remember all of those who have lost their lives in war, and in particular those who died during the First World War, in this centenary year. We lit candles to remember those who had died, but also to show that where there is light there is hope.

The Friends

It's been another 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. The membership of Friends in 2014/2015 continued to increase and we were pleased to see parents of children in the younger years, new parents to the school and many fathers join our group. This year saw us organize our regular and several different events with the continued aim of fundraising to enhance the school community.

We concluded our year with the Casino Royale summer ball. It was a fabulous evening filled with food, glamour, auctions and a raffle. The charity New Dawn family support services was chosen by our School Council members and profits from the ball were divided between The Friends and the charity.

We raised over £5000 that evening thanks to the generosity of everyone who supported the event.

The funds raised this year have reached close to £9000 which has included income





Our main expenditure this year is the beautiful art display in the Junior School Hall which was created by the children of our school



from our second hand uniform shop which has been run and equipped by parents from the school. The funds raised have been used to continue to support several regular events including the Year 6 Leavers' party and the Year 5 First Aid course.

We were pleased to purchase the mud kitchen and bricks for the infant playground and gardening equipment for the children's eco group. Together with the Senior school Friends, we financed the Planetarium display at the Science Fair in April.

Thanks again to the committee for organising such wonderful events as the Christmas Fayre, the Quiz, BBQs on sports days, the Summer Ball... we're already planning for some new events for next year.

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