

Lucton School Carol Service 2019

Together with our growing number of excellent choristers, Mr and Mrs Wall and their incredible team of music teachers delivered an amazing musical triumph.

We heard from the Chamber Choir, Middle and Senior Choirs and the Prep School Choir, with superb accompaniment by Mr Maxim on the organ and chamber orchestra.

Add to this readings and prayers from pupils throughout the school, the service represented not just a celebration of Christmas, but also a wonderful demonstration of Lucton's talented pupils.

There were some very different carols and arrangements which also added to making this quite a special service. The address

was given by Revd. Prebendary Michael Kneen, who has hosted us for over ten years at the Priory and in Mike's final year, Revd. Price, changed roles with him for his last Lucton Carol Service. We will still be seeing more of him at Lucton, as Revd. Kneen recently joined the School's Governing body.



**SEE PAGES
2 & 3 FOR
MORE
PHOTOS**

In this issue:

- Prep School News
- Boarding News
- Nativity 2019
- Christmas Fayre
- Sports Report
- Equestrian News





Prep School News

Well we are at the end of the autumn term. It is funny to think that the beginning of the term was bathed in sunshine and we were hunting crickets in the fields and now we have had a few frosty mornings and there isn't a leaf on a tree. One of the injunctions in teaching is to try and instil a knowledge of the changing seasons. Well that should show it! Along with the changing seasons, come mileposts that mark the way. Friday was one such with our performances of the Nativity. It was the first time that we have held two performances. Given that over 140 parents, relatives and friends came to them and we can only seat 100, it was a good idea.

This year, we learnt the story through the eyes of a Sleepy Shepherd who appeared to be able to sleep through anything until a certain Angel came and woke him up to tell him some news. From then on he was busy making sure that the tale was spread to his friends. As ever it is a wonderful tale performed beautifully. Thank you to all the staff in Pre Prep and Mrs Wall for musical direction and Mr Wall for his musical accompaniment. If the



Nativity wasn't enough, Friday was also the Christmas Fayre and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. I am sure that I saw Oliver nearly headfirst in the Lucky Dip.

The last week was the traditional pantomime down at the Courtyard. This year was Cinderella with two very ugly sisters and the wicked stepmother was a wonder to behold. A delayed booking meant that the usual thrown sweets couldn't reach us but I am happy to say that I have booked front row seats for next year's performance – Jack and the Beanstalk – already! Then...the famous Christmas Party with the exceptional DJ Chris was held and what a party it was. Dance competitions, congas the Macarena,





all were there and he found his snow machine as well. The children definitely went home tired and happy, I can assure you.

The Christmas Lunch was on Tuesday and then it was time for Carol Service rehearsals and the last Christmas cards to be handed out. Another milestone is the traditional clear out of the changing rooms. As is usual, there is a lot missing so please, please take a look through your washing to make sure that you have the correct uniform and sports kit. Poor Grace in Year 3 has lost a pinafore, a number of skins and quite a few socks as well! Given that I was busy handing out lost property I am sure many of you have missing items.

And so, it is time to wish you all a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW YEAR from all of us in the Nursery and Prep School. There is so much to look forward to next term (and Year) that a relaxing break is in order and we look forward to seeing you all on 7th January 2020!

Pre Prep and Transition Nativity

Once again, the Pre Prep and Transition classes led the way to the stable magnificently, in search of the Christ Child. All of Year 2 were excellent in the leading roles, but special mention must go to Edwin, our very own 'Sleepy Shepherd', particularly for

his beautiful solo singing. With sparkling stars, twinkling angels, energetic sheep, and dancing camels on the bumpy road, the stage was set for our beautiful pageant. The shepherds wielded their crooks masterfully, the kings presented their gifts majestically, and the animals skipped merrily all the way to Bethlehem. The scenery and costumes looked fabulous, as ever, and the whole cast sang with great enthusiasm. Huge thanks to all the staff who worked together to enable the children to perform so well.



Boarding News

What a lovely week to end this first term of the year. On Saturday, the boarders were treated to a trip to the pantomime at the Swan Theatre in Worcester. They watched a marvellous production of Snow White and were thrilled to be able to meet some of the cast at the end – oh no they didn't! Also on Saturday, some of our boarders took part in the CCF training day and it was fantastic to see Mike, Kian, Morgan and Dom all involved.

The boarders have spent most of their evenings this week packing up their luggage; however, on Wednesday night we had the most wonderful time at the Boarders Dinner. We are grateful to Mrs Thorne for inviting us along to what was a lovely evening. The food was absolutely delightful and we send our thanks to all the kitchen staff for not only the Boarders Dinner, but all the meals that they have provided for us over the year. The grads handed out some well-deserved awards and we had two lovely speeches from Mrs Muckalt and our House Captain, Mike.

After the meal the boarders were able to reminisce on events over the last year with a slide show of our favourite moments, followed by an evening of dancing with Jakub taking on the DJ duties.

And so this term draws to an end. It has been extremely busy but also very enjoyable. From all the boarding team, Mr and Mrs Muckalt, Mr Rogers, Mrs Webb-Rogers, Miss Roper, Mr Johnstone, Lulu, Sarah, Debbie and Michelle, we wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas and look forward to seeing you all return in the New Year.



Boarders Dinner

It was quite a squeeze in the Dining Hall on Wednesday evening as we sat down for the annual Boarders Dinner. We started with a reception in the Memorial Hall before a fantastic 3-course meal, followed by the annual Awards Ceremony, which was presented by our fantastic team of Graduates.

We then all moved back into the Memorial Hall for a slide show of the year, followed by the traditional disco. A great evening!



Reverse Advent Calendar

Well done to the Prep School for a wonderful Charitable Donation. Many thanks to the staff for co-ordinating the excellent efforts of the children.



Christmas Fayre

Last Friday, The Friends of Lucton School put on the annual Christmas Fayre, complete with Santa, mince pies and turkey rolls. Well done to all the pupils, staff and Friends who worked on the stalls.



Bill Wiggin visit

A good number of senior pupils attended a Q & A Session with our (now re-elected) MP, Bill Wiggin. It was really appreciated that he took time out of a busy pre-election week to meet the students and they certainly provided him with some excellent and difficult questions.



House Swimming Gala

This week saw a highly competitive inter-house gala, with Drake House coming out on top. Many thanks to all the competitors.



Sports Report

Leominster District Cross-Country Championships

A damp, overcast day, with a distinctive chill in the air and a sharp, chilling storm, just before the start of the first race, sent the nerves jangling. Nervous anticipation of the challenge ahead, through soggy fields and gateways, proved to be an inspiration for many of Lucton's intrepid athletes, who were buoyed by regular runs around our soggy fields or the Lucton loop. And, they did not disappoint, with many exceptional performances. The Year 7 girls set the pace with Hannah W taking the lead, closely followed by Sophie D and Philippa P, in 2nd and 3rd respectively, with Scarlett B in close contention in 5th. Their focused, determined running was a pleasure to watch as they maintained their positions throughout the race. Darcy C achieved a similar feat, setting off in a determined mood, rapidly establishing a comfortable lead to win the Junior Girls race with ease, with Johanna K running strongly to finish in 12th. Equally impressive was Trinia N's determination to not only complete the course despite the loss of a shoe half way round the first lap, but to finish a very creditable third; not easy in slippery, boggy conditions! In fact the Inter Girls were all in determined mood with Georgia B finishing strongly in 4th, Katie L 5th, Seren L 12th, Edith J 14th, Libby 22nd and Amber 23rd. Undaunted by the girls' success, the boys were equally impressive. A well judged, race (5th) saw Hugo lead the

Year 7 boys home, with Ted M (9th), Josh B (13th) and Jonathan D (14th) all finishing strongly. There was also a strong showing in the Junior Boys race, as Lucton athletes dominated the top positions, with Will W, (2nd), George J (3rd), Nathan T-W 5th and Inigo (6th). It was though, the Intermediate Boys who excelled, with Malachy C storming off into a convincing lead, with Archie J and Lorcan C pushing hard for 2nd and 3rd. Having secured the top three places, Daniel L ran a well-judged race, gradually working his way through the pack for a well-earned 5th, with Gonzalo 13th, followed by Dominic Y (17th) and Alex D (18th) whose team work ensured that they finished strongly. With many of the top 8 finishers in the Junior and Inter races gaining qualification for the Hereford and Worcester County Championships on February 1st there was much for these intrepid athletes to be proud of!

A positive end to the term!

Having moved the swimming gala to the previous day, the girls enjoyed an afternoon of sport, with Mr Connop, Miss Tyler and Miss Griffiths taking a group of senior girls to Bridge St for some intensive hockey. The girls had to pit their wits against Miss Griffiths' excellent goal keeping and Miss Tyler's cobra like tackles and speedy moves around the pitch! Which proved to be a positive learning curve! At school, Miss Coates, aided and abetted by Miss Roper, Miss Cockburn and Miss Quick, enjoyed a friendly, yet competitive netball



tournament, followed by a happy and very active session of dancing in the Memorial Hall!

House Badminton 2019

The annual House badminton tournament took place on Wednesday afternoon at the end of the autumn term. This was an extremely competitive struggle over six rounds, which was ultimately decided by the smallest of margins. At the end of five rounds Nelson, Drake and Rodney were all neck and neck for first place, with just one point between all three. Collingwood were hot on their heels, just a couple of points adrift. With all to play for in the thrilling final round, Drake held their nerve to win overall, and Rodney had to be content with second spot. Nelson placed third above Collingwood. In total, twenty four students from Years 9 through to Year 13

competed for each House.

In the singles, Harold was the star performer, winning all of his games for Rodney in an outstanding display of individual brilliance. The joint top doubles pairings were the formidable Drake combinations of Ryan and Evie, and Joe and Tim. All in all, one of the closest ever tournaments.



Equestrian News

Kings hosted the NSEA Grassroots Show Jumping Championship last weekend and our fabulous 40cm team, consisting of Henry and William Hellyar and Ted and Bea Rogers came a satisfactory 6th place. Henry gaining an impressive individual 5th place out of 35 competitors. The 50cm team, Ted Rogers, Sophie Harris and Henry Hellyar did equally well but sadly missed out on any team prizes this time, but Henry came 5th for style. Sophie Harris had a cracking clear round on Poppy in the 60cm but missed the ribbons this time. Lots of potential here for the future but if anyone else would like to join the team, please contact the office.

Royal Three Counties Show

We have been nominated in the showing councils awards for best show in the country. We are one of 4 shows. Please vote for us by going onto the showing council site and then awards. The



other shows are Moreton, Great Yorkshire and Suffolk County so nomination is a great achievement in itself!

Jake's Blog

The weather has been very topsy-turvy, but we have had fun! We've done some games, bareback and different ways to teach balance and for some steering! We are looking forward to the holidays and some are going away! Have a lovely Christmas all and new year.

Help **The Friends of Lucton School** raise FREE funds when you shop online!

The Friends of



LUCTON SCHOOL

Every time you shop, you'll raise a donation for us and **it won't cost you a penny extra!**

1. Sign up to easyfundraising

Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/folucton and follow the simple steps to sign up.

2. Hit the shops

When you shop online, visit easyfundraising first, click through to the retailer and shop as normal. Everything costs exactly the same

3. Earn donations

With every purchase you make you'll raise a donation from the retailer. Your donations are then transferred to **THE FRIENDS OF LUCTON SCHOOL**

OVER 2,700
RETAILERS TO
CHOOSE FROM...

TESCO



Argos

amazon.co.uk

John Lewis
johnlewis.com

M&S

Viking

ASDA

Expedia.co.uk

easyfundraising
.org.uk



Visit: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/folucton