

Dear Years 3 and 4,

For those of you that do not know the Governors are a group of people who help Mr George run the school. We help decide how to spend the school's money, making sure that we use it to make Loughton the best school it can be for you. We are always trying to think of improvements! We visit the school regularly for meetings in the evenings, but we also try to visit during the school day whenever we can. If you invite us to any special events, one of us will try to come along. We will then tell the other governors all about it. We also read the school newsletter, your class newsletters and the Student Voice, and enjoy seeing reports and photographs on the school website.

We have loved hearing about all your activities and projects last term.

Year 3 First weeks

Year 3 started the term collecting data about Smarties and you created your own 'Frequency' tables and then ate the Smarties! You collected and presented information about your new friends. You learned about Beatrix Potter's 'The Tale of Peter Rabbit'. This well-loved story and familiar setting was used to help you learn about different 'word classes'.

You tried some camomile tea, and started your singing assemblies off with your artist of the month: Michael Jackson!

You also took part in a fantastic day of Outdoor Adventurous Activities. What a way to start your new school! It helped you get to know each other and put your team building skills to the test and pretty impressive you were!

You built dens to protect you from the weather; you hunted for outdoor treasures and even made your own fires using a flint. The rain over lunchtime did not put you off and you made your own breadsticks – on a stick! – toasted marshmallows and went orienteering around the school grounds.

Year 3 Whipsnade Zoo

As part of your curriculum project learning about 'Amazing Animals', you visited Whipsnade Zoo. Thankfully you had glorious weather and a traffic free, journey there and back.

Year 3 Dance

Year 3 learned two contemporary dances to the music of 'The Lion King' in a dance workshop led by Rachel from Primary Workshops for Schools. Each class explored and brainstormed different African animals, their movements and expressions, before each choosing one animal to dance as. You did an incredible job of expressing your animal characters through movement and facial expression, making sure to move in time with the rhythm of the music. You then put your learning into practice, performing your dance to the rest of the year group with great enthusiasm!

Year 4 will have their music and dance day to look forward to later this term and are learning some Indian dance linked to their theme of Hinduism.

Year 3 MK Lightning Ice Hockey

You were lucky to be visited by some of the team of MK Lightning Ice Hockey team and their mascot Pucky! They shared some stories and answered your ice hockey questions. They invited you to join them at their match on Saturday 1 December to see them play Manchester Storm at Planet Ice. They offered the school a discounted rate and the school benefitted from a £126 commission from the ticket sales.

Year 3 Christmas story by candle light

As part of the Religious Education curriculum, you took part in a school nativity Christmas story. You came into the school hall lit by seventy candles and with calm Christmas music, and heard the story of the birth of baby Jesus. Many of you took on the roles of the different significant characters of the Christmas Story.

Year 3 Christmas Carol songs

Year 3 worked on perfecting your Christmas Production songs and gained a good understanding of how to perform on stage and to sing effectively. You worked hard in three weeks to produce the Christmas performance, 'Christmas Around the World' and what an amazing job you did! The acting, singing, dancing, props and technical support were phenomenal!

Year 4 Pizza Express

Year 4 had a great experience going to Pizza Express restaurant and making your very own pizzas. You learnt how to stretch the dough, spread on the sauce and add the toppings. You all became Pizzaiolos and Pizzaiolas.

Year 4 Governors' award

A Governor's award was presented to a member of Year 4: Shay, from HB5. He offered the pizza he had just made, to a homeless man. This kind act showed the values the school encourages. Well done Shay.

Year 4 Scratch Coding

You are using Scratch to code your own interactive stories, animations and games. You started by exploring how to give instructions. Your example was how to make a great jam sandwich. You also created a mountain landscape with a skiing graphic called a sprite.

Scratch should help you think creatively, reason systematically, and work together—essential skills for when you are grown up and have to go out to work.

Year 4 Student Voice Elections

Lots of you worked very hard on your student voice applications. You got up in front of everybody to tell them why you would be great candidates. However,

only four of you could win. Grace, Izzy, Akshaja and Eva became your united voice in year 4.

Year 4 Volcano Projects

You all got really involved, and a bit messy, with your volcano projects. You learnt all about the most dangerous volcanos and how they are formed. You shared these on open day.

Year 4 Multiplying and Dividing

You used your (already great) multiplication skills to learn how to do 'division'. You did really well thinking about 'groups of' and 'grouping'.

Year 4 Outdoor Adventurous Activity Day

You worked on your team-building and collaboration skills. Amongst the activities you completed were inflatable obstacle race, spider-web activity, and removing toxic waste. You had to think logically, calmly and most importantly, share your ideas. All of you took part and had a great day.

Remembrance Service

At the school Remembrance Service to mark the centenary of the end of World War I you were joined by parents, carers and invited visitors. Poems were read and The Last Post was played. Replica guns were fired either side of the 2-minute silence. The sun shone and you behaved superbly and marched back to your classrooms to some war-time favourite tunes.

Sporting News

Year 4 boys' Football team beat Falconhurst 3-0 in their first match. Well done boys! Squad: Harry M, Lucas, Harry K, Teddy, Gavin, Jensen, Dexter, George P & Shay. The Loughton School Cross Country team from Years 4 and 5 took to the hills of The Milton Keynes Bowl to compete in the MK Primary Schools Cross Country competition. Fifty two schools across Milton Keynes competed in two sessions according to the size of the schools. There were four events, the Junior Girls, Junior Boys, Senior Girls and Senior Boys. Each of the four teams had six runners; and most races had about 168 runners. The Junior Girls team was: Georgia, Victoria, Rebecca C, Isla F, Lucy G and Tonia. They ran brilliantly and finished in the top ten schools in your session. Fantastic job girls! The brilliant junior boys' team on the day was: Freddie, James C, Harry M, Goel and Remik. You amazing young runners ran superbly with James coming in second place. They won a silver medal overall. Absolutely brilliant!

Years 3 and 4 Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who wore something bright and colourful for Children in Need a few weeks ago and donated – with your help we raised £321 to help the cause.

Years 3 and 4 Family Open Day

You took part in the first Family Open Day with over 150 mums, dads, grandparents, aunties and older sisters visiting you in your classrooms and taking part in the fun, practical activities over the course of the day – including pizza making, reindeer hot chocolate making, creative writing, sepia photos, black-out poetry, felt Christmas tree decorations, marshmallow snowmen, Christmas card making as well as showcasing maths co-ordinates and homework.

Year 4 Violin

The peripatetic violin pupils performed to their peers. You had all worked very hard practising your pieces and your performances were lively and full of effort. All of you played 'Rhythm Train', 'Danger Signal' and 'Jewish Wedding' with 2 small groups each performing 'City Lights' and 'London Eye'. Huge congratulations to Harshana, Ella, Izzy, Akshita, Sacha, Louis, Jessica and Veronica for being brave and delivering a confident and enthusiastic performance.

Year 4 and 5 Christmas Carol songs

Year 4 worked with Year 5 children on perfecting their Christmas Carol songs which required learning by heart and achieving a good understanding of how to perform on stage to a large audience, projecting your voices. The concert in the Denbigh Hall hugely impressed the many families attending. Year 4's favourite Carol was 'We three Kings'.

Year 4 Sisters on Community Clear-up

Lyla from HB8, with the help of her younger sister, has been spending her free time litter-picking in the local area. Lyla was inspired to do this after helping her grandfather clean up a beach while on holiday in Scotland in the summer. Well done for making the world a cleaner place to live in. What a wonderful attitude - thank you Lyla for all your efforts!

Years 3 and 4 Fund raising

You had some very successful fundraising events. You danced along at the school discos, which made a whopping £1,150! Then raised over £90 selling cupcakes. The Book Fairs raised approximately £500.

Years 3 and 4 Clubs

You took part in 28 various clubs including: Lego and Construction, Board games, Netball, British sign language, Outdoor learning and even a Comic club. The aim is that each of you will try a club that interests you at least once each year.

Years 3 and 4 Park Rangers After-School Club

Some of you attended Park Rangers After-School Club. You have worked with Park Rangers and enjoyed outdoor activities in the school grounds. You encouraged other children to learn about enjoying spending time in our local green spaces, whilst staying safe. Well done for being environmental role models to your classmates.

So you all had a very productive term, and you should all be most proud. Well done!

Best wishes,

The Governing Body

Loughton School