

Welcome to the 2022-2023 'Our School Year'

Dear Parents, Children and Friends,

Well, here we are at the end of another year...the time really does fly by so fast.

I would like to begin by thanking your lovely children for being such amazing learners. When I walk around the school, the thing I like to do most is to watch the children's faces when they are learning. It is so wonderful to always see them so happy and engaged in their lessons and this is a true picture right across the school. Visitors to the school during the year have also specifically commented upon this. Staff at Loughton Manor work so hard to plan and create excellent and inspiring learning opportunities for the children and the high levels of engagement of the children is evidence of this. We continue to place a high focus on children's wellbeing and always strive to achieve our school ethos of 'Building a lifelong love of learning in a safe and happy school'.

I would like to thank parents for the ongoing support and commitment you show in supporting your child and the school. Helping your children to develop and to be the best they can be is our mutual role and working together to achieve this is vital.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Governors, who volunteer a great amount of their time to work with us. The Friends of Loughton Manor continue to do a fantastic job in organising fun events for the children whilst raising money to support the school. They really do help us to buy all of those extra things that make school a fun place to be – the icing on the cake!

Whilst writing this, I was considering the special events we have had this year and there just seem to be so many. Lots are described later on in this booklet so I will focus on just a few. We were due to have our 25th Anniversary Celebration in the Autumn Term – the school opened to children in September 1997. With the passing of the Queen, we decided to postpone our celebration. We knew that we wanted a family 'Proms in the Playground' picnic event, so we decided to wait until the Summer Term to do this. As part of our anniversary celebration we wanted to have a permanent installation made which all of the children had contributed to. We applied for a grant from MK Community Foundation and were successful in our bid. Friends provided the balance and we were able to create a mosaic for the front of our school. Sarah Harper from Honey Mosaics came into school and worked with the children to create our wonderful mosaic. Children drew pictures of their class animal and Sarah and I chose the winning designs together. We wanted to make a link to the King's Coronation year so we also asked children to design a crown to be incorporated into the mosaic. Every child in the school took part in creating the finished product. This will officially be unveiled at the celebration picnic, by our youngest child and also a parent who was the youngest child at LMFS when the ribbon was cut in 1997.



The King's Coronation was an extremely important moment in history and it was essential that we marked this in some way. We had a street party of red, white and blue with flags and cake galore. We hope that as adults when the children look back at this event in their past, that they will remember this day.

In June we had our 'Men Behaving Dadly' week, with many dads, grandads, uncles and other important men in the children's lives coming into school to create a 3D model of Loughton with the children. Fern Bunton had a vision and the children and visitors did an excellent job of realising it.

As our year draws to a close, we look forward to the return of Laura Harvey from maternity leave. Unfortunately we must say goodbye to Mrs Eimear Fitzgerald who has worked with us this year. Although we are sad to see her go, we know that her new school will be lucky to have her. I would also like to say huge congratulations to Amy Johnson who has worked as an apprentice teacher this year. She has achieved her QTS (Qualified Teacher Status) and we are pleased that she will continue working with us next year.

To all of our Year Two children, we hope you settle quickly and happily into your new schools and we wish you success in Year 3. We hope that you continue to love learning, and we look forward to hearing how you're getting on. For everyone else, we wish you a fantastic summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Best wishes,

Daniela Thompson, Headteacher

Letter from the Chair of Governors, Paul Hussey

We do hope that you enjoy this booklet, Our School Year. As a Governing Board we continue to visit school to see it in action. We all appreciate seeing the children enjoying their time in school and we are impressed by the wide variety of activities the children are involved in, over and above the usual curriculum offered in every school. I particularly enjoyed a recent visit I made to school when the travelling Planetarium was inflated in the school hall! I joined a Year 2 class and I was impressed not only with the expert presentation and the children's level of interest, but also the children's knowledge about the solar system and its planets. It was certainly an awe and wonder experience!

As Governors, we also appreciate the support the school receives from parents, in so many different ways. From fundraising, donations to the food bank and the recycling of school uniform, to attending the various parent and child events and to supporting their children at home with reading and phonics practice. You are a great source of encouragement and we thank you for your dedication and involvement in your children's school lives.

At the end of what has been another busy and exciting year, the Governors deliver a huge 'Thank you' to every member of staff, all the children, and parents too. It has been a year when, like households throughout the country, we have faced financial challenges around energy prices and inflation generally. We have worked hard behind the scenes to minimise the impact of these pressures on the quality of what we are able to provide for the children. My thanks go to all the Governors for their creative thinking and to the Staff for being understanding where some economies have had to be made and for being creative in squeezing as much value out of the resources available as they can! The outcomes for the children have remained as good as ever!

As well as the support from the wider community including visiting specialists, we give particular thanks to our Leadership Team, who again have stepped up and delivered their senior leadership responsibilities with confidence and commitment. Thanks go to Daniela Thompson, Headteacher, and Assistant Heads Gemma Kinsella and Lucy Lock for building on the achievements of last year to ensure that children continue to make great progress in their academic and personal development. It is clear, when walking round the school, that the quality of the relationships between everyone in the school, from the youngest to the still young-at-heart, is positive and supportive. My thanks to all the adults for encouraging and modelling these high-quality relationships.

We wish everyone in the Loughton Manor First School community a happy and relaxing break in the coming weeks. This booklet goes some way to showing what a brilliant place LMFS is for the children in our community and I commend it to you.

Who are the Governors and what do we do?

The Governing Board have a very important role in the leadership of the school. We are a group of volunteers made up of teaching and non-teaching staff, parents, community representatives and members appointed for their cultural and/or professional knowledge, all of whom are local to Loughton. We work closely with Daniela Thompson, the rest of the staff and the local authority, to carry out our statutory responsibilities.

Chair of the Governors:

Paul Hussey

Headteacher:

Daniela Thompson

Vice Chair: Anna Hawken

Staff Governor: Rachel Davidge

Co-opted Governors:

Sue Tapley

Lizzie Bancroft

Rosie Crook

Parent Governors:

Thomas Lowe

Anand Rai

Associate Members:

Les Piascik

James McAuley

Gemma Kinsella

Lucy Lock

Local Authority Governor: vacant

Clerk to Governors: Dana Ciripan



Monster Phonics

The children have continued to learn to read through our Monster Phonics Scheme. We are so pleased that we were able to purchase additional reading books to support home reading practice. Thanks to the Friends of Loughton Manor First School, we have recently been able to buy non-fiction sets of readers and we hope to be able to add to these during the next year.



Bertie the Reading Dog!

Bertie continues to visit us with his owner Becky, on a weekly basis. He has loved listening to Year 2 children's reading this year and is so impressed with the progress they have made and the increased confidence he has seen.

Bertie loves coming in so much that he seems to know when it is a Monday and pulls Becky along the road and into school!

Books at Bedtime: In February we held our Books at Bedtime event which was for Year One and Two children and their parents. Children returned to school in the evening in their onesies or pyjamas and spent lovely quality time reading with their parents.

Books in the Woods: In May it was Zebras' and Tigers' turn for their special reading event. They had Books in the Woods after school and it was lovely to see so many families spending time together sharing books.

Book Swap for Breakfast: A few weeks ago we had a slight variation on our Books for Breakfast where we introduced the idea of a book swap. This seemed to be successful and it enabled us to have some additional books to add into our library and our Book Exchange. We also raised £150 which will be spent on additional books for the library.



Reading Consultations

Something new that we introduced this year was for FS2 parents to come into school to watch Mrs Rose and Mrs Bunton reading 1:1 with their child. We had some really positive feedback from parents and the teachers have said how this had such a positive impact on the amount of home reading practice children were doing after this. We will certainly repeat this next year!

Take One Picture...

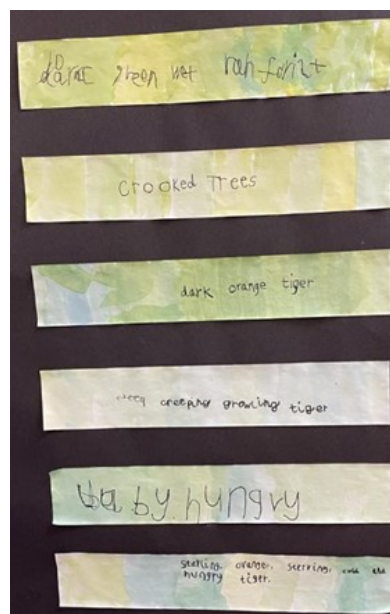
The 2023 picture chosen by the National Gallery was 'Surprised!' by Henri Rousseau. Teachers undertook a training session to support them in planning a whole school Arts week, culminating in an exhibition of the children's work in the visual arts, displayed around the school, which parents were invited to view. The broad range of artwork and the children's creativity was evident, and feedback was that they really enjoyed exploring the picture and creating their responses. The children employed a variety of media and techniques to great effect, with some stunning outcomes.



Every child throughout the school contributed paintings of aspects of the whole picture.

The teachers then skilfully arranged and mounted them to make a large mural in the main hall, recreating a giant interpretation of Henri Rousseau's 'Surprised!' made by everyone.

Year 2: Children created their own interpretation of the picture using mixed media. They wrote collaborative poems and then wrote them on strips of paper that they had painted in various shades of green, using blue and yellow paint to explore colour mixing. They also developed their technique in shading and line making with drawing pencils, using a variety of ways to show light and dark tone, looking closely at the different leaves in the painting, and drawing their own leaves.



Expressive Arts Week

Year 1: Children rolled and prepared clay using their hands and simple tools. They then used replica leaves to press down, creating an outline and vein pattern of each leaf. They then used lolly sticks, pushing them into the clay around the leaf outline to make realistic edges to their leaves, before painting them.



They made 3D collages layered in several stages to enable them to demonstrate the foreground, middle ground and background of Rousseau's painting. They incorporated several techniques: sandpaper rubbing, colour mixing, binding and collage. Children used masking tape to great effect, creating dramatic 'opposites', by mixing different shades of green and covering masking tape, then had 'positive' and negative' images on sheets of paper to convey jungle shapes and patterns.

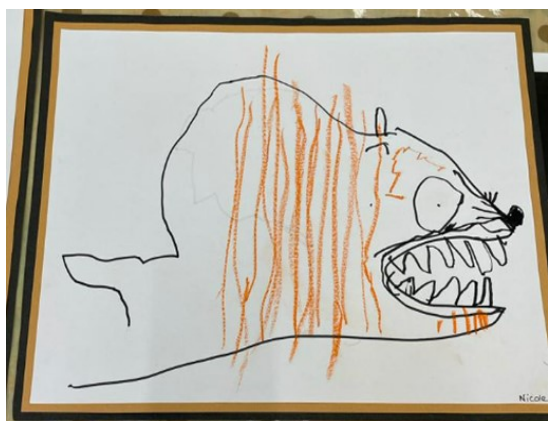


Their foil etched tigers were also very effective. The children traced a line drawing of a tiger, used the traced image to etch the outline onto copper foil, then they used acrylic paint to 'polish' the indentations.



Foundation Stage 2:

After looking closely at the tiger's stripes, the children in Zebras and Tigers used paint and wax crayon on orange fabric to create their own unique set of tiger stripes. One of the main things the children noticed about the painting was the tiger's teeth. They used Modroc plaster to create four large canines.



Foundation Stage 1:

Children in Monkeys drew tigers using pen and ink, and their individual creativity and style was delightful with lots of variety – they seemed to especially like the teeth! They also used the 2Simple 'paint' program on iPads to recreate the tiger in its leafy habitat.



What I Liked About Hippos and Elephants

Milton Keynes Central Library

In the Autumn Term, Year 2 children walked to Milton Keynes Central library. By the end of our time at the library, every child had a library card and a library book to take home! The children loved exploring all of the different book options and listened intently when finding out how many books there actually are in Milton Keynes libraries that they are able to borrow! We do hope that the children have continued to use their library cards.

I really enjoyed visiting the library. Bertie the dog walked with us and were able to get a library card and choose our own book!



"I loved the trip to the Mosque because I learnt my name in Arabic!"



Design, Technology and Art:

During our History topic on the Great Fire of London, we linked our learning to DT. We learnt all about fire engines in the past and compared them with fire engines we see nowadays. (We could find lots of differences between them and how effective each of them were!)

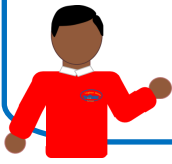
Following on from this, we designed, made and evaluated our very own fire engine. Each one was very individual and the children loved making them!

Christmas: We celebrated with a festive party with lots of games, and a brilliant visit from Colonel Custard!

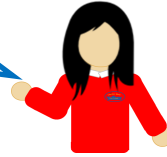


What I Liked About Hippos and Elephants

"My favourite memory of Year 2 is One World Week. We learnt all about India and I'm from India!"



My favourite time was when we made sunflowers in Art. I love sunflowers!"

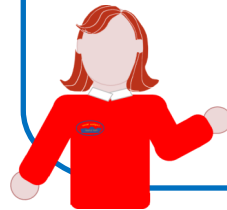


"I enjoyed History when we learnt all about Amelia Earhart. She was amazing!"



"I loved the Coronation celebrations!"

"I loved the Planetarium because it was so dark in there!"

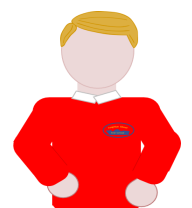


Tring Natural History Museum Trip

We were so excited for our trip to Tring. We walked through Tring Park, spotting the different habitats and then spent the day exploring the museum. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day, with so many saying how fabulous the displays were! They were great ambassadors for the school and were brilliant at sharing their knowledge with others.



"I will always remember going to Tring Museum and seeing all of the animals. We also went for a long walk to look at different habitats. The whole day was great!"



What I Liked About Giraffes and Lions

Monster Phonics

Children have really taken to Monster Phonics and absolutely love the monsters and linking them to the correct sounds. Lots of Year One children have started to read their Monster Phonics books to Bertie the Reading Dog!

"Monster Phonics is great! My favourite monster is Angry Red A."



"My favourite thing was when the Toymaker made the spinning top spin for ages!"



Toymaker Visit

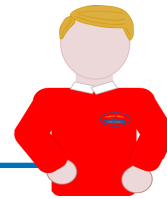
Our day with the Toymaker started with an introduction to lots of different toys from the past.

Children thoroughly enjoyed learning all about how different toys can be pulled, pushed, squeezed and rolled.

In the afternoon, every child got to design and make their own toy to take home. We're sure they will remember that day for years to come!



"I loved our Coronation street party! We sat at tables in the playground and there were lots of balloons."



Whipsnade Zoo

We have learned all about animals in the Summer Term and really loved our trip to Whipsnade Zoo.

We were able to use our map following skills we had learnt about in Geography as, before we went, we planned our route around the zoo.



Our Performance: Humpty Dumpty—Was He Pushed or Did He Fall?

The children were absolutely amazing and thoroughly enjoyed performing their show for their families on the big stage at Denbigh School.



"I loved making biscuits for DT! It was so much fun!"



What I Liked About Tigers, Zebras and Monkeys

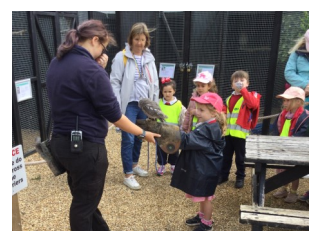
Every year the staff are amazed by the children's resilience as they explore new surroundings and new faces. Our first topic of the year was 'All About Me' where the children became familiar with each other, learnt about each other's families and we celebrated their similarities and differences. At the beginning of October we had our whole school One World Week. The Monkeys learnt about the United Kingdom and the children talked about their families and homes and Tigers learnt Polish dancing and Zebras made crowns. We had our first Cookathon of the Year when all the Zebras and Tigers made their own delicious muffin pizzas.

Christmas: The children loved visiting the Friends Christmas Shop where many of them chose gifts for their families. The Monkeys performed some of their favourite songs for their families, amazing both their families and the staff with their confidence. The Zebras and Tigers rehearsed and performed their Nativity, It's A Baby. The confidence of their singing, dancing and narrating showed the fantastic progress the children had made in their first term of school.

Super Spring and Summer: One of our topics was **Real-Life Superheroes** where we learnt about the many important people in our community and had visits from a police officer and a train driver. We had a visit from a storyteller from Milton Keynes Library Service, and the staff dressed as bears to fit in with our Brilliant Bears topic. The children dressed up as book characters and brought their favourite book to school. Favourite books included Kipper and Zog and a highlight was Clarissa from Tigers class retelling 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' in Spanish. For our whole school **Coronation celebration** we made biscuits, had a role play throne where the children could wear a crown, and drew portraits of King Charles. The children dressed up as pirates, walked the plank and wrote a message in a bottle for our annual **Pirate Day**. Families joined the Monkeys children for **Stay and Play** sessions where they took part in many of the Nursery activities, including visiting forest school and planting beans. We had many male relatives come in and work with their children during our **Men Behaving Dadly** event, where they created buildings from Loughton to make a huge 3D map of our local area.



Farm Trips: The Monkeys spent a day exploring Thrift Farm and enjoying their play facilities. Zebras and Tigers went to Herrings Green Activity Centre where they enjoyed a bird of prey show, feeding farm animals and stroking critters, including a snake, a skunk and holding a cockroach.



Science Week: the children enjoyed an assembly and workshop with visitors from Magic Science. The children took part in activities relating to the topic of seasons, including all classes going on a spring walk to look for signs of spring.

Bikeability: Every child in Zebras and Tigers had the opportunity to learn to ride a two wheeled bike with instructors from Bikeability. Even the children who didn't manage to ride completely independently were taught the skills they need.

Garden Cafe: Zebras and Tigers opened up their own Garden café, where they prepared refreshments for their visiting families. The children took on the role of waiting staff and served drinks and homemade fruit salad.



"I like colouring, painting and playing in the kitchen." Priscilla (Monkeys)

"I like playing with toy cars with my friends." Louis (Zebras)

"I like going on the taxi bike." Faris (Tigers)

"I liked Bikeability as I learnt how to ride a bike." Amanda (Tigers)

"I love going in the loft and dressing up like a pirate." Tommy (Zebras)

Breakfast and After School Club

What another amazing year it has been for us all in Breakfast Club and After School Club. It's been so nice to welcome new faces amongst both the children and the staff and to watch all the children having fun mixing with each other and playing and laughing together every day.

Meal times have been great with the children. They are able to choose where they would like to sit and it's so nice to see them sitting with children they may not normally spend time with and forming new friendships with them. Our revamped menu seems to be going down well, and when Mrs Dimmock makes her special macaroni cheese or tomato pasta it's clean bowls all round! The children enjoy making their own pitta bread pizzas on a regular basis and are quite partial to the odd cocktail to drink (it's just a mixture of both orange and black-currant squash). We have even managed to eat outside picnic-style a few times when the weather has been nice.

We've had so much fun playing and have done lots of things, including: riding on the scooters, gardening, using the outdoor play equipment, dancing and games in the hall, arts and crafts, as well as making the most of the new toys for indoors that were generously donated to us, including a lovely wooden kitchen with accessories for our "home corner".

We hope all the children have had a wonderful time in Breakfast Club and After School club this past year, and we would like to wish all of our Year 2s who are leaving the school all the best in Year 3 - we will miss them lots.

We are looking forward to meeting all the new children who will be joining us in September. We hope you all have lovely summer break and look forward to seeing you all again next term.

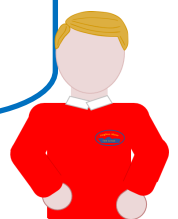
The Daycare Team



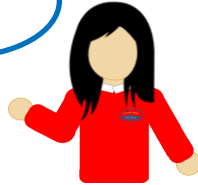
"I loved Men Behaving Dadly day because my Grandad came to school and we made a big model."



"I loved it when Year 1 did Bamboo Tamboo on the outdoor stage."



"I loved going to the May Fayre because I did country dancing and maypole. It was a lot of fun!"



Friends of Loughton Manor First School (FLMFS) is a registered Charity, led by parents to raise money for the School.

It is our mission to provide fun and memorable events, which also raise money to enhance school life and experiences for every pupil.

So far this year, we have raised just over £9,000. Our key fundraising events from this school year were:

Halloween Disco – £400

Break The Rules Day – £220

Christmas Shop / Cake Sale - £250

Krispy Kreme Doughnut Sale – £260

Easter Disco - £411

May Fayre - £7,450 (inc. Sponsorship and Matched Funding)

Lolly Friday - £73

May Fayre

It was great to see so many children and their families at this year's May Fayre. We hope everyone enjoyed it. We were extremely lucky with the weather and the event was a huge success. A huge thank you to everyone who sold raffle tickets, donated items, helped set up, manned a stall or stayed behind to clear up. Thank you also to everyone who came along to spend their hard earned cash!

How we've supported the school

This school year, as usual we provided a gift and paid for the children's Christmas parties. We also

subsidised the cost of the main school trip for each year group and purchased dictionaries for the Year 2 children who will be leaving us this year.



In addition, we purchased / contributed to the outdoor instruments, the 25 Year Anniversary Mosaic, provided every child with a Bookmark for the King's Coronation, and funded a Planetarium event which was hugely popular with the children. We also bought books for the school library and non-fiction Monster Phonics books to support the reading curriculum.

The Committee

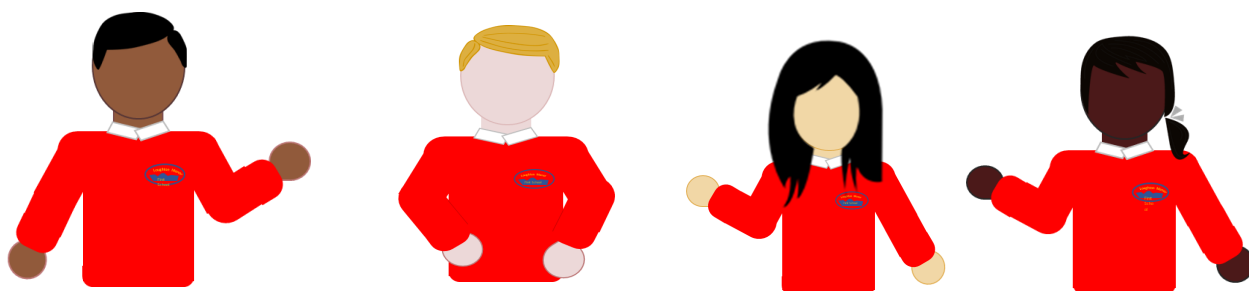
Some of our committee members are standing down at the end of the year, as their children head off to middle school. So, we are looking for new members. If you would like to find out more about the work that we do - and make some new friends - please get in touch and come along to our AGM at the start of the next school year.

Email: friendsofloughtonmanor@gmail.com

Facebook: [LoughtonManor1stSchoolParents](https://www.facebook.com/LoughtonManor1stSchoolParents)

Website: friendsofloughtonmanor.co.uk

*“Building a lifelong love of learning,
in a safe and happy school”*



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