

## Five Lucton pupils at ISA Nationals



Lucton School's swimming prowess and growing reputation for excellence, was reinforced this year with five pupils making the Nationals. This is not to be underestimated in any way given that the Midlands is a huge region with many top performing schools who have pupil numbers far in excess of Lucton's.

Elena Herbosa, Nathan Berry, and Philippa Price were making their debuts and returning swimmers were Poppy Crawford and Hannah Lawry. The day was thoroughly exciting and action-packed. The Midlands fielded a strong team and featured in the top 3 in most races. Nathan Berry just missed out on a backstroke medal, just 1 second outside of the medals. Lucton's girls featured heavily in the relay teams and they excelled in these races.

Hannah Lawry won her first medals this year with a silver in the Medley Relay and a bronze in the Freestyle Relay. Elena was also in the teams, with the same medal

haul. Poppy won a silver medal in the Freestyle Relay too and Philippa two bronze medals in both relays. What an achievement indeed! The Midlands was 2nd overall, pipped by London West. All the swimmers work hard in lessons, attending swim clubs, and in morning gifted-and-talented swim sessions. Their dedication has paid off at this elite competition; well done! Huge thanks to the parents and to Mr Herbosa for helping on the poolside all day.

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# Prep School News

Well we are nearly at the end of the term and the year, but there are a number of events that are happening between now and then! In the meantime if you weren't at the Ballet Assembly you really missed a treat. Miss Penny based the performance on the History of Ballet. Transition, demonstrated the current evolution of dance and although they are only 3 years old, they were super. Miss Penny then quizzed us about ballet's origins and we were surprised to find that ballet originated in Italy in the 1500s. Then Year 1 and 2 showed us how mime is used in dance by performing Sleeping Beauty. Did you know that crossed hands pointing down signifies death? But, of course the good fairy came in miming sleep and so transmuting death to sleep. The rest showed us a Hungarian version of ballet before finishing with a Spanish variation and each time the dancers also showed as an evolved dance. Finally, Lara from Year 10 showed us how ballet is no longer the provenance solely of classical music; the moves can be used with modern music as well. Yes, it was an excellent assembly so please look out for the next one which will be in the summer term.

It has been an Upstairs Downstairs, type of week. Pre Prep (downstairs) have been frantically smoothing out kinks and creases readying themselves for Thursday and Friday – the former was the Dress



Rehearsal and the latter will be the actual performances. To make everything a little more interesting, the stage that the Friends have so kindly purchased for us, arrived mid-week meaning a slight reworking of the odd dance or two. It is super that it has arrived in time, as now all of the children will be on the same level and visible for the entire audience. Very exciting indeed. Staying with new things, a new Christmas Post Box has arrived! This is, possibly, more exciting for the children as it is really very nice.

I said Upstairs Downstairs so, Upstairs (Years 3-5) have been trying to keep everything as 'normal' as possible; although, Year 5 baking biscuits for their designed biscuit boxes hasn't kept the lid on the excitement especially as the wonderful sweet smell has wafted around the school. Year 3 has been creating Cave Art – which goes some way to explaining what looks like hunting parties on the playground, quite possibly hunting woolly mammoths. As for Year 4 they have been proving to be







adept at using Words having great fun with WordArt – just ask them.

We look forward to our Christmas Party on Monday with DJ Chris and his snow machine as well as the opportunity to dress up in fancy clothes. Then there is the trip to Cinderella with the requisite “He’s behind you!” and “Oh no he isn’t!” As there will be over 90 children going to this, I am sure that we will make our presence felt! Tuesday is also Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings including pigs in blanket (yum) and those wonderful (?) Brussel sprouts. The teachers all serve and the crackers are pulled and the hats are on. If Advent is all about anticipation then we are certainly in an anticipatory mood.

So, we look forward to seeing you either at the Nativity or the Christmas Fayre and definitely the Carol Service. Anticipation indeed!



## Forest School

Is it possible to have too much mud? No, most definitely not! You can make mud-mountains, gargoyles and, well, things. You can slip in it, put it on your face and generally have a great time in it. Too much mud? Never!





# Boarding News

The Christmas holidays are fast approaching and this weekend saw the boarders Deck the Halls with decorations. Mr Johnstone made some Christmas stencils to help School Cottage have a wintry feel, and Croft House put their tree up with Boarding Captain, Harriet, taking charge of arranging the decorations. Saturday saw boarders from Croft House visit Gloucester Quays shopping centre for some Christmas shopping, while School Cottage were treated to a cinema trip to Hereford where they all enjoyed Frozen. Saturday also saw some of our sixth form boarders enjoy the Winter Ball and they once more made us all so proud with how smart they looked. The Christmas spirit continued on Friday and Saturday as the boarders watched Home Alone and Home Alone 2 in the cinema room. It was thrilling to see so many of our boarders take part in the fantastic school production of My Fair Lady. Charlie was superb as Alfred Doolittle and it was lovely to see Sameer, Nathan, Harriet, Julia, Lara and Lisi take on roles over two memorable nights. We also had boarders in many backstage roles and everyone should be rightfully proud of playing their part in a wonderful show.





# Very busy Parents Evening for Years 11 and 13

There were many back-to-back appointments for most Senior School teachers at this week's very important parents evening, with crucial feedback following mock exams.



## Winter Ball

Many thanks to the Friends of Lucton School for this wonderful event and Mrs Rogers' debut as MC was a pleasure to see!





# My Fair Lady

Wow! What a stunning production! We were treated to some staggeringly powerful pieces of acting and singing from mainly Year 9s and some from above. The sheer volume of words which required learning, quite apart from the blocking, the expression and the incredible timing, all made this a simply superb production with some outstanding individual performances, notably from Matthew Darwood, Felicity Aston, Theo Houchin and Herbie Westhorpe amongst many, many more – too many to mention!

Huge thanks, as ever, to our backstage teams of costumes, and hats, (which are to die for), makeup, hair, set and scenery, stage crew – working away in the pitch black, lighting, sound effects and all things technical, thanks to our singing teacher, Piers Maxim, for his input, and also, of course to our talented pianist and musical director, Mr Wall, who despite his recent surgery has continued working hard, coaching singers and accompanying the whole production through each performance. None of this would be possible, of course, without our incredibly skilful and versatile directors, Mrs Sharman and Mrs Waters. They have done it again! Another absolutely spectacular production!







Lucton School Library

# CHRISTMAS READ-A-THON



**Some new books have arrived in the  
School Library, could you help us write  
some reviews?**

Come and see Miss Quick in M24 (next to the  
library, complete a review and earn an R2)



# Sports Report

**SWIMMING GALA** v Tettenhall College  
Lucton's swim team went up to Tettenhall for a friendly gala on Wednesday. We were up against a generally older and more experienced team, but despite this, our team persevered through and rose to the challenge.

Well done especially to Amelia, Ellie, and Angus who did particularly well in their races, with Ellie coming second in freestyle and breaststroke, and Angus who came second in his backstroke event.

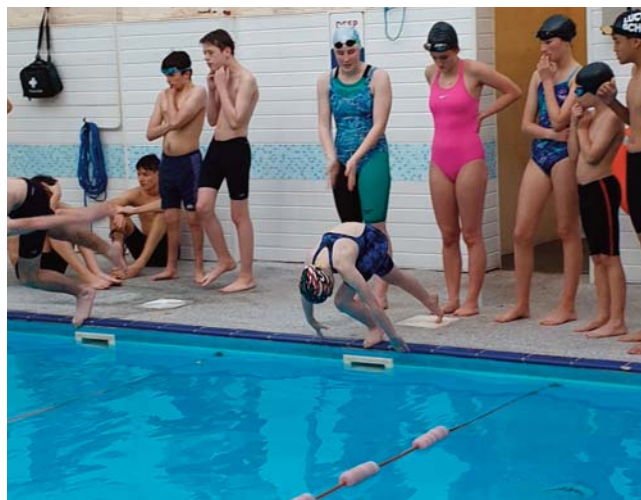
An awesome effort by all involved, well done to all!

## **U13 NETBALL** v Tenbury

Despite the intense cold and murky, foggy conditions the girls played in good spirit. Strong defending from Leire and Fremah was complemented with some quick attacking play, as Darcy (player of the match) made the most of her role at centre and was always available to offer support. There were plenty of attacking opportunities and at times some disciplined movement around the court, which was very encouraging, as the shooters, Elodie and Scarlett scored enough goals for a well deserved 5-2 win!

## **U15/16 RUGBY** v Whitecross (away)

In the freezing fog we travelled to Whitecross in mixed spirits. After a heavy defeat last week we were not confident; and in the early exchanges we trailed 14 – 0, gifting Whitecross two easy tries and the writing was on the wall. The plan, as most weeks, is to try and move the ball away from the contact area to give our skillful players a chance to play in space. From the second kick-off receipt we did manage to move the ball away and good passing and running gained us considerable ground and some much needed confidence. The back row of Dawes, yet another great effort in both attack and defence, Yates and Digwood were beginning to win us some ball, as even early in the game Whitecross were blowing hard-and in this game we



actually realized our advantage and used it to good effect. With a bit more input from the forwards we won our share of possession and slowly dictated terms in the wide-open spaces of a good sized playing surface. By half-time we had clawed two tries back and trailed 14 – 10 through Matt D, but it was through the work of others that allowed Matt to receive the ball and be able to finish off the good work of others. In the second-half we played so much better. Early in that half we conceded another soft try to lose the lead, but responded positively and after a series of attacks, using the full width of the pitch Kian H went over in the corner; 19-20 to us. We continued along this vein. Matt got a fourth try and Fred C deservedly got himself a try near the end. Woody played well at 9, with Fred P filling in occasionally in open play and Jack B made a number of good breaks. Archie R-S played really well throughout, putting in a number of solid



tackles at important moments and running some excellent support lines in attack. Overall, a much, much improved performance and a 19pts to 30 win was just reward for the boys.

### **BASKETBALL** v Tettenhall College

The Basketball team continued the winning ways with another comfortable win against Tettenhall College 40-22. The usual players, Mike, Nabil and Kieran had strong and consistent performances as is the normal state of affairs. Today was all about younger players and debutants. Leo Li is one of the younger players in the team but his energy and impact in both offence and defence was superb. He was a constant thorn in the side and won numerous turnovers which he either scored from or passed to another player for a counter attack basket. Well done Leo! A special mention for Kazuki playing his first game and scoring too. The team also welcomed Sean, Harold, and Aaron from other sports today too.

It is hard to separate the badminton and basketball teams for the accolade of team of the term so far!

### **U15 FOOTBALL** v Tettenhall College

On a cold and foggy afternoon, Lucton's U15 football team took to the pitch against a Tettenhall side that boasted a raft of talent and a previous victory against us.

Nevertheless, bolstered by the addition of our Spanish quartet of Inigo, Juan, Gonzalo and Fernando, Lucton proved to be a real match for their tough opposition. The first half was played at a frenetic pace, with Tettenhall's goal gifted on a plate to them after a mistake at the back. They led 1-0 at halftime, and only a string of impressive saves by Will Muckalt in goal kept Lucton in it. Still, after collecting their thoughts at the break, Lucton roared back to life in the second half. Led by inspirational captain Ellis who tirelessly ran box to box, and buoyed by the creativity and endeavour of Inigo, the team suddenly clicked. When Nathan was sent scampering in on goal, he was chopped down for a penalty, which he



dusted himself off to take: 1-1. Lucton then piled on the pressure as Tettenhall began to lose their composure - Herbie and Lorcan were a real threat down the left channel time and again, whilst Fernando and Juan added great vision. With Jack driving the ball forwards from the back, the team pushed on and were rewarded when Inigo's volleyed shot clipped the underside of the bar and fell in: Lucton led 2-1. Tettenhall now threw the kitchen sink at Lucton - only Joel's heroic defending bailed them out on several occasions, and he marshaled his rock-solid partnership with Will W who worked very well. In the end, another defensive lapse gifted Tettenhall a goal, for a scoreline of 2-2 which, given the effort and application of both teams, felt a just result. There were several contenders for Man of the Match: Ellis, Joel, Nathan and even Charlie at left-back who didn't put a foot wrong, but in the end Inigo scoops the award on his final appearance for playing





with the technical skills and drive of a footballer far older than his years suggest.

An excellent game!

#### **BADMINTON v Tettenhall College**

We faced much tougher opposition this week than in previous fixtures, but we got off to a great start winning all 4 of our first round of singles matches. The doubles matches were extremely close and Lucton had to really work hard, but they played with great positivity and agility on the court. We were very pleased to have Carrie join us for the mixed doubles and she and Mike achieved a good win in their match. As ever, Lucton put in maximum effort and Harold and Ryan were in particular good form.

Lucton 8 – Tettenhall 8.

#### **Triangular Swimming Gala for Prep School with Moor Park and Trinity School, Hereford**

The first of what is hoped will be a regular calendar event in the Year 3– 6 swim fixtures, started last week at Lucton Pool. Lucton invited Moor Park and Trinity School Hereford to a swim gala at Lucton Pool. Lucton was able to field two teams and races including Individual medley for Year 3/4 upwards and team and individual medley relay events. Lucton won the event but more importantly demonstrated its depth of swimming in these year groups and was able to lend support to other schools too. A number of children were also at short notice able to step up and swim any event and any distance. There were some strong performances particularly from children swimming for the Midlands ISA team in the ISA National Championship: Poppy C and Nathan. In Year 6 we saw very strong swims from Thomas B and Amelia J in the individual medley events. In Year 3, Harry C took on the Individual medley. Henley R should be mentioned for swimming in multiple races at the last minute. Meanwhile Piper M and Emily E put in a strong showing again. Will Evans, Livvia R, Haydan A, Solange D



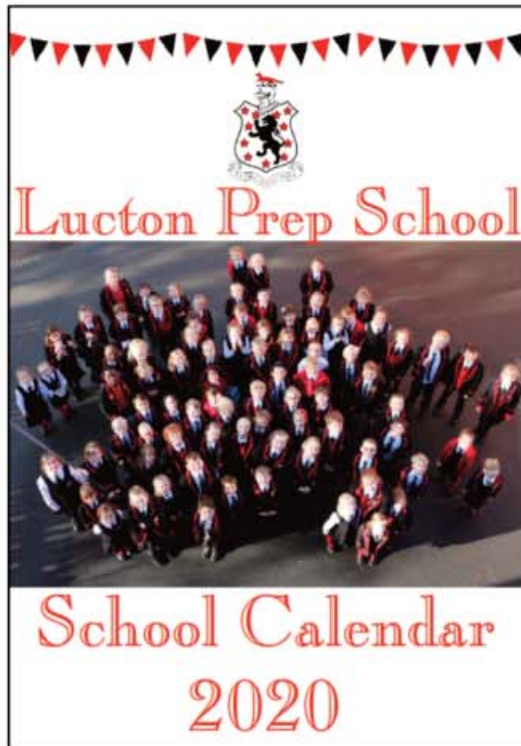
A and Rebecca L are all showing good promise in Year 5 and overall the team put their maximum effort into their races. The year 6 remains a good strong team overall and will, I hope, continue to shine as they go through the school

There is plenty to celebrate about children's swimming opportunities at Lucton and it was given to Jessica T to give the 'three sporting cheers' to our fellow competitors. Thank you to parents for their support and pupils who were asked to officiate and assist. Many reliable students were on poolside. A very enjoyable and good spirited afternoon was had by all! Swim Lucton!



# Lucton Prep School

## 2020 Calendar



**The Friends of Lucton School**

**Are proud to present a 2020 Prep School calendar!**

**Featuring:**

- A class photo of every class.
- Key dates of the school year.
- Lots of informal pictures of the children.

**£8 each**



**Will be available to buy at the Christmas Fayre or order via the school.**