

Huge success at ISA Cross Country

It was a terrific day for Lucton at the ISA Midlands Cross Country Event. We came away with medalists in three categories: Gold for Malachy C by some margin. Silver for Aiobh C (who just missed out on gold) and Bronze for Forbes in the very competitive Senior Boys race.

We also came away with team wins for Lucton School in 3 categories: Year 5/6 Girls (Midlands Champions). Senior Girls (Midlands Champions). Senior Boys (Midlands Champions). Further to the wins, 3 more teams did very well: Year 7/8 Girls were runners-up. Year 9/10 girls were runners-up and Year 9/10 boys were 3rd place.

I am sure that you would agree this is an amazing set of results for a relatively small school in a competition with nearly 30



schools from all across the Midlands, some of which are double the size of Lucton!

We await the final figure regarding qualifiers for the National Finals, though it looks like it will be a significant number of Lucton pupils. *More photos inside.*

OPEN EVENTS
Senior School & Sixth Form
Thursday 5th March, 4.00 - 7.00pm
Prep School & Nursery
Friday 6th March, 9.00am - Noon

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Prep School News

The theme in the Prep School this week seems to have been 'collaboration'. We have had a combination of slightly unusual circumstances that has enabled us to make the most of some exciting opportunities to work together in different ways.

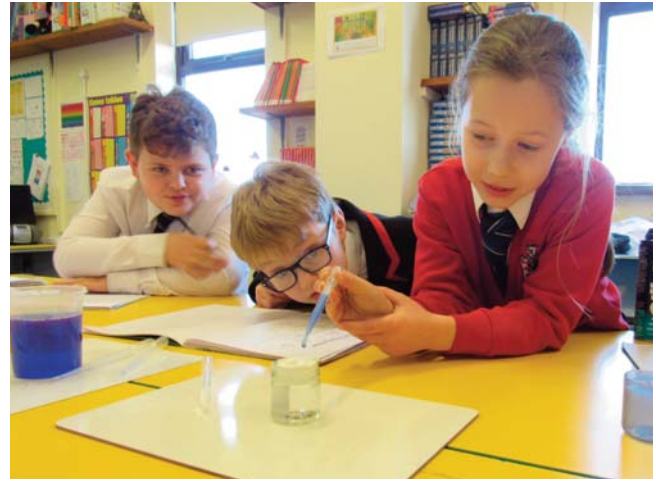
Last Friday, Mr Warren and Year 4 got us thinking about how each of us has unique individual talents, which we need to combine together to make a strong team. With some willing volunteers from the audience, 4W was able to demonstrate some of the things our amazing bodies are able to do, and how we can develop as we grow, honing our skills with dedication and practice. We also took time to reflect, recognising each other's strengths and sharing praise and encouragement. Science experiments have been many and varied this week, with cross-curricular activities as well. We have had cooking in PSHE – preparing healthy sandwiches; investigations into changes of state; weather observations in geography, including changes throughout the day; and jam jar clouds – could we make accurate predictions? All of these, and more, have required teamwork and co-operation, not least with the preparation and the tidying



up!

Year 2 and 1HM had a fantastic time in Forest School, enjoying a very breezy but sunny walk, and creating beautiful wind sticks. After enjoying themselves immensely, they were then able to share their enthusiasm with Transition, donating their creations to the younger students, to liven up their own Forest School lesson, later the same day. You could see the smiles spreading from one child to another! Year R and 4W worked together on a joint ICT project this week, with the older students helping their buddies to explore different options and choose their preferences. Year 3 has produced some fantastic pop-up frogs, helping each other along, as they discovered it is sometimes necessary to have more than two hands!





It has also been lovely to see and hear some of the older students helping the Pre Prep with their reading; and Mrs Chapman and Mrs Wall are very grateful to the Year 5 librarians, for their help researching and setting up a display in the library. February 2020 has been declared Michael Morpurgo Month nationally, and merits are on offer for anyone who reads one of his books (there are over 100 to choose from, catering for all different stages) and presents us with a book review by the end of the month. We have challenged the children to think creatively about how they might do this, if they choose to take part.

Many students had the opportunity to shine in sports teams this week, not least at the tennis and football tournaments, and at the ISA cross country, which was a huge

success. Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the remaining Prep School students had a fun time working together on musical and storytelling activities, based on the traditional tale of Tiddalik the Frog.

By far the most ambitious project of the Prep School week has to be Tuesday's incredible Playground Planning Day. It is wonderful to see everyone's ideas, displayed in so many imaginative ways. With very little direction from staff, the children worked extremely well together, developing and presenting their ideas in the ways best suited to them.

What a week: celebrating each brilliant individual, within Lucton's happy team!



Boarding News

There were two separate activities last weekend. Manic Ceramics, based in Hereford, came to the school and the younger boarders enjoyed a session of painting plates and mugs. The older boarders embarked on a shopping trip to Worcester with Mr Muckalt, Miss Tyler and Mrs Berry.

During the afternoon we opened the swimming pool and the younger boarders enjoyed splashing around as Mr Drummond led them in a fun swim.

The boarders have all been very sociable this week and there has been cooking, games and merriment in the café and the common rooms. The sports hall and the gym continue to be utilised by the boarders and we look forward to the nights getting lighter (and the weather kinder) so that we can start using the tennis courts and the sports field. A further reminder that we do need all

boarders to let the boarding houseparents know their travel plans for half term. The boarding house can be emailed at boardinghouse@luctonschool.org or you can contact us by telephone on 01568 782010.





WINE TASTING

**FRIDAY 6TH MARCH
7.30 PM**

**LUCTON SCHOOL
MEMORIAL HALL**

**£10 PER
PERSON
AT THE DOOR**



THE EVENING INCLUDES:

- A SAMPLING OF FINE WINES
- CHEESE AND NIBBLES
- COMMENTARY BY WINE EXPERT
- 10% OF WINE SALES GO TO THE FRIENDS

**AN EVENT BY
THE FRIENDS OF
LUCTON SCHOOL**

More air experience

On Tuesday 4th February, eight RAF cadets travelled down to RAF St Athan, in the Vale of Glamorgan, for Air Experience Flights. Wednesday dawned with beautiful flying weather and all eight launched in the Tutor Grub aircraft with an experienced pilot. While some flew more demanding sorties, four cadets experienced RAF Aviation for the first time. LCpl Bicker-Caarten and LCpl Aston were given their first taste of aerobatics and were allowed to copy the manoeuvre and fly the aerobatics themselves. Groundschool and simulator training completed their experience and blue wings were awarded to LCpl Bicker-Caarten, LCpl Aston, LCpl Chan, Cdt Millhouse, Cdt Campbell, Cdt Harris and Cdt Taylor-Woodward. We look forward to flying more cadets later in the year.



Eco Club

As we move into February and look forward to March, the work in the Eco Garden is starting to gather pace. We had quite a busy session today. We started with looking at the “Grow Your Own Potato” packs which arrived this week. We chitted the potatoes into some cardboard trays which will now sit on a warm window sill for a few weeks before we plant them up. Thinking ahead to when crops are planting and starting to grow, we learnt about the different sort of pests that are likely to attack plants and we need to be on the lookout for. With this in mind we spent some time walking around the forest gathering sticks and leaves which we then used to make our own bug hotels. These have been placed around the garden and will, we hope, attract lots of friendly creepy crawlies that will enjoy feeding on the



aphids and greenfly that want to eat our plants. We had another look at the seeds that we have been planting over the last couple of weeks and Sophie's Sweet Peas have already sprouted a good 4 inches! The salad leaves are also growing fast and it won't be long before we can start sampling their peppery leaves.

Equestrian News

The Lucton School Equestrian Team had another successful day at the NSEA Show Jumping at Kings Equestrian last Sunday. We had two teams in the 70cm, two teams in the 80cm and a team in the 90cm. In the 70cm, Lucton Red team with Freya L on Trooper, Oliver D on Buddy, Scarlett B on Socks and Amelia J on Brit came 2nd out of 10 teams with Freya and Oliver both doing lovely clear rounds and Oliver also getting 6th individually. Lucton Black with Freya L on Scrumpy, Sophie D on Conker and Sophie H on Poppy came 5th. In the 80cm Lucton Red came 4th with Hannah L on Lucky, Sophie D on Conker, Megan F on Frank, who also came 4th



individually and Jess L on Jack. The second Lucton team was made up of Freya L, who was competing in her first 80cm competition and started the team off with another great clear round, Amelia J, Scarlett B and Oliver D who also went clear, the team came 6th. The 90cm team came 4th which was a great achievement as this was a very large class. Competing in the 90cm class were Hannah L, Seren L on Missy, Megan F and Jess L. They all came home with rosettes and some with medals so everyone was happy and many are looking forward to the next NSEA event at Allenshill during half term.

Finance talk

On Thursday, Lucton's Year 13 students were privileged to receive an interesting and highly-informative presentation on house-buying and mortgages. The students were engaged and attentive throughout, asking a number of perceptive questions. This presentation was only the first in a series of talks on personal finance delivered by Jade Stock of



Mortimer Rose and the St James' Place Group. Future topics will include taxation, pension-planning and investment, and how to avoid falling prey to fraud. We are very fortunate indeed that Jade, a parent of two children in the Prep School, has been willing to give up her valuable time to provide what will be a significant enhancement to the Sixth Form PHSE programme, which is designed in large part to equip our students for adult life. I should like to thank Jade on behalf of the students. We are already looking forward to the next presentation!

Sports Report

U15 RUGBY 7s v Ludlow

We travelled to Ludlow School not having had a great training session back at school, but the second we got off the bus the attitude and mindset all changed. There was a very positive warm up, ably led by Fred Chilman and co, preparing us well and making us confident to start the match.

We began strongly with a long kick by Fred C chased down and gathered by Kian H to score. After a close-ish first quarter, Lucton ran riot in the second quarter, scoring freely playing with great attacking flare. There were times when we had to defend strongly, with Archie R and many more putting in big tackles to stop Ludlow gaining any momentum. The ruck area was dominated by Lucton with Harry D, Harvey L and others making many turnovers to put our backline in good positions to score. The final score was 64-7. Try scorers Fred C, Harry D, Jack B X2, Kian X5, with Fred and Jamie sharing the conversions. Special mention to Harvey and Antony on making their debuts, specially Antony as he has only played rugby for 3 weeks and is already looking like a great addition to the squad. A great start to the 7s season lads; we look forward to improving in training, keep it up!

U18 RUGBY 7s v Ludlow

We also travelled to Ludlow with a very small squad. Attendance at training has not been good, but the boys have performed well despite this “handicap” against local opposition. We began strongly, pressurising the Ludlow line only for a missed pass near their line to lead to a turn-over, giving Ludlow easy ball and their very talented and extremely quick fly-half ran the length of the field to score. From the following kick-off we dropped the ball, giving away easy possession and the same player beat a



number of defenders to go over. At this point we looked in trouble. We did, however, keep our shape and discipline and that was crucial and that quality began to tell against a tiring opposition. Nabil pulled a try back with a mazy run and in the next third of the game we scored two unanswered tries to take the lead; try scorers were Jacob and Fergus, the second was through some good linking play. The final third saw Ludlow pressing us closely but a breakaway try from Jacob and another solo try from Nabil ensured victory. Alex Dawes was our best player, strong in the tackle and ruck area and good in support. Reubens Coleman played well in attack, running some effective lines both with the ball and without and Theo Houchin demonstrated extremely good handling skills on a number of occasions. A 27 – 22 victory was a fair reflection of how the game went.

U11 MIXED HOCKEY v Christ College Brecon

This week the under 11s ventured off to Christ College Brecon with Ms Quick and Ms Tyler. Our goalies Morgan L.W and Chloe M.J's skills were put to the test as the mixed teams of boys and girls played nonstop mini tournaments. This was a great opportunity for all the students to test their skills against smaller teams and to work together with players they've never practised with before. The staff were

impressed with their camaraderie and enthusiasm. Great work!

U18 NETBALL v JMHS

This proved to be a very competitive fixture, one in which the defence (Elsie and Harriet) worked extremely hard to contain JMHS's talented and skilful goal attack. Natalie, Amber and Jess stepped up to fill a couple of gaps and definitely grew in confidence as the game progressed, with Natalie scoring several good goals. Faith and Annie (player of the match) linked well in and around the attacking circle to create goal scoring opportunities and had to work hard to overcome two tall, athletic defenders. Although we didn't win, we did win the third quarter and by the end of the game played some sharper moves down the court. In terms of development this was an encouraging and positive game against a team that won several matches at the recent West Midlands Regional Schools Netball Finals Tournament!

WINTER GAMES TENNIS

Four pupils from the Prep School experienced the wonderful Winter School Games on Wednesday, at Hereford Leisure Centre.

Having qualified before Christmas at Weobley, the players joined other district qualifiers in the Finals. Eight schools competed in Round Robin timed matches in pools of four teams. The top two schools would then go into the Semi-Finals. With every pupil playing singles, their points were then added together to create a school score.

Lucton finished 2nd in their group, with 19 points. Olivia Price had scored half of those, as she won all of her matches.

Lucton then played Pembridge, the winners of their group, in four 4-minute matches. Sadly, Lucton lost 3 games to 1 at this stage. What a terrific effort at our first visit to this event! Olivia was undefeated all tournament and should be thinking of tennis lessons now, to keep on improving

for the summer term.

Well done to Miles, Elsa, Max and Olivia, you were a credit to the school!

Hereford and Worcester County Cross Country Championships

Lucton School values: tenacity, resilience, courage and determination are great assets for the cross-country runner! On a relatively, warm, sunny (yes it didn't rain!), yet very windy day, Lucton's intrepid athletes excelled. A large team of thirteen intrepid runners had qualified from the District Championships and they did not disappoint. With solid performances from everyone, there were several stand out performances. With the senior race at the beginning of the day, Aoibh Clarke and Forbes Wilson (despite a heavy cold) had to cope with a fast pace around the pancake flat course. They did not disappoint, with Aoibh finishing strongly in 7th and we hear, has qualified for the English Schools Championships again this year. Forbes also put in a strong performance, coming in 8th. The Inter Boys race was equally fast and very competitive, so Malachy did well to finish 13th and Archie 19th, with Daniel just out sprinting Lorcan in the final straight to finish 25th. The Junior Boys ran well, with George, Nathan and Will finishing in the middle of the pack, whilst Trinia and Georgia maintained a steady pace throughout the Inter Girls race. There was though, a sublime piece of running, late in the day. The Junior Girls race is always short, fast and highly competitive and this year was no exception, except that this year, Darcy was in the mix. A sensible, steady start proved decisive and there I was, stood at marshall spot three, getting very excited as I watched Darcy pick her way through the field. A word of encouragement as she passed me on the last lap, produced a smile as she relaxed into the race, in the zone, pacing relentlessly closer to the top end of the race, closing on the leading pack of four runners. An excellent fifth place and

qualification for the English Schools was Darcy's reward for this epic performance, to round off a very enjoyable and productive morning for all Lucton School runners!

Shropshire U13 County lacrosse

Following a strong performance at the Shropshire U13 County trials, Darcy C has

been selected to represent Shropshire at a tournament on Sunday March 21st.

Herefordshire County netball training

I have great pleasure in announcing that after several weeks of screening and training, Elodie A, Fremah B and Darcy C have all been selected for the Herefordshire County U13 training squad.

ISA Cross Country

Continued from the front cover, more pictures from the Midlands ISA Cross Country Competition.



Prep School playground development day

On Tuesday, the Prep School were delighted to welcome Mr Koch, a current Reception parent and talented landscape architect, into School for a creative Playground Development Day. Every child, from Transition through to Year 5, took part in an interactive consultation, gathering ideas for how the outdoor space around the Prep School could be developed and improved. Initial thoughts centred around reviewing the current situation, with each child placing a colour-coded mark onto a scale model of the School, showing us their personal favourite places. There was a range of hands-on activities, using all manner of recycled materials and art supplies, including Mrs Chapman's wonderful homemade playdough. Some classes built models to show what equipment they would like to have; others focussed on specific areas, such as entrances, or seating. Back in the classrooms, the creativity continued, with annotated plans and animated discussions. At the end of

the day, all of the ideas were presented in an exhibition, and it was incredible to see how much had been achieved. We are so grateful to Mr Koch for donating his time and skills to help us move forward with this School Council-inspired project. The Friends have generously agreed to make funding available; once the final plans are agreed, we hope to begin the redevelopment in the near future. The children have been instrumental in getting this project up and running, with guidance from Mr Warren and Miss Parker-Hill, and they will continue to play a vital role, as we help them turn some of their dreams into reality.





Lucton School

Orchestral Day with the English Symphony Orchestra



Friday 28th February 2020

9.30am - 3.30pm. £15.00/student

Open to pupils from Year 5-Year 9 from all schools. (Grade 1 and above)

Bring a packed lunch

For more details, email:

j.wall@luctonschool.org

Open to all orchestral
instruments including
saxophone and
percussion

