

Harriet through to National Finals

During the half term, Harriet Brick and her horse, World Dancer, travelled to Beacons Equestrian to compete in the PetPlan Area Festival in the PSG Bronze. They had a very successful competition, winning the class (despite only competing at this level a handful of times) and have qualified for the National Championships in April 2020, held at Hartpury College.



WINTER BALL
30th NOVEMBER 2019
WELCOME DRINKS * DINNER * DANCE * BUSES HOME
TICKETS £40 per person

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Prep School News

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. It is, perhaps, the most exciting of half terms. As we run up to the Nativity, Christmas Fayre and the Carol Service there is always a tangible sense of anticipation but more of that later. Cast your minds back to the last Friday Assembly and Reception Class. They spoke to us about being worried and what might make us scared and who we can turn to and what we can do. They then shared a story 'The Old woman who wasn't afraid of anything' by Linda Williams. Absolutely brilliant and really made us all smile! Thank you so much Reception Class and well done! They certainly weren't afraid of standing up in front of all of us.

So, straight back into the swing of it all. With 5th November looming it was a timely opportunity to tell the tale of the Gunpowder Plot. Certainly, for some of the younger ones, it means more than just a bonfire and some fireworks. I think that they were more fascinated by the punishments of the plotters than anything else! As this month progresses we shall also give them an overview of the forthcoming



General Election. Not the politics, rather the process and an overview of what democracy is. Given the time of year, we will also be learning about WWI and why we wear poppies. It is quite the time of year for different festivals and celebrations both uplifting and thought-provoking.

Open The Book came to visit us and told the tale of Elisha and Naaman and how anyone, in this case an unnamed servant girl, can change events just by speaking up. Our pupils really enjoy OTB as the tales are told simply by acting them out and the children are always involved. In fact they clamour to be asked to join in. If you are around when OTB are here, please





do stay; they are only with us for 10-15 minutes but it is great fun.

Meanwhile, the Nativity practices are gathering apace. The costumes have been dug out and the backdrop is being planned. Mary and Joseph have been cast and we have already had a run through without Transition. With only 4 Fridays until the big day, no wonder there is a sense of anticipation in the air! This year we will be having two performances on the same day at 11:00am and 2:00pm. We are trying to ensure that everyone can come and watch. Closer to the day we will be asking which

performance you can attend. So please do put 6th December in your diary for this as well as the Christmas Fayre.

It is our annual Remembrance Parade on Monday that takes place up at the main gates near the flag. The CCF parade, there is the last post and a wreath is laid to commemorate the Luctonians who were in both World Wars. The Prep School supports wearing their red raincoats. It is a very solemn occasion and one that really grips the children. Even if some are unsure as to why this happens they do realise the solemnity of the event. You are also welcome to the event. There is a formal service for the Middle and Senior Schools and you are welcome to that as well. So please make sure that the red raincoats are in for Monday, if not all the time.

This just leaves me space to remind you that you, family and friends are always welcome at our Friday Assemblies. We love to celebrate the children's achievements and you can catch up on school news as well as use the pool and even have a cup of tea. See you soon.

Forest School

Autumn Leaves; are brilliant to jump in and throw as well as use to build interesting structures. But I think that jumping in them and generally rustling about is the best!



Boarding House News

We are delighted to welcome the boarders back after what we hope was a restful and relaxing half term break. Many of our boarders are now undertaking their mock exams and we wish every one doing an exam all our best.

We are delighted to welcome Gerry into the boarding house. Gerry is with us for the rest of this term and we look forward to helping him settle into the house and we are sure he will enjoy and benefit from his time with us. Fergus has also joined us in Croft House. Already a popular member of the sixth form, it is a pleasure to have Fergus with us in the house and we have no doubt that he will be a valuable member of our community.

All the boarders are eagerly awaiting the first trip of this half term with the yearly visit to the West Midlands Safari Park Firework Display. This is always a very popular trip with the boarders and a full report will be with you next week.

Even though we are in our first week back after half term, we would encourage all boarders and parents to let us know your Christmas travel arrangements as soon as possible. You can contact the boarding house office on our email address boardinghouse@luctonschool.org.



Do you have any unwanted Christmas Gifts?

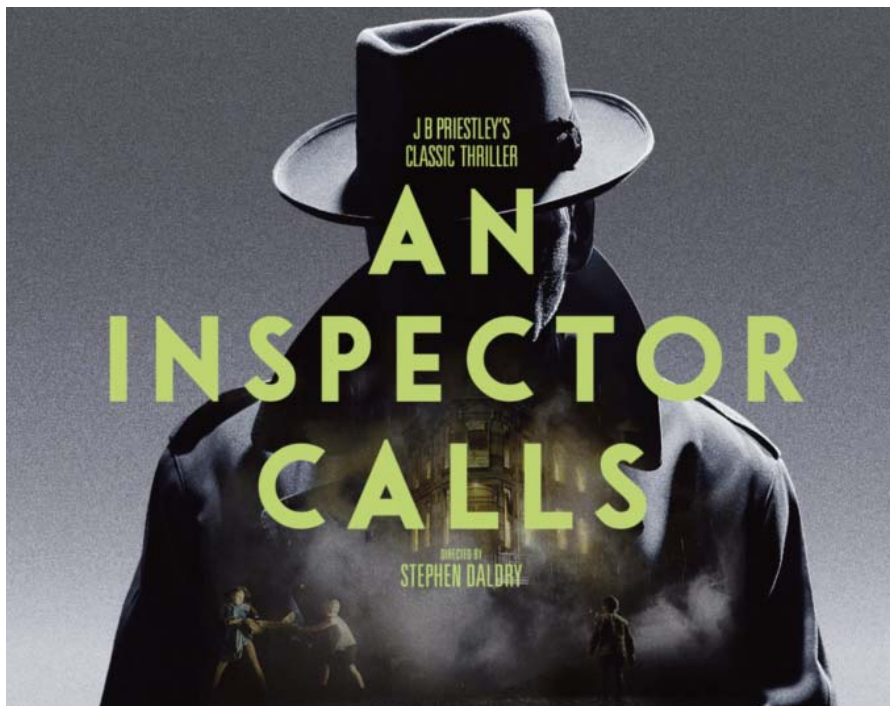
Please bring them into School for
this year's Secrets Room – all
donations to the Nursery please



"An Inspector Calls" at Malvern Theatre

Mrs Waters' English and drama classes were treated to Stephen Daldry's multi award-winning production of 'An Inspector Calls' on Wednesday evening.

Daldry's visionary, radical, challenging version of JB Priestley's classic thriller, hailed as the theatrical event of its generation, has been seen by more than 4 million people worldwide. When Inspector Goole arrives unexpectedly at the prosperous Birling family home, their peaceful dinner party is shattered by his investigations into the death of a young woman. His startling revelations shake the very foundations of their lives and challenge us all to examine



our consciences.

Our students were hugely impressed by the production. The stunning set, the atmospheric music and the powerful performances all contributed to a thoroughly enjoyable evening, and all in time for their mock exam on the text the following morning!

Eco Club

The heavy rain of the last few weeks has not been kind to our winter crops. Only Hilly's radish has survived the rain, but she assures me that it was delicious. Well done Hilly, for growing the first vegetable of gardening club!

The clearing of the plot is continuing and we have also planted a number of different tulip varieties which should give us a riot of colour next spring. I am so pleased that the students have remained so enthusiastic while clearing out the garden. They have put in a fantastic effort and should be proud of how the garden is coming along. Remember, if you have any donations of tools, plants, seeds etc, we will gladly take them off your hands!



Sports Report

U18 Triangular Rugby Tournament

It was terrific to welcome Ludlow College and Bedstone for a small, friendly 9 a-side rugby tournament. With reduced numbers, all three teams were playing their first matches of the year. It was a wet and muddy affair but all teams tried to play with pace and width, moving the ball around as best they could in challenging conditions.

Lucton started against Bedstone losing 4-1 but they showed some excellent play at times, and unfortunately squandering a few chances to get closer to the more organised Bedstone team by full time, were not taken. Lucton lent two players to Ludlow for their match against Bedstone in which they were resounding victors. This just left Lucton and Ludlow to play in the final round. Ludlow ran away with the game 5-0. All boys enjoyed it and it was extremely pleasing to see three pupils making their rugby debut for Lucton. The 'World Cup Effect' was in play with Sean, Henry and Kazuki all representing with enthusiasm and commitment even though their knowledge of the rules needs some further work!

Thanks to Taylor for coaching and being positive on the touchline. All staff agree that this is a positive venture and we look forward to several more next term and also 7s too.

BADMINTON v Bedstone

We enjoyed an excellent afternoon of badminton with our Bedstone rivals. Our boys were far superior overall with a much greater depth of ability. So much so that we were able to field some of our less experienced players in order for them to gain some valuable match practice. Matthew and Gerry made their team debut, and showed a great deal of enthusiasm and resilience in their doubles match. In total fourteen Lucton players

participated in the match, under the guidance of Mike, our inspirational team captain.

U14 HOCKEY v Wrekin

This was tough encounter, against a strong, assertive team. True Lucton tenacity and resilience were evident, with improved defending and great goal keeping by player of the match Annalise!

U13 HOCKEY v Monmouth

The U13s girls Hockey team travelled to Monmouth Girls School on a very wet and windy afternoon. The girls really excelled themselves. Their passing skills and movement of the ball across the pitch were a joy to behold. The girls were constantly on the attack and played some fantastic shots. All girls were amazing, demonstrating that all their hard work and dedication at practices had really started to pay off. The team won 5 goals to 1, with Darcy Clarke being heralded player of the match. A fantastic result in which all the girls should be extremely proud of the progress they have made, well done!

U11 HOCKEY v Monmouth

The under 11 team have come a long way since the beginning of term. The attackers Phillipa P, Hannah W, Sophie D and Scarlet B worked well together against a very fast team from Monmouth. The defensive line of Maggie and Madlie were kept busy throughout and helped support Ava in goal.

After half time the girls worked harder, making space and strong passes to put the pressure on the opponents. Penny made some impressive tackles which caused some confusion from the opposition. Ava received player of the match and some of the Monmouth parents who were watching praised her for her continuous efforts in saving some strong attempts by their forwards. Great job girls!

D of E Silver Expedition, Golden Valley

After a very wet Friday morning the weather took a turn for the better, much to the relief of the twenty-five students taking part in their silver expedition up the golden valley.

The students left in four groups in very high spirits eager to get going on the first 10k and get to Poston Mill camp site before dark.

Everyone woke to a very dry and clear day on Saturday and all the groups were keen to get going. The route took the groups out of Peterchurch over Blakemere Hill through Tibberton and on to camp site number two at Bye Cross Farm. Most of the groups made it in and managed to get their tents up just before the heavens opened, leading to a very wet night and morning.

Despite a wet night, the students were up and ready to go early on Sunday. We managed to hold them back for a hour to allow the rain to ease off before they started the last leg, taking the groups from

Bye Croft Farm to Bredwardine then over Merbach Hill past Arthur's Stone and finally down to the finish in Dorstone where the groups were exceptionally pleased to see Roger waiting for them.

All the groups performed exceptionally well with only one group taking a slight detour off route on day two. Despite some very wet weather and some challenging terrain, all the groups remained in high spirits throughout.

A massive thank you to Sqn Ldr House, Wo2 Brown, C/Sjt Griffiths and Miss Quick, who provided safety and manned parts of the route; without them the expedition could not have taken place.



Friends update

A Winter Ball - On Saturday 30th November the Friends of Lucton School is hosting a Winter Ball; this will be a fabulous warm up to the season. Ticket prices are £40 per person, this includes welcome drinks, a three course dinner followed by coffee, cheese and biscuits. The ticket price also includes buses home, this is such fantastic value for money. We will be having a DJ to entice you to the dance floor to the early hours. Come along with your partner, bring a few friends or why not bring lots of friends and make up a table of 10? It's a fun evening of great



food, games and dancing and all proceeds will go back to the Friends of Lucton who support projects and events for the pupils and school.

Funding Proposal and Survey

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the survey following the email from the School Office with The Friends of Lucton School Funding Proposal document and the link to the Survey. If you haven't completed this yet, we are still looking for your views on where we might provide funding now that the field is paid for. At the moment, we have a large number of completions from Prep School parents and it would create a far more balanced picture if more parents from the Middle and Senior Schools would take part. Please complete the survey, it only takes two minutes and everyone's opinion counts!

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Q6RVPV3>

Equestrian News

Over half term, Sophie Harris on Poppy competed in the NSEA Grassroots Show Jumping competition at Kings Equestrian. They had a really successful day and won the 50cm meaning they qualified for the Championships in December. Sophie was also placed 5th in the 60cm class. Well done Sophie and Poppy!

Jake's Blog

We had an interesting half term in the mud and we all had our backs checked and treated and we all feel much better for that. We all also appreciated the rest.

We also have settled in the new lady, Charlotte Annet. She seems really nice and we are just trying her out. We are looking forward to the William Blane clinic on Wednesday – go to the voarc site to book!

RIDING LESSONS OPEN TO ALL

Saturday mornings from 10.00am
and weekdays from 4.00pm.

Call 01568 782000 for details.

